

The **Global** **NEW LIGHT** of **MYANMAR**

DIPLOMACY

Myanmar, Thailand Beef up Diplomatic Relations, Friendship and Cooperation

Mutual understanding and trust-based neighbourly relations are inseparable between Myanmar and Thailand.

MrTorSaralam-ba, who has been agreed to be appointed as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his Letter of Credence to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw at 11 am yesterday.

The Ambassador of Thailand arrived at the Honorary Hall of the Presidential Palace Reception Hall and saluted the national flags of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Kingdom of Thailand. The Thai Ambassador took the salute from the Guard of Honour, which played the national anthems of the two countries.

The Thai Ambassador presented his Letter of Credence to President U Min Aung Hlaing at the Presidential Palace Diplomatic Reception Hall.

The President and the Ambassador cordially discussed the exchange of State-level goodwill visits

between Myanmar and Thailand, the strengthening of good diplomatic relations, friendship and cooperation between Myanmar and Thailand, and the inseparable mutual understanding and trust-based neighbourly relations between Myanmar and Thailand.

SEE PAGE 3

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing accepts the Letter of Credence of the newly appointed Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand.



3,400 YBS buses available for 1.8M commuters daily



Passengers boarding a YBS bus at a city stop.

A total of 5,399 YBS buses are registered at the Yangon Region Public Transport Committee (YRTC); however, only 3,400 buses are available for public transport at present, said Col Win Tint, Yangon Region Security and Border Affairs Minister.

He replied to the question about the import of new buses and car spare parts in Yangon, raised by regional Hluttaw MP U Min Thein Tun from Mayangon Township Constituency 1 in the regional Hluttaw meeting held on 28 August. Yangon's bus network serves about 1.8 million commuters daily with roughly 3,400 buses across 133 lines operated by 21 companies. But the fleet is thinning.

The minister explained that the decline stems from ageing vehicles, scarce and costly spare parts, and mounting maintenance needs. Currently, about 3,100 CNG buses and 300 diesel buses remain in service.

While repairs are planned for buses requiring maintenance, no new purchases are on the horizon, he added.

— TWA/ZS

Secretariat's Handicrafts Captivate Foreign Tourists



This photo showcases traditional Myanmar handicrafts.

A wide range of traditional Myanmar handicrafts is on display and available for purchase at the Secretariat (formerly the Ministers' Office) on Theinbyu Road in Yangon, giving visitors an opportunity to explore and buy a variety of crafts at a single location. Chinese and Korean tourists have shown particular interest in the handicrafts.

More than 30 lacquerware items from Myinka-ba Village in the Bagan area, along with more than 50 wooden handicraft items from Mandalay and Bago, are on display. Bagan sand paintings and lacquer paintings, rock art paintings and gold- and silver-thread embroidery paintings from Mandalay, are also featured.

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BUSINESS PAGE 7

Myanmar avocado season 2026-27 launches with promotion drive



NATIONAL PAGE 11

MoI facilitates land, power and market access for MSME entrepreneurs

NATIONAL

Objectives of 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition 2026

- (a) To enhance national prestige, integrity, and preserve the traditional cultural heritage of ethnic people
- (b) To preserve national characteristics and promote the national spirit, cherishing traditional culture among the younger generation
- (c) To explore, preserve and promote the sustainable development of traditional Myanmar arts
- (d) To function as a cultural and artistic institution that contributes to nation-building

UEC Hears Election Appeal 2/2026

A full bench of the Union Election Commission, led by UEC Chairman U Than Soe and comprising commission members U Aung Moe Myint, U Aung Lwin Oo, U Myint Oo, U Khin Maung Oo, U Myint Thein, U Ko Ko Lwin, U Than Aung Kyaw, U Khin Zaw, U Than Htut Thein, U Aung Myint Lwin, U Khin Maung Gyi, U Myo Maung, U Kyi Thein and Daw Khin Thin Wai, heard Election Appeal 2/2026 at 10 am yesterday. The hearing was held at the Union Election Commission Office 22. — MNA/KZL

84,000 flower stupas grace Shwedagon for Metta Day

TO mark the Full Moon Day of Wagoung (Metta Day), grand celebrations, including a procession and offering of flower stupas adorned with 84,000 flowers, were held magnificently at the Shwedagon Pagoda on 28 August, according to the Board of Trustees.

The celebrations began at 5:30 am at designated areas on the pagoda platform. The early meal-offering ceremony was held, and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu, region-



The procession of flower stupas at the Shwedagon Pagoda on the Metta Day.

al ministers, members of the Board of Trustees, and religious associations offered meals, flowers, drinking water, oil lamps, and fruits. Following this, the procession of the flower stupas was launched from the gathering point at the ancient Buddha im-

ages pavilion.

These flower stupas were subsequently offered to pay homage to the four enlightened Buddhas: the Kakusandha image inside the eastern prayer hall, the Konagamana image inside the southern prayer hall, the Kassapa image inside the western prayer hall, the Gautama image inside the northern prayer hall, and the Ruby Myat Shin Buddha image on the upper terrace by the Board of Trustees and religious volunteer associations. — MT/ZN

Walk of Fame for Sustainability and Social Innovation awards ceremony held

THE awards ceremony for the Walk of Fame for Sustainability and Social Innovation competition took place on 27 August at the Sapphire Jubilee Hall, Yangon University of Economics, Kamayut Township.

The event was at-

tended by Dr Myo Thaw, Yangon Region Minister for Electricity, Energy, Industry and Transport, who serves as Chairman of the Yangon Region MSME Agency; Dr Tin Tin Htwe, Rector of Yangon University of Economics; departmental officials; MSME

Agency members; and business entrepreneurs.

Dr Myo Thaw presented certificates of appreciation to the competition's judge panel. Dr Tin Tin Htwe then honoured mentors who supported the participating businesses. Certificates of ap-

preciation were also presented to all competition entrants. The top award was conferred to Emerald May Co Ltd, followed by Second Prize: TTH Myanmar Co Ltd and Third Prize: Moe Kaung Kin Food Production. — NN/KK

54 photographers submit 337 entries for World Tourism Day photo contest

A total of 54 photographers submitted 337 colour photo entries to this year's World Tourism Day photography competition, according to the Ministry of Culture, Hotels and Tourism.

The awards selection ceremony for the competition in commemoration of World Tourism Day 2026 took place on 22 August at the Centre for Tourism Development (CTD) on Bo

Sun Pat Road, Pabedan Township, Yangon.

Entries were accepted until 14 August. A panel including five judges evaluated the submissions in accordance with

established scoring rules through a systematic multi-stage selection process.

Participation this year increased from 2025, when 52 photographers submitted 343 photos. — NN/KK

Paungde to host 129th Buddha Tooth Relic Pujaniya Festival



This image shows the Buddha Tooth Relic Festival held in Paungde Township.

ACCORDING to U Aye Win, a member of the Buddha Tooth Relic Trustee Committee, the 129th annual Buddha Tooth Pujaniya Festival in Paungde Township, Bago Region, will be held in line with traditional customs and rituals.

The sacred Buddha Tooth Relic, which is enshrined in a glass casket within the Gandakuti Chamber of Cikamuni Mogaung Pagoda in Paungde Township, will be venerated over three days from the 13th to the 15th waxing days of the month of Tawthalin (24 to 26 September), as is customary each year.

"This year, like last year, it will be held on 24

September, the 13th waxing day of the month of Tawthalin. On the 14th and 15th waxing days of the month of Tawthalin, the Buddha Tooth Relic, which has been enshrined in a glass casket at the Monastery of Cikamuni Mogaung Pagoda for one year, will be opened and offered, from 8 am to 4 pm. The offering will be made by going around to 12 downtown wards for the public to pay homage," said U Aye Win.

The enshrined Buddha Tooth Relic in Paungde is also a revered relic that was once jointly venerated with another sacred tooth relic of the Gotama Buddha from the island of Ceylon (Sri Lanka). — ASH/MKKS

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NATIONAL

DIPLOMACY

Myanmar, Thailand Beef up Diplomatic Relations, Friendship and Cooperation

FROM PAGE 1

They also exchanged views on the prospects to enhance cooperation in trade and investment sectors between the two countries, the

promotion of cooperation in efforts to develop the border trade and ensure security, peace and stability in border regions, the progress of multiparty democratic

initiatives the people aspire to, and plans for continued leverage of friendly ties and cooperation.

After the meeting, the President and the Thai Am-

bassador posed for a documentary photo.

Also present at the ceremony were Union Minister at the President's Office U Khin Maung Yi, Union Min-

ister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe, Director-General of the Protocol Department U Thet Tun, and the Thai Ambassador to Myanmar, his wife and

officials. The Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar signed the Guestbook at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall. — MNA/TTA

DIPLOMACY

Agreements, MoUs Cement Myanmar Thailand Partnership

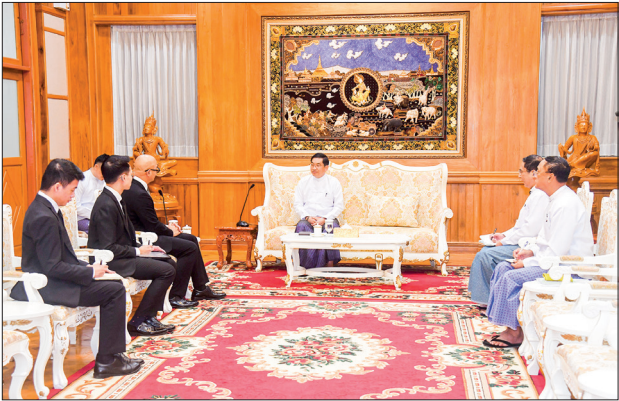
A Thai delegation led by Ambassador Mr Tor Saralamba paid a courtesy call on Vice-President U Nyo Saw at the President's Office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged views on convening bilateral talks and a business forum during the President's official visit to Thailand, as well as on the signing of agreements and memoranda of understanding aimed at

delivering tangible benefits to both nations and their peoples.

They also frankly discussed political progress, efforts in development undertakings, and close cooperation in bilateral relations, economics, trade, investment and energy sectors between Myanmar and Thailand, as well as prospects of these sectors.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister at the President's Office U Khin Latt, Dep-



Vice-President U Nyo Saw receives the Thai ambassador and his delegation during the latter's courtesy call.

uty Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ko Ko Kyaw, and officials. Officials from the

Thai Embassy accompanied the Thai ambassador. — MNA/TTA

DIPLOMACY

Myanmar, Thailand Discuss Border Security, Transnational Crime and Bilateral Cooperation

MYANMAR and Thailand discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations, border security and cooperation in combatting transnational crime during a meeting in Nay Pyi Taw between senior security officials from the two countries.

U Tin Aung San, National Security Adviser and Union Minister at the Office of the President, received a delegation led by Mr Chatchai Bangchuad, Secretary-General of Thailand's National Security Council, at the Office of the President in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The two sides exchanged views on strengthening bilateral relations, border security and cooperation, efforts to combat transnational crime, online scams and drug trafficking.



National Security Adviser and President's Office Union Minister U Tin Aung San holds talks with the Thai delegation.

They also discussed cooperation in information security, border crossings and bilateral trade, environmental conservation, and ASEAN regional engagement and development.

Deputy ministers, departmental heads and officials from the President's Office, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of

Home Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, and the Ministry of Commerce attended the meeting.

In the evening, U Tin Aung San hosted a dinner for the Thai delegation at Jasmine Nay Pyi Taw Hotel. Both U Tin Aung San and

Mr Chatchai Bangchuad delivered remarks, while artists from the Ministry of Culture, Hotels and Tourism performed cultural programmes during the dinner. The two sides later exchanged gifts, and floral bouquets were presented to the performers.

The Thai delegation arrived in Myanmar on 26 August. During its visit, the delegation toured the Secretariat (former Ministers' Office) in Yangon, the National Museum in Nay Pyi Taw and the White Elephant Pavilion, and paid visits to the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon and the Maravijaya Buddha Image in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, where they offered flowers, drinking water, candles and other offerings. — MNA/ST

Defence Services C-in-C encourages patients, inspects war veteran housing in PyinOoLwin



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Ye Win Oo views the exhibits on display at yesterday's event.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo comforted Tatmadaw members, Myanmar Police Force members and people's militia who are receiving medical treatment for their injuries sustained in serving State security and defence duties, at the local Tatmadaw hospital in PyinOoLwin Station, Mandalay Region, yesterday.

The General inquired individually about their injuries, medical treatment and health conditions, and provided them with food items and cash awards.

Daw Nilar, the wife of the General, and party gave words of encouragement to pregnant women and babies of mothers at the Maternal and Infant Ward and presented foodstuffs.

The General inspected the progress in construction of the war veteran housing in PyinOoLwin.

The Quartermaster-General and the Adjutant-General reported on expanded construction of war veteran housing in financial years, settlement of war veterans and families and work progress.

In response, the General gave instructions on timely completion of buildings meeting standards, systematic supervision for construction tasks, calculation for construction of high-rise buildings to have resilience to natural disasters, settlement of war veterans and families, and provision of basic foodstuffs and furniture for settled war veterans and families.

The General and party viewed the efforts to provide basic foodstuffs, utensils and household furniture for the convenience of war veterans and families to be settled at the housing, and attended to the needs of those families. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Defence Services C-in-C joins choice of arms event



The choice of arms ceremony for the DSA 69th intake and the DSTA 29th Intake is underway with Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Ye Win Oo in attendance.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo attended and oversaw the choice of arms ceremony for the 69th Intake of the Defence Services Academy (DSA) and the 29th Intake of the Defence Services Techno-logical Academy (DSTA) in PyinOoLwin yesterday. The proceedings were also attended by the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), Commander-in-Chief (Air), senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, Commander of the Central Command, commanders of the respective academies and responsible officials. The selection board interviewed cadet

individually and evaluated and selected them for appropriate corps and branches of the Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) based on their academic and military training performance, technical competence, discipline, and individual preferences.

Furthermore, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and senior Tatmadaw officers dined with the cadets at the cadet mess hall of the Anawrahta Battalion of the Defence Services Academy, where they warmly greeted and encouraged the cadets. — MNA/TH

140 PDFs reintegrated into society

A total of 140 PDFs, comprising 131 men and nine women, have re-entered the legal fold with various arms and ammunition and related equipment, expressing their acceptance of the peace process being pursued by the State and Tatmadaw.

The handover ceremonies took place at Zeyathiri Hall of the North-West Command Headquarters with the attendance of Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Ko Lay, Commander Maj-Gen Kyaw Thura and relevant officials, and at Aung San Hall in Kalay.

At the ceremony in Sagaing, 95 returnees – 89 men and six women from Sagaing – handed over one pistol, one MA-1 rifle, two MA-3 rifles, one MA-11 rifle, one KA rifle, one homemade gun, seven magazines and 10 hand grenades. They were provided with reward money totalling K39.75 million and food supplies before being formally handed over to

their parents and guardians after signing pledges.

Meanwhile, 45 returnees – 42 men and three women – at the ceremony in Kalay handed over 21 firearms, 30 magazines, 679 rounds of ammunition, six hand grenades and three walkie-talkies. They received reward money totalling K106.65 million and food supplies before being handed over to their parents and guardians.

In total, the 140 returnees handed over 27 various firearms and 16 hand grenades, together with ammunition and related equipment yesterday.

Those who intend to do so are urged to promptly contact and report to the nearest district or township administrative bodies, military units, or police stations, where they will be welcomed back and provided with necessary assistance. Appropriate cash rewards will be granted for the arms and ammunition. — MNA/KTZH

Mongnai inspects farm-to-market road project

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, is carrying out the construction of a rural farm-to-market road in Loiyuka Village, Mongnai Township, to enable local farmers to transport agricultural produce from their extensive farmlands to markets at lower costs. Responsible officials conducted a field inspection of the project site on 27 August 2026.

Namhsan District Department of Rural Development Head U Kyaw Myint Lwin Oo, Mongnai Township Head U Maung Khine and district and township engineering



Officials oversee the construction progress of a rural farm-to-market road in Mongnai Township.

staff inspected the progress of construction on the two-mile farm-to-market road, featuring a 12-foot width, a two-foot earth embankment and a nine-inch gravel layer. They met members of the village road construction committee and relevant personnel, urging them to ensure completion on schedule and within the specified timeframe, while providing necessary coordination for matters

raised by local communities.

The farm-to-market road project is being implemented during the 2026-2027 financial year with Union-approved funds. The tender-winning company, Htun Nay Taung Company, is undertaking the construction, which began in the first week of August, with technical support and close supervision from the township department's staff. Upon completion, the road will allow local farmers to transport agricultural produce to markets more easily and quickly. — Thaw Zin Htoo (Rural)



A handover ceremony for returnees in progress yesterday at the North-West Command Headquarters.

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NATIONAL

ASEAN labour ministers discuss human capital, skills certification

THE 29th ASEAN Labour Ministers' Meeting and the 14th ASEAN Plus Three Labour Ministers' Meeting were held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 26 and 27 August, focusing on human capital development, skills certification and regional labour cooperation.

Held under the theme Advancing ASEAN Human Capital: Skills Certification towards Global Recognition, the meetings discussed ways to strengthen the region's workforce amid rapid digital transformation, the shift towards a green economy and demographic changes.

Participants highlighted the need to strengthen skills recognition and



Union Minister U Khin Maung Soe participates in the 29th ASEAN Labour Ministers' Meeting and the 14th ASEAN Plus Labour Ministers' Meeting in Bangkok.

develop common frameworks to improve workers' mobility and employability. They discussed the development of an ASEAN Reference Curriculum Framework for priority sectors, including digital technology, healthcare, green energy and construction, as well as the ASEAN Skills Competency Framework, occupational standards and Recognition of Prior Learning systems.

The meetings also discussed strengthening cooperation between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries, implementing decisions from ASEAN summit meetings and finalizing a joint statement of the ASEAN Labour Ministers' Meeting. — MNA/KZL

DIPLOMACY

MoFA Union Minister receives Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe received Mr Tor Saralamba, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, on 28 August 2026 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, the Union Minister congratulated the Ambassador on his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand. They cordially exchanged views on accelerating the implementation of mutually beneficial cooperation as agreed upon during the President's official visit to



Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe holds talks with the Thai ambassador.

the Kingdom of Thailand, further strengthening the longstanding friendship and close relations between the two countries and peoples, resuming established bilateral mechanisms, enhancing close cooperation to maintain peace and stability along the shared border, and fostering closer cooperation in regional and international arenas, including ASEAN. — MoFA

Advocate Recognition Certificates Presented

THE ceremony for presenting Advocate recognition certificates was held yesterday in Room 2 of the Zeyathiri District Court. The ceremony was attended by Union Supreme Court Judges U Thaung Naing, Dr Ko Ko Naing, and Daw Soe Khet Khet, and Union Supreme Court Judges U Thaung Naing delivered opening remarks.

After the Supreme Court Advocate recognition certificates were presented to 120 higher-grade pleaders in attendance, recognition certificate recipients took their oaths.

The Office of the Union Judiciary Supervision conducted an AML/CFT/CPF Training for Lawyers for those receiving the certificates. Officials from the Office of the Union Judiciary Supervision also attended the ceremony. — MNA



Images show the ceremony for presenting Advocate recognition certificates.

Secretariat's Handicrafts Captivate Foreign ...

FROM PAGE 1

"Before opening the shop, whenever I wanted to decorate a room, I had to travel to Bagan and Mandalay to place orders for the items. As I appreciate Myanmar traditional craftsmanship and enjoy decorating interiors, I thought it would be wonderful if people like me could purchase Myanmar handicrafts in Yangon without having to make a special trip to Bagan. That idea eventually led me to open this shop. Residents in

Yangon have supported us, and foreigners also come to view and learn about the handicrafts and make purchases. In particular, Chinese and Korean visitors are more interested in buying and supporting Myanmar handicrafts. Domestic products will only be highly valued by other countries when our own citizens appreciate and value them first," said U Maung Maung Aye, in charge of the Dhana Aung Myanmar Handicrafts Shop.

The shop also displays

lacquerware and other traditional items suitable for decorating hotels, guesthouses, companies, restaurants and homes in Yangon, including Myanmar harps, xylophones, lacquer alms bowls, lacquer cups, lacquer bracelets, lacquer necklaces, buttons, cabinets, drawers, boxes, kettles, wine glasses, owl figurines, traditional tiffin carriers and other household items.

Among the wooden handicrafts on display are Karaweik, various types

of kettles, Myanmar traditional musical instruments, tobacco pipes, a variety of kitchen utensils, dolls, beads and various decorative items.

Moreover, shirts decorated with sequins and featuring printed stickers depicting elements of Myanmar cultural heritage, including Mandalay Hill, the Mandalay moat, U Bein Bridge, harps and the beauty of women of the Bagan royal court, are also on display. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

Mya Sein Yaung village project activities inspected in Thayet

RESPONSIBLE officials conducted a field inspection on 27 August to monitor the implementation status of the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project activities in Paukpin Village, Thayet Township, Magway Region, according to reports.

Acting Head Daw Ngu

Wah Htwe of the Thayet District Department of Rural Development and project-in-charge staff inspected the implementation of agricultural businesses aimed at serving as family income-generating activities using the MSY Village Project funds, in Paukpin Village, as well as wheth-

er the monthly financial statement forms were fully completed. Afterwards, the acting district head met the village project committee members and coordinated necessary matters.

The MSY Village Project in Paukpin Village was initiated in the 2014-2015 financial year. Reports

read that a total revolving fund of K58.8 million from the MSY Village Project has been disbursed to 171 committee members: K55.8 million to 166 individuals engaged in agricultural businesses, and K3 million to five individuals engaged in trading businesses. — Set Lu (DRD)

NATIONAL

MNHRC invites greater Myanmar-Korea economic cooperation and investment

MEMBERS U Win Hlaing Oo and Dr Swe Swe Aung of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission attended the third Life and Safety Seminar, held at the Lotte Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

The seminar was attended by 50 Korean nationals residing in Myanmar, and Mr Seo Won Ho, Chairman of the Korea Association in Myanmar, delivered the opening remarks. During the seminar, discussions were held on matters concerning the safety, legal protection,

financial affairs, and healthcare of the Korean community in Myanmar. During the session, Commission Member U Win Hlaing Oo delivered a presentation entitled “Residency and Legal Protection for Korean Residents in Myanmar”. Following the presentation, participants raised questions and engaged in discussions on matters of interest and concern. In addition, Commission Member U Win Hlaing Oo encouraged Korean businesspeople currently investing in Myanmar to

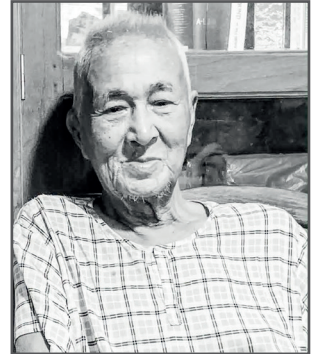


The third Life and Safety Semina is underway in Yangon.

continue expanding their businesses and invited new Korean investors to explore investment opportunities in Myanmar before concluding the seminar at 5 pm. — MNHRC

Renowned author Tun Yi (Archaeologist) passes away

RENOWNED author and archaeologist U Tun Yi (Tun Yi - Archaeologist), a winner of the National Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement and multiple Tun Foundation Literary Awards, passed away at his residence in Thakayta Township at the age of 93 on 25 August.



U Tun Yi
(Tun Yi – Archaeologist).

Born to U Thein and Daw Saw Khin on 20 July 1934 in Myanaung, Ayeyawady Region, U Tun Yi passed the High School exam at 19 and worked as a primary school teacher for about two years. He later joined the Myanmar National Bank as a clerk while pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree at Yangon University, which he obtained in 1960. He rose from bank clerk to deputy manager before transferring to the Myanmar Five Star Line in 1985-1986, where he served as a manager until his retirement in 1992-1993. Throughout his career, U Tun Yi devoted himself to researching and uncovering obscure works of ancient Myanmar literature, compiling and distributing 252 volumes of duplicate manuscript collections. He also authored and published numerous books on ancient Myanmar literature and classical poets. In Japan, he served as a visiting researcher/research fellow for more than a decade, during which he authored several research publications. He founded Mibagon Publishing House to compile and

publish works on Myanmar culture and ancient manuscripts, writing under pseudonyms including Min Ma Haw, Min Ma Haw Tun and Maung Kau Thin.

His scholarly contributions earned him Tun Foundation Literary Awards in 2007, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2015, culminating in the prestigious National Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2017. Until his passing, U Tun Yi remained active as an honorary senior scholar of the Myanmar Writers' Association, patron of the Thakayta Township Writers' Association, a patron of the Myanmar Literature Propagation Association, a member of the Myanmar Encyclopedia Advisory Board, and a member of the palm-leaf manuscript conservation team.

Following news of his death, historians, literary scholars, students and readers paid tribute on social media, expressing their condolences and praising his significant contributions to Myanmar literature. — TWA/TH

Overflow of Ngamoeyeik Dam shows normal condition event

THE water level at the Ngamoeyeik Dam in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, reached 107.10 feet, with water beginning to flow over the spillway by 0.10 foot (about 1.5 inches), according to the measurement taken at noon on 28 August.

Meteorologist U Win Naing noted that the Ngamoeyeik had previously experienced spillway overflows of up to 6.15 feet in 2007 and 6.10 feet in 2023. However, neither incident caused any damage to the structure of the dam or posed any danger to the



This image captures the Ngamoeyeik Dam.

lower-part areas.

Therefore, there is no need to worry at present, as the current overflow of 0.10 foot above the spillway

is merely a normal overflow event.

The current rainfall of about 20 millimetres (moderate rain) is expect-

ed to continue in the dam's catchment areas, and inflows into the dam may therefore continue to increase gradually. However, historical records indicate that flooding in Hlegu town has occurred only when the water level exceeded the spillway by more than seven feet.

The situation is being closely monitored to determine how much higher the water level above the spillway may rise. People can follow subsequent weather and water-level forecasts on the MMWeather Site. — HTUN HTUN/KTZH



Recovery efforts are underway along the damaged section of the Ngawun River embankment.

Erosion prevention and flood protection continue on damaged section of Ngawun River embankment

EROSION-CONTROL and flood-protection works are continuing along the damaged section of the Ngawun River embankment in Lamyethna Township, Ayeyawady Region.

Yesterday morning, Regional Chief Minister

U Aye Kyaw inspected the progress of the collaboration works of officials, technical experts, and skilled workers from the Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department, Bridges Department and Water Resources and Im-

provement of River Systems Department to fill the flood protection barrier with sandbags wrapped in nylon ropes to strengthen the flood protection barrier, the steel sheet pile by Dagon Samari vessel and the Myahantoe sand

vehicle to lay geotextile bags (geobags) to protect the entrance to the water way and small vessels including the geobag driving vessel, sandbag boats and man-powered floating barges.

SEE PAGE 10

MRESA hosts Asia Pacific Real Estate Convention 2026

ORGANIZED by the Myanmar Real Estate Services Association (Central), the Asia-Pacific Real Estate Convention 2026 was held at Novotel Hotel in Yangon on 28 August. It aims to exchange experiences among Asia-Pacific countries and establish a sustainable market in the region.

It was opened by Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Htay Aung and Deputy Speaker U Kyaw Kyaw Soe, re-



The Asia-Pacific Real Estate Convention 2026 in progress.

gional minister Dr Htoo Maung for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and guests, along with MRESA Chair Daw Moh Moh Aung.

Following the open-

ing speech, a video clip of Ms Lily Chang, President of the International Real Estate Federation, was shown. Delegations from Asia-Pacific countries — China, Japan, South Ko-

rea, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Myanmar, Cambodia, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh attended the event.

The convention discussed themes – “anti-money laundering and combatting terrorism financing”, “Yangon property and building a strong future”, “Nay Pyi Taw’s structured urbanization and high potential”, and “Mandalay real estate invitation”. — MT/ZS

Myanmar avocado season 2026-27 launches with promotion drive



This image displays Hass avocados grown in Myanmar.

THE Myanmar Avocado Producers and Exporters Association (MAVO) will launch domestic marketing campaigns to promote consumption of avocado, boost demand and expand the market at the start of the 2026-2027 avocado season.

“Approximately 20,000 tonnes of avocados are ready for export this season, with high-quality produce allocated for overseas shipments. We have plans for domestic marketing campaigns as well. We have been working with Thailand and will also connect with other countries to bolster exports,” the official of the MAVO said.

Furthermore, value-added processing will be carried out at Hi Avocado MTD Co Ltd in the Ayethaya Industrial Zone,

Shan State, where avocado oil will be extracted for premium products. The association is also working to secure GACC certification for export to China in time for the current season.

At present, Myanmar’s avocados are primarily exported to China, Thailand, Dubai, and Singapore. MAVO is also connecting member companies to explore markets in India, Malaysia, and Russia.

Myanmar’s Hass avocado acreage stands at about 20,000 acres, with the harvest season running from September to December each year. The Ministry of Commerce is endeavouring to grow markets and achieving to reach 10,000 tonnes of avocado export target. — ASH/KK

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 28 August 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,648.00~3669.00	557.00~558.70	125.30~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	14,840, 341.42	44,135,240.97	6,124,108.99	-

Balancing cultivation, quality and market demand for watermelon, muskmelon

FOR the 2026-2027 season, watermelon and muskmelon producers intending to export to China rather than relying solely on the domestic market need to balance their cultivation with quality and market demand, according to border traders.

Product quality is a crucial factor for export to the Chinese market. For watermelons, harvesting at 80 to 85 per cent maturity is required to ensure good shelf life, along

with controlling moisture properly.

Delays along export routes pose risks: harvesting early can weaken flavour, while sticking to the regular schedule may leave fruit overripe in transit, eroding quality and market value. On the Kengtung-Mongla route, frequent cargo inspections by Chinese authorities add further delays. Oversupply also threatens to depress prices. To avoid low margin



Watermelons intended for export to the Chinese market.

bulk exports, producers are urged to monitor mar-

ket conditions, control volumes, and prioritize quality to secure stronger returns.

Similarly, while muskmelon growers have advantages in shelf life and quality, they still need to balance cultivation with demand and purchasing power. In particular, because its domestic market is limited, it is much harder to redirect sales from exports to other channels compared to watermelons. — MT/ZN

YGN palm oil wholesale reference price remains unchanged

THE wholesale reference price for palm oil in the Yangon market has remained steady at K7,179 per viss for the week ending 3 September, the same as the previous week ending 27 August, according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution.

The Supervisory Committee, operating under the Ministry of

Commerce, has been closely monitoring the Free on Board (FOB) prices in Malaysia and Indonesia. They consider factors such as transport costs, tariffs, and banking services to establish the weekly wholesale market reference price for edible oils.

Despite maintaining this reference price, the actual market prices remain high. To combat

price gouging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce has advised consumers to report overcharging incidents through their call centre hotline.

They encourage consumers not to purchase palm oil at inflated prices. The committee has also warned that anyone involved in price gouging or manipulating the

market through oil storage will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

To provide more affordable options for consumers, the department is collaborating with the Myanmar Oil Dealers’ Association and cooking oil importing companies. Consumers can report overcharging complaints by calling the hotline at 1535, or by

contacting the Consumer Affairs Department’s Facebook page or the appropriate regional and state departments.

Domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year, while local production only accounts for about 400,000 tonnes. To meet domestic demand, approximately 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are imported annually from Malaysia and Indonesia. — NN/KK

Worldwide ban on nuclear weapons testing and possession

Two atomic bombs dropped on Japan in 1945 resulted in one of the most tragic and devastating losses of human life and property in history. Although the atomic bombs brought an end to World War II, the entire world remains in fear and dread of such weapons. For this reason, humanity universally hopes and prays that the bombing of Japan remains the world's first and last of its kind.

Currently, major global powers possess numerous nuclear weapons capable of killing hundreds of thousands of people in a short period. In the past, nations competed to acquire nuclear bombs to build their strength and prevent themselves from being bullied by others. Today, however, they have grown anxious over the nuclear arsenals they possess. Because other nations now possess similar weapons, prioritizing a balance of power has become essential. Even so, some countries continue to test nuclear weapons to exert their influence.

On 2 December 2009, the 64th session of the United Nations General Assembly declared 29 August the International Day against Nuclear Tests by unanimously adopting resolution 64/35. The resolution calls for increasing awareness and education “about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and the need for their cessation as one of the means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world.”

Since its establishment, many bilateral and multilateral governmental-level developments as well as broad movements in civil society have helped to advance the cause of banning nuclear tests. The international instrument to put an end to all forms of nuclear testing is the

1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). Unfortunately, this has yet to enter into force.

Every effort needs to be made to ensure the entry into force of the CTBT and to preserve its place in the international architecture. In this regard, the Secretary-General appeals to all remaining States whose ratifications are required for the CTBT to enter into force to commit to sign the Treaty at an early date if they have not already done so, and to accelerate the completion of their ratification processes.

Therefore, global peace and stability can only be achieved by making efforts to eliminate existing nuclear bombs in all forms while preventing further nuclear testing. To guarantee peace, all nations must realize that the production and possession of nuclear bombs destroys peace, and they should work together in unison to reduce the testing, production, and stockpiling of nuclear weapons for the benefit of all humankind.

Microplastics: The Invisible Global Threat

By Maung Maung Myint Thein (RIT)

Over the past several decades, humanity has witnessed some of the most dramatic environmental changes in modern history – from melting glaciers and deforestation to rising global temperatures. Yet another, less visible crisis is now demanding urgent attention: microplastic pollution.

These tiny particles, generally measuring less than five millimetres, have spread far beyond landfills and polluted coastlines. They are now being detected in oceans and rivers, agricultural soils, household dust and the atmosphere. Scientists have also found plastic particles in human biological samples, raising growing questions about their potential effects on human health.

Unlike many conventional pollutants, microplastics are exceptionally persistent. They do not simply disappear when larger plastic products break apart. Instead, plastic materials can fragment into progressively smaller particles through sunlight, heat, physical abrasion and chemical processes. As a result, plastic waste can remain in the environment for decades or longer, continually generating smaller particles.

The growing evidence suggests that microplastics should no longer be regarded merely as a marine pollution problem. They are becoming a global environmental challenge connecting the atmosphere, freshwater systems, soil, food chains and human health.

What Are Microplastics?

Microplastics are commonly defined as plastic particles smaller than five millimetres. They come in many forms, including fragments, fibres, films and tiny particles that may be invisible to the naked eye.

Some are deliberately manufactured at small sizes, while others are created when larger plastic products deteriorate. Synthetic clothing, plastic packaging, vehicle tyres, fishing equipment and numerous consumer products can all contribute to microplastic pollution.

Everyday activities can release these particles into the environment. Washing synthetic textiles can release plastic fibres into wastewater. Vehicle tyres shed particles as they wear down. Plastic products can release tiny fragments through handling and abrasion.

These particles can then move through wastewater systems, rivers, wind and atmospheric circulation. Their small size makes them difficult to control once they enter the environment.

Microplastics in Water: From Rivers to the Deep Ocean

The world's oceans have become major repositories for plastic pollution. Microplastics have been detected from surface waters to deep marine environments, where they can interact with marine organisms throughout the food web. Fish, seabirds, turtles and other marine animals may ingest plastic particles accidentally. Larger plastic debris can cause physical injury or digestive problems, while smaller particles may introduce additional chemical and biological concerns.

Microplastics can also interact with pollutants in the surrounding environment. Their surfaces can accumulate certain chemicals, meaning that plastic particles may act as carriers of pollutants under some environmental conditions. The concern extends beyond the oceans. Rivers, lakes and wetlands are also affected. Rivers can transport plastic waste from cities and inland communities toward coastal areas, while lakes and other freshwater systems can accumulate particles from local sources.

This is particularly significant because freshwater ecosystems are closely connected to human drinking-water supplies and food production. Although modern water-treatment systems can remove a substantial proportion of microplastics, their effectiveness varies according to particle size, shape, material and treatment technology. The message is clear: microplastic pollution does not stop at the shoreline.

Microplastics in Soil and Agriculture

While public attention has traditionally focused on plastic pollution in the oceans, scientists are increasingly examining the accumulation of microplastics on land.

Agricultural soils can receive

microplastics from several sources, including plastic mulch used in farming, wastewater and sewage-derived materials, contaminated irrigation water, atmospheric deposition and the breakdown of plastic waste.

Once present in soil, microplastics may alter physical properties such as soil structure, water movement and nutrient cycling. They can also interact with

tic fibres and fragments can become airborne through household dust, synthetic textiles, tyre wear, construction activities, waste handling and other sources. Wind can transport these particles over considerable distances before they eventually settle on land or water.

Scientists have detected microplastics in locations far from major population centres, demonstrating that atmospheric trans-



microorganisms and soil organisms that play important roles in maintaining healthy agricultural ecosystems. The consequences for crops and food production remain an active area of scientific research. Some experimental studies have found that microplastics can influence plant growth and root development, although the magnitude of these effects varies according to the type, size and concentration of the particles.

Scientists have also investigated whether plants can take up very small plastic particles through their roots. Evidence suggests that certain particles can enter plant tissues under particular conditions, raising important questions about the movement of plastics from contaminated soils into agricultural food systems. This creates a potentially important pathway: from plastic waste to soil, from soil to crops, and ultimately from food to people. More research is needed to determine how significant this pathway is under real-world agricultural conditions.

Microplastics in the Air

Perhaps one of the most surprising developments in recent research is the growing recognition that microplastics are also part of atmospheric pollution. Microplas-

tical tissue. These findings demonstrate that human exposure is occurring through multiple pathways, including food, water and air.

However, detecting microplastics in the human body does not automatically prove that they cause specific diseases. Scientists are still working to understand which particles can enter particular tissues, how long they remain there, how the body responds to them and what levels of exposure may pose meaningful health risks.

Laboratory and experimental research have nevertheless raised concerns about several possible biological effects, including inflammation, oxidative stress, immune-system responses and interactions with chemicals associated with plastics. Particular attention is being given to nanoparticles, which are much smaller than microplastics and may have a greater ability to interact with cells and tissues.

The potential health consequences therefore deserve careful scientific investigation. Policymakers should respond to emerging evidence while avoiding exaggerated claims that go beyond what current research can demonstrate.

A Pollution Crisis Without Borders

Microplastic pollution is fundamentally a global problem because neither wind nor water respects national borders. Ocean currents can transport plastic particles across regions. Atmospheric circulation can carry particles over long distances. International trade and global consumption patterns also influence where plastic products are manufactured, used and discarded.

Countries with inadequate waste-management infrastructure can face particularly serious challenges, but no country is completely isolated from the problem. This makes international cooperation essential. Governments, scientists and environmental organizations need internationally comparable monitoring systems, standardized methods for measuring microplastics and stronger policies to reduce

unnecessary plastic production and leakage into the environment.

The challenge is also closely connected to climate change and other environmental pressures. Extreme weather events can redistribute plastic waste, while environmental degradation can create additional pathways for plastic particles to enter ecosystems.

The result is an increasingly interconnected environmental challenge requiring cooperation across borders and sectors.

What Can Be Done?

There is no single solution to microplastic pollution. A successful response must begin by reducing plastic waste at its source.

Several measures deserve greater attention:

- Reduce unnecessary plastic production and consumption.
- Limit unnecessary single-use plastics.
- Strengthen waste collection, recycling and disposal systems.
- Improve wastewater treatment and filtration technologies.
- Develop safer and genuinely sustainable alternatives to conventional plastics.
- Reduce microplastic emissions from textiles, tyres and industrial processes.
- Improve monitoring and scientific research.
- Educate consumers about responsible plastic use and disposal.
- Strengthen international cooperation on plastic pollution.

Importantly, responsibility cannot rest entirely on individual consumers. Governments and industries have a major role in redesigning products, improving production systems and creating effective circular-economy models in which materials remain in use rather than becoming waste.

A Global Challenge That Requires Collective Action

Microplastics may be tiny, but the challenge they represent is enormous. They have moved from being primarily associated

with visible plastic waste to becoming part of a much broader environmental system involving the ocean, freshwater, soil, atmosphere and food chains.

The most important lesson is that plastic pollution does not disappear simply because it is no longer visible. A plastic bottle may break into smaller pieces, but those pieces can remain in the environment and continue to circulate through natural systems.

At the same time, the growing scientific evidence should encourage action rather than fear. Humanity has the technological and policy tools to reduce plastic pollution. Better product design, improved waste management, stronger environmental standards, scientific innovation and international cooperation can all make a difference.

The goal should not simply be to clean up plastic after it has entered the environment. The more effective strategy is to prevent unnecessary plastic from becoming pollution in the first place.

Conclusion: Protecting an Invisible Future

Microplastics represent one of the defining environmental chal-

lenges of the modern era – not because every particle is necessarily dangerous, but because their persistence, mobility and enormous number make them extraordinarily difficult to control once released. They can travel through water, air and soil. They can enter food webs and reach places far from their original sources. And their increasing detection in human biological samples has made the issue an important subject of health research.

Yet the future is not predetermined. The world can reduce the scale of the problem by producing less unnecessary plastic, designing products more responsibly, improving waste-management systems and investing in scientific research. International cooperation will be essential because plastic pollution is not confined to individual countries. Microplastics may be almost invisible to the human eye, but their environmental significance is becoming increasingly difficult to ignore.

The smaller the particles become, the bigger the responsibility becomes – to protect the oceans, the soil, the air, human health and the generations yet to come.



By Thihathayna

A butterfly in the crystal cage had never known walls no longer around him for the rest of his life	out of a feeling of unworthiness
The real world so foreign to a prisoner sentenced to many a year when freed from prison he took his own life	Who can say? what we once despised would someday be what we appreciate most?
	With the passage of time Everything fell in line

NATIONAL

2 foreigners arrested over online
scams in Mongyai



This map including an inset shows the crackdown on online scam hubs in Mongyai Township.

TWO foreign nationals allegedly involved in online scam and gambling activities in Mongyai Township, northern Shan State, have been arrested along with

equipment used for the operation.

On 26 August, authorities conducted an operation against illegal online scam operators between Manmaing and Mankha villages in Mongyai Township. A Chinese national and a Kazakhstani national, who reportedly fled during the operation, were arrested near Nali Village yesterday afternoon. Ten mobile phones were also seized.

Authorities said the suspects will face legal action under existing laws after the necessary investigations are completed, while the seized equipment will be handled in line with procedures.

The government said it continues to cooperate with neighbouring and regional countries and international organizations to combat online scams and illegal gambling and prevent such activities from becoming established in Myanmar. — MNA/KZL

Legal action planned against 9 Facebook
pages selling BL and GL books

THE Ministry of Information has announced that legal action will be taken against nine Facebook pages for advertising and selling BL (Boys' Love) and GL (Girls' Love) books depicting same-sex romantic relationships.

The ministry said the pages were operating without business recognition certificates and had failed to comply with requirements under the 2014 Printing and Publishing Enterprise Law and its rules, including the submission of publications for registration and copyright-related procedures.

According to the announcement, the BL and GL books were found to be inconsistent with Myanmar culture and could mislead young people. The pages were also found to be illegally selling the books.

The ministry urged printers, publishers, bookshops and Facebook pages to comply with the law, warning that violations would result in legal action and prosecution. — TWA/KZL



Advertisements for BL (Boys' Love) and GL (Girls' Love) books featuring same-sex relationships seen on social media pages.

Thayawady's VDP introduced; committee
formed



An orientation and committee formation ceremony in progress yesterday in Thayawady Township.

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development,

held an introductory briefing on the Village Development Project (VDP) and formed a village development committee in Thae-phyu Village, Thayawady Township, yesterday.

Thayawady Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Lay Lay Lwin held a meeting with residents to explain the objectives, procedures and benefits of the Village Development Project. Departmental staff detailed the rules and regulations to be followed in selecting and forming the committee and the procedures to be carried out by the village.

Villagers elected seven members to the Village Development Committee through consensus to effectively implement development activities in Thae-phyu Village. The village will carry out development projects chosen by its residents using K15 million in VDP support funds for the 2026-2027 financial year, under the technical assistance and close supervision of department staff. — Poe Thakhin (DRD)

Erosion prevention
and flood protection
continue on damaged ...

FROM PAGE 6

The chief minister then presented cash awards to the fire brigades and those involved in flood prevention and protection activities and went to the Seiknoegon dyke supervision office to distribute food items to flood victims.

The chief minister and his team proceeded to Nawin Monastery in Laymyethna Township and met flood victims, encouraging them.

The Regional Hlut-taw representative gave an encouraging speech, while the Regional Public Health Department's divisional director explained the measures taken to raise awareness about snakebite and diarrhoea and provide health care to the people. The chief minister and officials provided rice and relief items to flood victims.

The chief minister and his team visited flood victims at Pyaynyeinae Monastery in Laymyethna Township, offering comfort and support. The Regional Public Health Department's divisional director delivered a health awareness talk and distributed rice and relief supplies to those affected.

In addition, yesterday morning, donations were made to flood victims in the region at the Hinthada Township Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department. U Thein Aung (Chief Minister-retired) and his wife Daw Khin Htay Myint family donated K20 million; U Yan Win, A1 Construction Company Limited, donated K30 million; and U Zaw Win Shein, Ayeyahinthada Company Limited, donated K30 million. The regional chief minister received the donations and presented them with certificates of appreciation. — Regional IPRD/MKKS

Kanbalu's VDP project
introduced; committee
formed

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held an introductory briefing on the Village Development Project (VDP) and formed a Village Development Committee in Tawkkashap Village, Kanbalu Township, yesterday.

Kanbalu District Department of Rural Development Head U Soe Khine explained the objectives, activities, implementation processes and expected benefits of the Village Development Project (VDP). Kanbalu Township Department Head Daw Tin Tin Khaing and staff detailed the rules and regulations to be followed in forming the project working committee, policies and implementation procedures.

Villagers and village elders then elected and formed a seven-member Village Development Committee through a voting system and consensus to effectively lead and carry out project activities in Tawkkashap Village. Selected development activities will be implemented by the villagers themselves using K15 million in VDP support funds alongside contributions from the villagers, with technical assistance and close supervision provided by department staff. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

NATIONAL

MoI facilitates land, power and market access for MSME entrepreneurs

THE Ministry of Industry and MSME Development is facilitating land-use permits, land grants and industrial operating permits for MSME entrepreneurs who submit applications for land.

A ministry official said that local agencies were coordinating with officials from the General Administration Department and the Department of Agricultural Land Management and Statistics to help MSME entrepreneurs obtain the necessary land-use rights and permits in accordance with relevant

laws and procedures. Regarding electricity supply, relevant departmental officials are working with MSME agencies in regions and states to facilitate access to electricity for factories and workshops, as well as applications for transformer installation.

MSME entrepreneurs facing electricity shortages are also being provided with technical and financial assistance through relevant agencies to install and use solar power systems.

To expand market



An MSME business operating in Myanmar.

access, MSME product competitions, exhibitions and sales festivals are organized at the Union, regional and state, and district levels. An e-mar-

ketplace platform has also been established to enable MSMEs to showcase and sell their products and establish market linkages. — ASH/KZL

Kunhing inspects 5,000-gallon water tank construction

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the progress of a 5,000-gallon water storage tank construction in Hawngleik Village, Kunhing Township.

Kunhing Township Department of Rural Development Head U Aung Kyaw Hein and engineering staff inspected the construction progress of the water storage tank. He also met members of the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project Working



Officials and residents are seen during the inspection of the 5,000-gallon water tank construction in Kunhing Township.

Committee, urged them to ensure timely completion within the stipulated period, and examined the monthly financial records of the project for accuracy

and completeness.

The water storage tank project, measuring 15 feet in length, 10 feet in width and six feet in height, is being construct-

ed at a total estimated cost of K13 million, funded with K11.7 million from 50 per cent of the MSY Village Project interest income and K1.3 million contributed by local communities. Residents began implementation in the second week of July under the technical assistance and close supervision of department staff. Upon completion, the system will ensure an adequate supply of clean drinking water for 285 residents across 62 households in Hawngleik Village. — Karan (Rural)

RBF project introduced; committee formed in Aunglan

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held an introductory and committee formation ceremony for the Rural Business Fund (RBF) Project in Maoogon Village, Aunglan Township, Magway Region, yesterday.

Township Head Daw Htar Htar Yi of the Department of Rural Development explained the objectives and benefits of the Rural Business Fund (RBF) Project, as well as the procedures to be carried out under the project.

The project responsible staff then explained the requirements and responsibilities to be followed in forming the RBF Project

Committee in accordance with the project manual.

Following this, five members of the RBF Project Committee were selected and formed based on the consensus of the villagers, with the participation of the Township Head and responsible officials.

Agricultural and livestock activities will be carried out through a group-based system under the RBF Project in the village. The implementation of the RBF Project is expected to contribute to the improvement of the socioeconomic conditions of rural residents, according to the Department of Rural Development, Aunglan Township. — Moe Moe(DRD)



An initiation and committee formation ceremony for Rural Business Fund Project is underway in Aunglan Township.

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Rural water supply work underway in Myanaung

OFFICIALS from the Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, inspected the ongoing construction of a 2,400-gallon elevated water tank and related rural water sup-

ply work in Telgon Village, Myanaung Township, Ayeyawady Region, on 26 August 2026.

District Head U Maung Tin Aung of the Department of Rural Development, Township Head U Nay Zaw Htet,

and responsible officials, together with members of the Village Drinking Water Supply Committee and local elders, inspected the construction of the 2,400-gallon elevated water tank and the installation of a motor and com-

pressor for the tube well.

The district head instructed the responsible officials to ensure that all implementation is completed on time and in compliance with the prescribed specifications and standards. He also coordinated necessary measures for the smooth implementation of the project.

The construction of

the 2,400-gallon elevated water tank and related works began on June 25 under the responsibility of the Myanaung Township Department of Rural Development, with a budget of K31.88 million from the Union Fund for the 2026-2027 financial year. The project has now reached approximately 71 per cent completion.

Upon completion,

the project is expected to provide an adequate supply of drinking water for 171 households comprising 586 people, as well as livestock in Telgon Village. It will also help alleviate water shortages experienced by residents during the summer season, according to the Department of Rural Development, Myanaung District. — Myo Myo(DRD)

ECONOMY WORLD

China's data economy hits 6.78T yuan amid AI boom

Data-related software and token services drove major domestic digital sector growth.

CHINA'S data industry continued to expand rapidly in 2025, supporting the development of the fast-growing artificial intelligence (AI) sector, according to official data.

The scale of China's data industry reached 6.78 trillion yuan (about US\$1 trillion) in 2025, up 15.7 per cent year on year, showed figures released at the opening of the 2026 China International Big Data Industry Expo on Friday.

Data-related software products, including



People enter the venue for the 2026 China International Big Data Industry Expo in Guiyang, southwest China's Guizhou Province, 28 August 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

AI application software, services, had a combined 73.6 per cent of the industry's total. — Xinhua

and data resource products, including token output value of 4.99 trillion yuan, accounting for

India-Canada trade reset gains momentum as CEPA talks, tariff shifts open new opportunities: Report

INDIA could see fresh opportunities to expand exports to Canada as bilateral economic ties gain momentum amid ongoing negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and a shift in Canada's import landscape following its trade tensions with the US, according to Rubix Data Sciences.

The two countries are targeting an expansion of



Bilateral economic partnerships expand trade ties between India and Canadian markets. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/HONGOCEAN**

two-way trade in goods and services to US\$50 billion by 2030, while CEPA negotiations, launched in March 2026, have already reached the third round.

The next phase of engagement is expected to focus on strengthening cooperation across energy, critical minerals, technology, innovation and resilient supply chains.

The latest analysis by Rubix Data Sciences shows that India's goods exports to Canada rose from US\$3.8 billion in FY2022 to US\$4.7 billion in FY2026, registering a six per cent compound annual growth rate. — ANI

South Korea completed construction drops sharply

SOUTH Korea's completed construction in 2025 marked the fastest drop in almost three decades despite a higher number of businesses in the construction sector, statistical ministry data showed Friday.

The total value of completed construction dived 7.9 per cent over the year to 335 trillion won (about US\$243 billion), posting

the sharpest decline since 1998 when it plummeted 12.9 per cent, according to the Ministry of Data and Statistics. Domestic construction output shrank six per cent to 297 trillion won due to a slowdown in building construction, civil engineering and landscaping that offset resilience in industrial plant construction. — Xinhua



South Korean construction sites face severe economic slowdown and shrinking investments. **PHOTO: ISTOCK**

NEWS IN BRIEF

US consumers plan steady spending

US consumers remain wary of the economy and are cutting back on discretionary purchases, but holiday spending is expected to remain broadly steady, with nearly half of consumers planning to spend the same amount as last year, according to a latest report by McKinsey & Company.

The latest ConsumerWise research found that 47 per cent of respondents expected to spend about the same during the 2026 holiday season, while 23 per cent planned to spend more and 21 per cent expected to spend less. Another nine per cent had not yet decided.

The findings come as consumer sentiment remains cautious. In the third quarter of 2026, 41 per cent of US consumers reported mixed feelings about the economy, while 34 per cent were optimistic and 25 per cent remained pessimistic. Rising prices and inflation remained the biggest concerns, cited by 53 per cent of respondents. — ANI

Japan spent record 15.4T yen in July-Aug. to stem yen's slide

JAPAN spent a record 15.4 trillion yen (\$96 billion) over the past month in yen-buying operations to stem its home currency's slide in the market, including a joint intervention with US authorities, the Finance Ministry said Friday.

The amount topped the previous monthly record of 11.73 trillion yen spent over three days in April and May this year, data covering the period from 30 July to Wednesday showed, and exceeded an earlier market estimate of around 11 trillion yen to 12 trillion yen.

A Japanese government source has confirmed that the country's authorities stepped into the currency market on 30 July, after the US unit rose to 163.99 yen, its highest level in around 40 years, on 23 July.

The intervention was followed by another operation with US authorities conducted during New York trading hours on 31 July, marking the first coordinated move in 15 years. The joint action was later confirmed by both governments. — Kyodo

Singapore fintech investment falls in H1: report

SINGAPORE'S fintech sector attracted more than US\$499 million in investment across 53 deals in the first half of 2026, down from about \$1.45 billion across 97 deals in the same period a year earlier, said a report revealed on Thursday.

According to the Pulse of Fintech H1 2026 report of KPMG, a global organization of independent professional services firms providing Audit, Tax and Advisory services, the figure marked "the most subdued first half the country saw in about close to a decade".

Cross-border payments, one of the country's key investment areas, saw three deals totalling \$332 million.

Digital assets and cryptocurrencies remained the largest segment by deal count, although individual deal sizes were relatively modest. — Xinhua

Toyota global sales, output in July drop for 1st time in 2 months

TOYOTA Motor Corp. said Friday its global sales and output in July dropped from a year earlier for the first time in two months due to sluggish demand in China hit by higher gasoline prices amid the Middle East conflict. Global sales fell 4.8 per cent from the previous year to 856,125 units, while global output stood at 828,629 vehicles, down 2.1 per cent, according to the world's largest automaker by volume.

Toyota's overseas sales dipped 7.6 per cent to 706,028 cars, with sales in China falling

24.3 per cent to 114,747 units, as the gasoline vehicle market, including gas-powered and hybrid cars, remained weak, the company said.

Sales in North America edged up 0.4 per cent to 255,408 cars, supported by continued solid demand for hybrid vehicles.

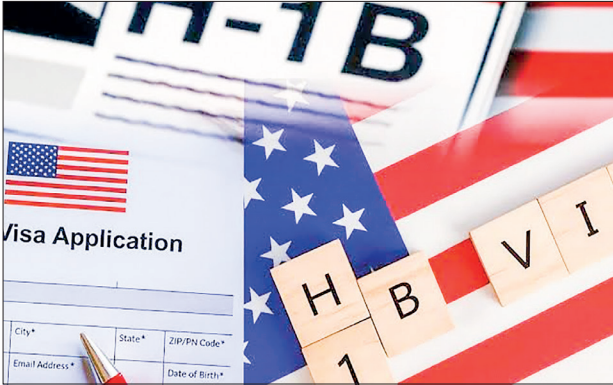
Sales in the Middle East plunged 44.5 per cent to 27,612 units, while its exports from Japan to the region rose 3.0 per cent to 25,394 vehicles as the impact of logistics disruptions stemming from the escalating tensions likely eased. — Kyodo

Trump proposes new six-figure fee for H-1B visas in nod to MAGA base

US President Donald Trump is proposing a fee of over US\$100,000 per employee for American companies that employ foreign workers, in a bid to ramp up support from his political base months before the midterm elections.

The move comes on the heels of a US federal judge's decision earlier this summer to strike down the White House's previously proposed fee for H-1B visa applications.

The H-1B visa is a non-immigrant US work



Nonimmigrant work visas permit American enterprises to employ specialized foreign personnel. **PHOTO: REDDIT**

visa that lets American companies hire foreign workers for specialized jobs.

2016 presidential election) voters see the H-1B visa program with strong scepticism or outright hostility, regarding it as a corporate loophole that undercuts American workers and suppresses local tech-sector wages.

While traditional Republicans often view highly skilled legal immigration favourably, the MAGA base heavily favours an "America First" restriction on both legal and illegal immigration. — Xinhua

Dubai-India non-oil trade hits \$60.6B, Indian business presence surges

DUBAI'S non-oil trade with India reached AED222.5 billion (\$60.6 billion) in 2025, marking a 15 per cent year-on-year increase and strength-

ening India's position as Dubai's second-largest trading partner.

The latest figures highlight the rapid expansion of commercial ties

between the two markets. Bilateral non-oil trade has risen 136.2 per cent over the past decade, from \$25.6 billion in 2016 to \$60.6 billion in 2025.

Indian businesses are also expanding their footprint in Dubai. As of June 2026, 85,841 Indian companies were active members of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce, while 7,579 new Indian companies joined during the first half of 2026, representing 15 per cent growth year-on-year.

India has emerged as a significant source of investment for Dubai. Between 2016 and 2025, Indian investments in Dubai reached \$5.8 billion, including \$2.4 billion in foreign direct investment in 2025 alone. — ANI



Dubai commerce chambers celebrate historic bilateral trading growth with major Indian enterprises. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Fatal fire at South Korean paint plant

THREE people were dead in a fire which broke out at a factory producing paint materials in Cheonan, South Korea's South Chungcheong Province, Yonhap News Agency reported Friday.

The blaze started at about 11:44 am local time (0244 GMT) at the facto-

ry in Cheonan, some 85 kilometres south of capital Seoul. As toxic smoke began to spread, the municipal government issued an emergency disaster alert, urging residents to prioritize their safety and advising drivers to take alternative routes around the area. — Xinhua

Judge strikes down Pentagon Anthropic blacklist

A US federal judge on Thursday struck down the Pentagon's blacklisting of artificial intelligence company Anthropic, ruling that the move violated the company's constitutional rights and federal law.

Judge Rita Lin of the

US District Court in the Northern District of California said the government unlawfully retaliated against Anthropic after the company declined to allow the US military to use Claude for mass domestic surveillance of Ameri-

cans or fully autonomous weapons. Lin said Pentagon chief Pete Hegseth's move against the company violated the governing statutory framework and was "arbitrary and capricious".

She pointed to Hegseth's 27 February state-

ment that Anthropic would be designated a supply-chain risk and that "no contractor, supplier, or partner that does business with the United States military may conduct any commercial activity with Anthropic". — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V DELINA VOY.NO. (106775)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V DELINA VOY. NO. (106775)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-8-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

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

GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS:
WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Japan minor opposition leader gives
AI tech lecture to PM Takaichi

THE leader of a minor Japanese opposition party, who is also an artificial intelligence engineer, on Friday gave Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi a lecture on AI technology, a sector her government aims to focus on under its growth strategy.

Takahiro Anno, the 35-year-old head of Team Mirai, which advocates adopting digital technologies to enhance political participation, taught Takaichi how to use a generative AI chatbot to estimate the impact of inflation on households.

“I wish I could have had this” during this year’s main Diet session, which ended last month, Takaichi said after the lecture, adding that the technology could have allowed her to reduce the number of secretaries by “two or so”. She

Generative artificial intelligence could reduce Prime Minister Takaichi’s executive secretarial staff.



Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi receives artificial intelligence technology briefing in Tokyo. **PHOTO: KYODO**

has eight executive secretaries. The meeting was arranged after Anno offered to give Takaichi a lecture on AI during a one-on-one party leaders’ debate in parliament in May, when he stressed the importance of the technology for politicians’ work. Takaichi smiled and replied, “Please do.” — Kyodo

Military action against Iran not over

US President Donald Trump stated that American military operations targeting Iran might not have ended, whilst firmly ruling out immediate talks with Tehran and asserting that the nation now possesses limited capabilities. Addressing reporters, Trump highlighted that Iran is experiencing severe military and economic strain following recent confrontations. “They’re not paying



The image shows Iran’s indigenous 15 Khordad (Raad-type or Sayyad-3/4 variant) medium-range surface-to-air missile system mounted on a truck chassis during a military exercise. **PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS/FILE**

their troops. They’re in deep trouble,” Trump said. Furthermore, he cautioned against interpreting the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz as a definitive end to potential US military engagement against the Middle Eastern nation. “They are in deep trouble, they have very little capacity, the Strait of Hormuz is open, it doesn’t mean we finished with the military,” Trump said. — ANI

Tanker pays record \$5.3M to transit Panama Canal: administrator

A tanker carrying liquefied petroleum gas has paid \$5.3 million for priority passage through the Panama Canal ahead of El Nino-related restrictions, the waterway’s deputy administrator, Ilya

Espino de Marotta, told AFP on Thursday. South Korean company SK Gas paid the record sum for the G Spirit to transit the shipping lane on 1 September, two days

before canal authorities reduce the number of transits due to the El Nino weather phenomenon, Bloomberg reported. Panama on Tuesday became the latest Central

American country to declare an emergency over El Nino, which has caused dwindling water levels in the canal due to a severe drought across the region. — AFP

Lead ship of China’s second-generation guided-missile destroyers retires

THE Harbin, the first second-generation domestically built guided-missile destroyer of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army Navy, was decommissioned on Friday in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province, after more than 30 years of service.

Commissioned in 1994, the vessel was the lead ship of the Type 052 guided-missile destroyer class. Over the decades, it participated in more than 100 major training exercises and operational missions and sailed over 400,000 nautical miles.

In 1997, the destroyer joined a Chinese naval task group on a landmark voyage to four countries in the Americas, marking the first trans-Pacific voyage and first visit to the continental Americas by Chinese naval vessels. In 2013, during the Chinese Navy’s 14th escort mission, sailors from the ship took part in Seychelles’ Independence Day parade, the first time Chinese naval sailors had participated in a foreign national-day parade as an organized formation. — Xinhua

Icelandic fishermen firmly reject European Union membership

TRAWLER captain Jon Atli Gunnarsson was eight years old when Iceland won the last “Cod War” with Britain. Half a century later, there’s no way he’s handing over any hard-won fishing rights to Brussels. Fishing, a pillar of Iceland’s economy and an integral part of its national identity, is a key topic of debate ahead of the country’s referendum on Saturday on whether to resume European Union membership negotiations, suspended in 2013. On the Westman Islands, a major fishing hub

in the south of the country, opinions have long been clear: the answer is ‘No’ — even though the vote is only about resuming negotiations, not about membership itself. “Our people fought for these 200 miles around Iceland,” Gunnarsson told AFP on the aft deck of the Gullberg, a large blue trawler moored in the harbour. “We are a little bit afraid that if we join the European Union, we would have to give up some of what we fought so hard to gain,” he added. — AFP



Icelandic fishing trawlers remain moored at historic harbour before European referendum. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/WIKIPEDIA**

SPORTS

Paralympics: IPC chief Parsons lauds Tokyo Games legacy in Koike talks

INTERNATIONAL Paralympic Committee President Andrew Parsons on Friday praised the legacy of the 2021 Tokyo Paralympics during talks with Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike.

Five years on from the Paralympics, which were hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, Parsons said Tokyo "set the standard" for other host cities after successfully staging the games despite the testing environment.

Parsons visited Ariake Arena, a wheelchair basketball venue, ahead of the meeting and said he was left impressed after speaking with two teenage male players who were inspired to take up the sport after the Japan national team won silver at the Tokyo Games.

Parsons toured the facility after Tokyo officials briefed him on its barrier-free features, while the Brazilian was also provided details on the Deaflympics for deaf athletes held in the Japanese capital last year by Koike.

"We're steadily making use of the legacy (from the Tokyo Games)," Koike said. "We'll look to strengthen our ties with the IPC and aim to familiarize people with parasports more." — Kyodo



International Paralympic Committee President Andrew Parsons (L) and Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike pose for a photo at the Tokyo metropolitan government building on 28 August 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Yadanabon win as Thitsa Arman and Myawady draw

THE opening day of Matchweek 1 in the 2026-2027 Grand Royal M-League season was held on 28 August, with Yadanabon beating Chinland 2-1 and Thitsa Arman drawing 2-2 with Myawady.

At YUSC Stadium, Yadanabon took the lead shortly before half-time through Aung Kyaw Aye before Yao Victor doubled the advantage in 63 minutes. Chinland's Debby pulled one back in 89 minutes, but Yadanabon held on for victory. Midfielder Vitinho was named AYA Pay Player of the Match and received K1 million in prize money.

At Thanlyin Thihadipa Stadium, Myawady's Soe Thet Maung scored twice in 10 and 45+2 minutes, while Saw Myo Zaw and Pyae Sone Aung scored for Thitsa Arman in 21 and 38 minutes, respectively.



Thitsa Arman and Myawady players compete during the match. **PHOTO: MNL**

Matchweek 1 will continue on 29 August, with Ayeyawady United facing the Sports and Physical Education Institute at Patheingyi Stadium and Dagon Star United taking on Hanthawaddy United at Thanlyin Thihadipa Stadium. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

YBPC to hold preliminary audition for YGN Chief Minister's Cup

THE Yangon Region Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Committee said it will hold a preliminary audition for bodybuilders who will represent Yangon Region and compete in the Yangon Region Chief Minister's Cup, which will host the 14 districts' bodybuilding and physique fitness auditions.

The preliminary audition is jointly organized by the regional Institute of Sports and Physical Education and the regional Bodybuilding and Physique Sports Subcommittee for athletes who are in training for the competition.

It is scheduled to take place on 12 September at the Women's Gymnasium, Padetha Football Stadium in South Okkalapa Township at 9 am. Athletes who haven't finished the application form submission are urged to send it to the provided Viber phone numbers as soon as possible.



This image illustrates a poster for the Yangon Region Chief Minister's Cup for bodybuilding and physique sports.

For more details, 5406407, 09 420278507, 09 252366199, 09 450005959 and 09 420033605, 09 09 5094818. — MT/ZS

Inter-State/Region Sepak Takraw Tourney advances to semifinals

THE final round-robin matches and quarterfinals of the men's and women's three-player team events at the 2026 Inter-State and Region Sepak Takraw Tournament were held at Gymnasium A in Wunna Theikdhi



The Inter-State & Region Sepak Takraw Tournament in action yesterday.

Sports Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

In the men's three-player team event, Yangon Region swept Kachin State 2-0, Mon State overcame Taninthayi Region 2-0, Shan State secured a 2-0 win over Bago Region, Mandalay Region defeated Magway Region 2-0, Kayin State beat Chin State 2-0, Nay Pyi Taw edged Ayeyawady Region 2-1, and Rakhine State overcame Kayah State 2-1 in the final round-robin matches.

In the quarterfinals, Yangon Region swept Nay Pyi Taw 2-0, Shan State defeated Rakhine State 2-0, Kayin State overcame Kachin State 2-1, and Sagaing Region secured a 2-0 victory over Mandalay Region.

In the women's three-player team event, Ayeyawady Region swept Sagaing Region 2-0, Kayin State edged Mandalay Region 2-1, Rakhine State defeated Taninthayi Region 2-0, Yangon Region overcame Magway Region 2-1, and Bago Region beat Chin State 2-0 in the final round-robin matches.

In the quarterfinals, Ayeyawady Region swept Mon State 2-0, Rakhine State defeated Chin State 2-0, Sagaing Region edged Yangon Region 2-1, and Bago Region overcame Taninthayi Region 2-1.

The men's semifinals on 29 August from 9 am will see Yangon Region face Shan State and Kayin State take on Sagaing Region. The third-place play-off and final will follow the semifinals.

In the women's semifinals, Ayeyawady Region will meet Rakhine State, while Sagaing Region will face Bago Region. The third-place play-off and final will also follow the semifinals.

Sports fans and the public are welcome to attend the matches free of charge. — MNA/KZL



Nepal flood death toll rises to 538

THE death toll from catastrophic flash floods triggered along the Nepal-China border has risen to 538, with at least 977 people still missing, Nepal's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) reported Friday.

The disaster began Wednesday following a massive deluge along the Tibet-Nepal border that sent torrents of water, mud, and boulders coursing through the Bhotekoshi and Trishuli river systems. Search teams have recovered bodies across multiple districts, with Chitwan recording the highest toll at 221, followed by Nawalparasi East with 134. Among the missing are 517 foreign nationals, dozens of security personnel, and local civil servants. At least 73 people have been injured.

Fears of secondary flooding intensified Friday after a barrier lake formed near the Chhochan Khola and Purepu Tsangpo confluence reportedly breached, prompting emergency teams to accelerate evacuations. In response, Nepalese authorities mobilized 14,821 personnel from the Nepal Army, Armed Police Force, and civil police. Rescue teams have safely evacuated 3,742 individuals, supported by 78 military and private helicopter sorties delivering food, medical supplies, and satellite communication gear. — AGENCIES



This photo taken on 26 August 2026 shows an area affected by flash floods in Nuwakot District, Nepal. PHOTO: RSS VIA XINHUA

Multipolar world is a definitive reality

“IN geopolitical and geoeconomic terms, giants such as China, India and Brazil are raising their heads and very rapidly strengthening their economic positions,” Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told Russian media.

The most tectonic shift, he argued, is happening in Africa, which is finally breaking from the neo-colonial model of exporting raw materials and adding value in Europe.

The new multipolar world is shaping instead of a unipolar geopolitical system led by the US that was established after the end of the Cold War, Russia has repeatedly said, noting that the new reality will allow nations from different regions to freely protect and pursue their legitimate interests in the spheres of development and security. — SPUTNIK

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi honours memory of Norway's late monarch King Harald V

Modi expressed deep sorrow over the passing of Norway's King Harald.

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Friday expressed deep sorrow over the passing of Norway's King Harald V, recalling his meeting with the monarch during his visit to Norway earlier this year and praising his warmth and dedication to public service.

Expressing condolences to the Norwegian Royal Family over the death of Europe's oldest reigning monarch, PM Modi, in a post on X, said he was “deeply saddened”.

“Deeply saddened by the passing of His Majesty King Harald V of the Kingdom of Norway. I fondly recall meeting His Majesty during my visit to Norway earlier



King Harald died peacefully at age 89 at Oslo university hospital. PHOTO: AFP

this year and was deeply touched by his warmth and profound sense of service to his nation. My heartfelt condolences to the Royal Family and the people of Norway,” the post read.

The Royal Court of Norway announced that King Harald died peacefully at Oslo University Hospital Rikshospitalet at 6:35 am (local time) on Friday, 28 August, at the age of 89.

The Embassy of India in Oslo also conveyed its condolences, saying the Norwegian monarch would be remembered for his selfless service to the country and for his warmth, wisdom and commitment to the Norwegian people. — ANI

Trump renamed Lake Ontario to Lake America, which Canada rejected

US President Donald Trump signed an executive order on Thursday officially renaming Lake Ontario, a major body of water shared along the northern border with Canada, to “Lake America”.

“We’re going to be changing the name of Lake Ontario, effective immediately to Lake America. That’s going to take place right now as I sign the order,” Trump announced from the Oval Office prior to signing the directive. The president stated that the unilateral renaming was not intended to send a specific message, noting instead that he had been considering the decision “for a long time”. The formal action followed a

video Trump shared a day earlier symbolically marking the change on a map amid ongoing cross-border trade friction.

The move drew immediate pushback from Ottawa, with Canadian

Prime Minister Mark Carney confirming that Canada will not adopt the new designation. Carney emphasized that the historic name remains unchanged north of the border, highlighting its

deep indigenous roots and long-standing geographic significance.

“We know that America is changing. Their trading relationships, their foreign policies, their national monuments, their hydronyms. Canadians also know that naming reality means calling it Lake Ontario – then, now and always,” Carney stated in a post on X. He noted that the term originates from the Wendat word Ontarí’io, meaning “the lake is beautiful, the lake is big”, and has been in continuous use for more than four centuries, predating both the United States Declaration of Independence and Canadian Confederation. — SPUTNIK



Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney firmly rejected the change, emphasizing the four-century-old indigenous heritage and historic status of Lake Ontario. PHOTO: WORLDATLAS