

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.

Dozen More Fuel Tankers Bound for Myanmar

Myanmar continues fuel oil imports to ensure supply stability, with two tankers docked at Thilawa Port, four en route, three loading, five awaiting loading, and about 40 days of reserves maintained by the Ministry of Energy, while fuel is regularly distributed nationwide, and the public is urged to avoid unnecessary purchases.

In addition to two fuel tankers docked at Thilawa Port in Thanlyin Township, 12 more tankers are to arrive in Myanmar to ensure a consistent fuel supply, accord-

ing to the Ministry of Energy.

The ministry has been governing the supply chain to ensure fuel reaches end users and has drawn up plans to prevent

panic buying and hoarding and to reduce fuel consumption.

"Unscrupulous persons are spreading news of possible shortages as neigh-

bouring Thailand has banned fuel export. Myanmar imports fuel oil from Singapore and Malaysia among regional countries. Singapore and Malaysia are serving as regional processing and trading hubs. They will not shut down their oil refineries. Even if they cannot source from the Middle East, they will keep operating with the available sources. The oil refineries are their core businesses, and no disruption will occur," said Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun, leader of the National Defence and Security Council's Information Team. Myanmar has been consistently importing fuel oil to ensure fuel sufficiency, with two tankers docking at Thilawa Port, four en route, three in the process of loading, and five waiting to load.

The Ministry of Energy held approximately 40 days of fuel oil in reserve. Fuel is regularly distributed to fuel stations nationwide from Thilawa. Authorities have requested the public to refrain from unnecessary buying. Consumers can also make complaints via 09 797421095 and 09 5240363 if there are petrol stations not selling fuel. Failing to sell might result in the closure of the station for violating rules. — ASH/KK



This image shows one of the fuel tankers docked at Thilawa Port in Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region.

OPINION

Provide better treatment to cancer patients

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MNREC UM inspects changes in PyinOoLwin's land use via aerial view

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European tourists flock to Wah Ale Resort in Lampi Marine National Park

NATIONAL

Population Policies Must Be Long-Term, Forward-Looking and Nation-Specific

❖ It is necessary to formulate and adopt population policies suited to the country, to ensure a population level that is appropriate and balanced with the nation's land, water, and natural resource endowments, and to make preparations with foresight for the next generation.

(An 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 ceremony of releasing the Union Report on population and household census 2024 held on 27 October 2025)

- 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.

Objectives of 81st Armed Forces Day

- (a) To participate in national politics in a leadership role of the country, not to deviate from the path of democracy in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Constitution, safeguarding the national policy, the Our Three Main National Causes
- (b) To cooperate with the government and people in performing measures for State stability, ethnic unity and the nation's development
- (c) To act with utmost care based on the agreements of NCA without deviating from the Our Three Main National Causes while serving duties for durable peace, as the resolution of armed conflicts play key role in moving towards a genuine and disciplined multiparty democratic pathway
- (d) To continuously improve three main tasks of Tatmadaw – Study, Practise, Comply – and the ability to apply modern technologies in structuring Tatmadaw into a Standard Army

မြန်မာ့မျက်နှာတစ်သစ် ဖိုရမ်
FORUM ON THE DAWN OF A NEW STATE
 (Trust, Stability & Development)
23-24 March 2026
MICC-1, Nay Pyi Taw

Renowned actor donates vintage cars to mark MMPO 80th anniversary

TO mark the 80th anniversary of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization, Academy Award-winning actor Khant Si Thu donated two vintage vehicles – a 1935 Ford Sedan and a 1955 Ford Anglia – to the organization on 8 March for use in film productions, according to the actor himself.



Actor Khant Si Thu is seen with the donated vehicles: a 1935 Ford Sedan and a 1955 Ford Anglia.

“The Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization was founded on 8 March 1946, so this year marks its 80th anniversary. On this occasion, I donated a 1935 Ford Sedan and a 1955 Ford Anglia so that members of the film industry can hire and use them on film sets. I also donated bread and bottles of water within my means. I am pleased to be able to contribute, as much as I can, to the celebration of the organization's 80th anniversary,” said actor Khant Si Thu.

At the ceremony commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization, the opening ribbon was cut by the organization's chairman, director Kyi Soe Tun, patron director Maung Hnin Moe, Academy Aung Lwin and several artistes. Chairman Kyi Soe Tun also delivered a congratulatory address.

As part of the 80th anniversary celebration, tea, bread, Myanmar fried dough sticks, iced coffee, cold drinks, Thai fried rice and traditional Myanmar snacks were served to guests and film enthusiasts attending the event. In addition, the film ‘Chit Pan Thazin’ was screened at the Shwe Yadana Hall of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization, and a lucky draw programme was organized for the organization's members. — ASH/KNN

Public Notice

THE Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to curb corruption effectively.

The ACC used SMS on mobile phones to ask the public who sought services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via short code No “1111” for feedback, including the public feedback programme (PFP).

According to the PFP, the proper replies of the citizens via short code No “1111” will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.

Therefore, the public should reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via

SMS at short code “1111”. Such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

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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)

Election Tribunal 1 & 2 hold hearings on 2 objections related to 2025 general election

THE Union Election Commission successfully held the 2025 general election in three phases: Phase I on 28 December 2025, Phase II on 11 January 2026, and Phase III on 25 January 2026. The commission

yesterday began examining two objections submitted for Phase I and Phase II of the 2025 general election in accordance with Sections 67 and 68 and Rule 112 of the relevant

For the hearings, Election Tribunal 1 and Election Tribunal 2, comprising a commission member as chairperson and two other commission members, were formed under Section 69 (a) (1) of the relevant

Hluttaw Election Laws by Order 1/2026 and Order 2/2026 dated 23 February 2026.

Yesterday, Election Tribunal 1 examined objection No 1/2025 filed by Dr Kaung Htet Khine (USDP) against U

Pawng Zalang (Zomi National Party), whereas Election Tribunal 2 examined objection No 2/2025 filed by U Win Kyu (USDP) against U Khine Oo (People's Party). — MNA/KTZH

ME in Abu Dhabi offers assistance to Myanmar nationals in Middle East



Statement from the Myanmar Embassy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

ACCORDING to a statement from the Myanmar Embassy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Myanmar nationals in the UAE and the Middle East who wish to return to their home country may contact the ticketing agents of the relevant airlines directly. The announcement further stated that those

experiencing any difficulties in the process may contact the Myanmar Embassy to request assistance.

Following coordination between Myanmar Airways International (MAI) and the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority, flight operations between Yangon and Dubai resumed on 6 March. Plans are currently in place to maintain this as a scheduled service to facilitate the return of Myanmar nationals.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued a call for all parties involved in the Middle East conflict to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations. The ministry also urged all parties to reduce hostilities and seek peaceful solutions through negotiation and dialogue. — ASH/KNN

MNREC UM inspects changes in PyinOoLwin's land use via aerial view

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, U Khin Maung Yi and party carried out a preliminary investigation by plane over PyinOoLwin on whether there are trespassing in forest reserves and protected areas, whether there are uses of vacant lands and farmlands for other purposes without official permission and whether there are illegal uses of land plots which are under the management of the government.

Along with Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung, directors-general and officials from the Settlement and Land Records Department, the Forest Department, the Survey Department and officials from the General Administration Department carried out the aerial investigation on the morning of 8 March over the town.

The ministry has strengthened its efforts for expanding of the stretch of forest cover areas and ensuring the forest conservation, proper management, the conservation of irrigated areas and the establishment of forest farms for the green area, so respective departments have carried out field



The Union minister and officials investigate land uses in PyinOoLwin Township.

investigations to make sure of no illegal settlements and illegal land uses as well as for regulating the uses of land, by forming delegations.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental

Conservation has also carried out mobile inspections from the aerial view as part of supervisory tours on forest conservation projects and prevention of wildlife fire and smoke hazard. — Htun Htun/ZS

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NATIONAL

National Defence and Security Council Law 13/2026

CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

Chapter VI

Liabilities of Licence Holder

25. A person who has obtained an excise licence shall comply with the terms and conditions contained in the relevant excise licence and shall systematically maintain records and registration books relating to the liquor business.
26. A licence holder shall comply with the instructions issued from time to time by the Ministry or the Department.

Chapter VII

Application, Permission and Refusal for Change of Name of Excise Licence Holder, Location, Licence Type, and Closure of Licence

27. A person who wishes to carry out any of the following matters may apply to the relevant district excise officer in accordance with the prescribed procedures,
- change of the name of the licence holder
 - change of the location described in the licence
 - change from one type of excise licence to another type of excise licence
 - closure of an excise licence.
28. (a) When the district excise officer receives an application for any matter mentioned in Section 27, he/she shall require the township excise officer to scrutinize and report whether it complies with the prescribed requirements.
- (b) The township excise officer shall scrutinize the matter and submit it to the district excise officer together with his/her remarks in accordance with the prescribed procedures.
- (c) Upon receiving the submission under subsection (b), the district excise officer shall:
- submit it together with his/her remarks to the Region or State Excise Officer.
 - submit it together with his/her remarks to the Nay Pyi Taw Excise Officer in the Union Territory.
29. When relevant Region or State Excise Officer or the Nay Pyi Taw Excise Officer
- receive the submission under Section 28(c)-
 - he/she shall request the remarks of the relevant Region or State Government within the region or state.
 - request the remarks of the Nay Pyi Taw Council in the Union Territory.
 - upon receiving the requested remarks under subsection (a), submit them together with your own remarks to the Department.
30. (a) Upon receiving the submission under Section 29 (b), the Department shall scrutinize whether it complies with the prescribed requirements and may approve or refuse the application.
- (b) A person who receives approval for changes in accord with Section 27 (a), (b) or (c) shall pay the prescribed excise licence fee.

Chapter VIII

Application, Permission and Refusal for Liquor Storage

31. If an excise licence holder wishes to store alcohol produced by him/her or alcohol that he/she is authorized to distribute at a place other than the originally approved location stated in the excise licence, he/she shall apply to the relevant district excise officer for an alcohol storage permit in accordance with the procedures.
32. When the district excise officer receives the application under Section 31,
- he shall submit it together with his remarks to the Region or State Excise Officer in the region or state.
 - shall submit it together with his remarks to the Nay Pyi Taw Excise Officer in the Union Territory.
33. When the Region, State or Nay Pyi Taw Excise Officer

- receives applications under Section 32, together with his remarks, he shall
 - request the remarks of the relevant Region or State Government within the region or state.
 - request the remarks of the Nay Pyi Taw Council in the Union Territory.
 - upon receiving the requested remarks under subsection (a), the district excise officer shall perform in accordance with these remarks.
34. The district excise officer shall grant or refuse the liquor storage permit applied for under Section 31 in accordance with the instructions under Section 33(b).
35. The Department, with the approval of the Ministry, may prescribe the types, quantities, and amounts of alcohol that may be possessed without obtaining an excise licence.

Chapter IX

Application, Permission and Refusal for Liquor Transport

36. Any licence holder wishes to transport alcohol produced by him/her or alcohol that he/she is authorized to distribute to a person holding a distribution excise licence or a sales excise licence, he/she shall apply to the relevant district excise officer in accordance with the procedures.
37. When the district excise officer receives the application under Section 36,
- he shall examine whether it complies with the prescribed requirements.
 - after examination under subsection (a), he may issue the alcohol transport permit or refuse the application.

Chapter X

Application, Permission and Refusal for Establishment or Expansion of Alcohol, Beer or Wine Factories

38. A person who wishes to carry out any of the following matters shall apply to the Department for permission in accordance with the procedures,
- establishment of an alcohol, beer or wine factory
 - expansion of a factory that has already been granted establishment permission, and expansion of the scale of excise operations at the permitted location
 - expansion of the factory area beyond the permitted land area and expansion of the scale of excise operations stated in the excise licence
 - the relocation of a factory that has been granted establishment permission to another location.
39. A person wishing to carry out any matter mentioned in Section 38 shall,
- apply to the Department together with the remarks of the relevant Region or State Government if the factory is to be established within the region or state
 - apply to the Department together with the remarks of the Nay Pyi Taw Council if the factory is to be established within the Union Territory.
40. (a) When the Department receives the application under Section 39,
- it shall scrutinize whether it complies with the prescribed requirements,
 - after scrutiny under subsection (1), it may issue or refuse permission for any matter under Section 38 with the approval of the Ministry.
- (b) A person who receives permission for any matter under Section 38 shall pay the fees prescribed by the Department, including the security deposit.
41. A person who receives permission for any matter under Section 38 shall:
- report to the Department and obtain guidance for activities, including land preparation for factory establishment and installation of machinery, and shall also undergo inspection by the Department
 - after establishing the factory, apply for an excise licence for production in accordance with the procedures

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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

Chapter XI Distribution and Sales

42. Anyone who wishes to distribute, sell, or transport toddy sap for commercial purposes – other than distributing, selling, or transporting it in accordance with the prescribed rules to a person holding an excise licence – shall apply for and obtain the relevant excise licence or a transport permit.

Explanation: Distribution, sale, or transport for commercial purposes means distribution, sale, or transport exceeding 50 litres.

43. A holder of a liquor distribution licence who wishes to distribute liquor through an online system to another person holding a liquor distribution or sales licence shall do so in accordance with the stipulations issued under this Law or any other existing law.

44. A holder of a liquor manufacturing licence, an excise licence for production as a value-added product, or a liquor bottling licence shall distribute or sell liquor only after obtaining approval from the relevant government department or government organization certifying that each type of liquor is suitable for consumption.

Chapter XII Export and Import

45. A holder of a liquor manufacturing licence, a liquor licence for production as a value-added product, or a liquor distribution licence may export liquor to foreign countries in accordance with the stipulations issued under this Law or any other existing law.

46. A holder of a liquor distribution licence may import liquor from abroad in accordance with the stipulations issued under this Law or any other existing law.

47. The Department may, if necessary, restrict the importation of liquor from abroad with the approval of the Ministry.

Chapter XIII Inspection, searching and taking action against excisable businesses

48. The Director-General –
(a) shall inspect excisable businesses holding an excise licence.
(b) shall himself do the inspection or transfer the authority of inspection to an officer not lower than the staff officer level or a team comprising more than one member.

49. The District Excise Officer or Township Excise Officer shall inspect places where liquor is manufactured, distributed, or sold to determine whether they comply with the prescribed requirements.

50. Excise officers at different levels shall:
(a) inspect, in accordance with the prescribed requirements, the following excise-related premises and vehicles transporting liquor or excisable substances:

- (1) places where liquor or excisable substances are manufactured;
- (2) places where liquor or excisable substances are produced as value-added products;
- (3) places where liquor or excisable substances are stored;
- (4) places where liquor or excisable substances are distributed;
- (5) places where liquor or excisable substances are sold.

(b) examine the accounts and registration books relating to excise businesses.
(c) inspect, test, and weigh any liquor, excisable substances, or equipment found during inspections conducted under subsection (a), in accordance with the prescribed requirements.

(d) if, during inspections carried out under subsections (a), (b), or (c), it is found upon scrutiny that any provision of this Law, rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives, or procedures, or any condition contained in an authorized excise licence, has not been complied with, take action in accordance with the law.

51. If the Township Excise Officer considers it necessary for the maintenance of public peace and tranquillity, he or she may, upon obtaining the approval of the Township Supervisory and Inspection Team, submit the matter to the relevant District Excise Officer and direct the temporary closure of a place where liquor is distributed or sold for a specified time or period.

52. If reliable information is received that a riot likely to disturb the public or an unlawful assembly may occur or is occurring near a place where liquor is distributed or sold, the Ward or Village-tract Administrator or the officer in charge of the relevant police station may, with the approval of the Township Excise Officer, order the temporary closure of such place for an appropriate period of time.

53. A holder of the relevant excise licence shall:

(a) temporarily close the place where liquor is distributed or sold if a directive is issued under Section 51 or Section 52.

(b) even if no directive is issued under Section 52, temporarily close the place where liquor is distributed or sold if any of the following situations occur:

- (1) a riot likely to disturb the public occurs near the place where liquor is distributed or sold;
- (2) an unlawful assembly occurs near the place where liquor is distributed or sold.

Chapter XIV Taking action in the management means

54. If a holder of an excise licence fails to comply with any stipulation contained in the rules, regulations, notifications, orders, directives, or procedures issued under this Law, or with any condition of the excise licence, or if a permit holder fails to comply with any stipulation under Section 41(a), the Director-General may impose one or more of the following administrative penalties:

- (a) issuing a written warning;
- (b) imposing a fine;
- (c) suspending the excise licence or permit for a specified period;
- (d) revoking the excise licence or permit.

Chapter XV Appeal

55. (a) If a holder of an excise licence is dissatisfied with an order imposed by the Director-General under Section 54, he or she may file an appeal to the Ministry within 60 days from the date the order is issued.

(b) The Ministry may confirm, amend, or revoke the order imposed by the Director-General.

(c) The decision of the Ministry shall be final.

Chapter XVI Prohibitions

56. No person shall distribute, sell, or transport toddy sap for commercial purposes without an excise licence or a transport permit, except for distributing, selling, or transporting it to a person holding an excise licence in accordance with the prescribed requirements.

57. No person shall, in relation to distilled liquor:
(a) manufacture, bottle, distribute, or sell it without an excise licence;
(b) store it without a storage permit;
(c) transport it without a transport permit.

58. No person shall, in relation to wine:
(a) manufacture it without an excise licence;
(b) bottle it without an excise licence;
(c) export it without a manufacturing excise licence or a distribution excise licence;
(d) import it from abroad without a distribution excise licence;
(e) store it without a storage permit;
(f) distribute or sell it without an excise licence;
(g) transport it without a transport permit;
(h) transport it in violation of the conditions contained in the transport permit.

59. No person shall, in relation to locally produced liquor:
(a) manufacture it without an excise licence;
(b) produce it as a value-added product without an excise licence;
(c) bottle it without an excise licence;
(d) export it without a manufacturing excise licence or a distribution excise licence;
(e) store it without a storage permit;
(f) distribute or sell it without an excise licence;
(g) transport it without a transport permit;
(h) transport it in violation of the conditions contained in the transport permit.

60. No person shall produce toddy sap or distilled liquor as a value-added product without an excise licence.

61. No person shall, in relation to liquor produced as a value-added product:
(a) bottle it without an excise licence;
(b) export it abroad without a manufacturing excise licence or a distribution excise licence;
(c) store it without a storage permit;
(d) distribute or sell it without an excise licence;
(e) transport it without a transport permit;
(f) transport it in violation of the conditions contained in the transport permit.

TO BE CONTINUED

NATIONAL

TTI to conduct export business startup course (batch 20)

THE Trade Training Institute (TTI) of the Trade Department under the Ministry of Commerce will offer intensive training on how to start an export business (batch 20) from 9 am to 4 pm on 16-20 March 2026.

The institute is located at 228/240, the corner of Strand Road and Shwebontha Street. The maximum number of trainees is 50. Trainees can register at the institute, providing an application form, three licensed photos, a bachelor's degree certificate, a matriculation pass certificate, a citizenship scrutiny card and other related documents. Individuals can enquire about details by dialling the contact numbers of the institute: 01 8250871, 09 254075848, and 09 442134380. — NN/KK



The export business startup course is underway in the previous year.

MTE invites open tender for teak, hardwood logs, sawn timber



This image shows sawn timbers being neatly stacked.

THE Local Marketing and Milling Department under the Myanma Timber Enterprise, operated under the Ministry of

Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, called for an open tender to sell 1,940 tonnes of logs and sawn timber of teak and hardwood.

The open tender will be held at 8:30 am on 17 March at Tawwin Hall, Myanma Timber Enterprise in Insein Township, Yangon.

Those logs and sawn timber are sourced from mills in Yangon, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Sagaing (East) and Bago regions, Shan State (South) and Nay Pyi Taw.

Interested bidders can observe details of the open tender through official website of the Myanma Timber Enterprise www.mte.gov.mm or by dialling 09 795700439 and 09 402705515. — NN/KK

MPIE calls for tender to procure medical raw materials

MYANMA Pharmaceutical Industrial Enterprise, operated under the Ministry of Industry, called for tender to procure five types of raw materials, one type of feedstuff, 35 types of auxiliary materials for the production of pharmaceuticals at Myanmar Pharmaceuticals Factory (Insein) and Myanmar Pharmaceuticals Factory (Inyaung).

Only the registered companies verifying tax clearance can submit a tender. Price proposal forms are sold starting from 5 March, and the deadline for tender submission is at 4 pm on 18 March. Tenders must be submitted to the Tender Accepting and Evaluating Committee of Myanmar Pharmaceutical Industrial Enterprise at Office 37 in Nay Pyi Taw.

Interested individuals can enquire about the standard of the items, tender rules and regulations at Myanma Pharmaceutical Industrial Enterprise (head office) in Nay Pyi Taw via 067 3408388 and 067 3408354. — NN/KK

MFVP to host discussion on maintaining quality seed on 15 Mar

MYANMAR Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association (MFVP) will discuss maintaining pedigree seed from 9 am to 3 pm on 15 March in Myaypadethakyun, Yangon.

This discussion is part of the Safe Food from Safe Farm programme jointly implemented by the Department of Agriculture and MFVP, with a view to encouraging growers to produce quality seed. Speakers are U Kyaw Naing, vegetable seed expert, Daw Theingi Swe, Officer of VFRDC and U Thet Zin Maung, retired deputy director. Interested individuals can attend this discussion in person or via Zoom. They need to register by 13 March by calling 0943127656. — NN/KK

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Monday, 9 March 2026

BAY INFERENCE: The weather is a few clouds to partly cloudy over the South Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal and generally fair over the North Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 10 March 2026: Isolated light rain or thundershowers are likely in Upper Sagaing, and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, and Eastern Shan States. The degree of certainty is 60 per cent. The weather will be partly cloudy in Ayeyawady Region and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, and (Northern and Southern) Shan States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing Kachin State. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: The sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 3-5 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated light rain or thundershowers in Upper Sagaing, and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, and Shan States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10 March 2026: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10 March 2026: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10 March 2026: Generally fair weather. — DMH

The people are urged to receive vaccination of COVID-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of COVID-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.

Corrigendum

PLEASE read "between 1 February and 30 June" instead of "1 February and 31 August" in the third line of the first paragraph in the second column of the news story under the headline "Burn-free certification issued to facilitate maize exports to Thailand" on page 12 of The Global New Light of Myanmar issued on 8 March 2026. Error is regretted. — Ed.

NATIONAL

The travellers from European countries, rather than Asian countries, visit Wah Ale Resort, located in Lampi Marine National Park, in Taninthayi Region, according to the resort.

Tourists visiting Wah Ale Resort usually stay for vacations ranging from five days to two weeks. During their visits, they enjoy activities such as kayaking through mangrove forests, trekking in the forest to observe ecosystems, climbing hills to enjoy natural scenery, observing rare wildlife, exploring the underwater beauty of coral reefs, swimming, walking along the sandy beaches, enjoying sunsets, and learning about the lifestyle of the Salon (Moken) people.

“We paid special emphasis on ensuring that the construction of the Wah Ale Resort did not harm the natural ecosystem from the very beginning. The buildings were constructed using old timber and bamboo, and there are no refrigerators or air conditioners. Because the natural ecosystem has been carefully preserved, the whole of Lampi Island remains beautiful. The island has rich biodiversity, including diverse animal and plant species, so foreign visitors come here as it is still an unspoiled natural destination. Many visitors from Europe who love forests, mangroves, marine



European tourists flock to Wah Ale Resort in Lampi Marine National Park



Images showcase the cliffs and shallow-water shoreline at Lampi Marine National Park (top), an eco-friendly house at Wah Ale Resort (above left), and a twilight view of Lampi Beach (above right).

environments, and nature come to visit. Therefore, we limit the number of visitors to avoid

harming the environment. For this year’s travel season, tourists will continue visiting until

April,” said U Aung Zin Latt, general manager of the resort. The Wah Ale Resort hosts

travellers in October every year, and the site was opened in November due to certain weather conditions, and offered at US\$800 for a single room and US\$1,500 for a double room. The resort has 40 rooms. Tourists arrived from Russia, the US, Germany, Australia, France, Italy, Switzerland, Espanola, India, the Netherlands, Cambodia, Canada, and Latvia. Among them, the highest number of visitors came from Russia and the US.

“We heard that the resort is fully booked until 12 April this travel season. In many foreign countries, tourism is considered a “smokeless industry” that generates foreign income. Myanmar’s Lampi Marine National Park earns foreign income from the Blue Economy without harming the natural environment. Therefore, developing more tourist destinations that can generate foreign income like this would greatly benefit the country,” said U Thet Oo, warden of Lampi Marine National Park.

The tourists proceed to Wah Ale Resort after visiting Inlay, Popa and Bagan, and they return to their respective countries via Thailand. European tourists especially visit the Wah Ale Resort in Lampi Marine National Park every year for its natural beauty, rare species and biodiversity. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH



European tourists enjoy Wah Ale Island Beach.



Travellers are seen riding kayaks at Lampi Marine National Park in the Myeik Archipelago.

Stakeholders invited to collaborate on developing Myanmar’s maize sector

STAKEHOLDERS have been invited to collaborate in building the sustainable development of Myanmar’s maize sector, as efforts continue to promote new technologies, digital systems, and modern business processes to enhance international market competitiveness.

The Myanmar Corn Industrial Association (MCIA) announced on 9 March that it will cooperate with relevant or-

ganizations, the banking sector, and the private sector for the aforesaid purposes.

MCIA stated that it recognizes the importance of modernizing financial systems and boosting competitiveness for the sustainable growth of Myanmar’s maize sector. Specifically, the adoption of digital technology in agriculture and trade, along with the increased use of Cashless Payment Systems,

plays a vital role in it.

By enabling digital payments between the stakeholders, the sector can achieve faster and more accurate transactions and a reduction in trade-related risks. Furthermore, MCIA highlighted that digital payment data will help Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) gain better access to financial services and investment opportunities. — MT/ZN



A demonstrative diagram promoting digital payment methods within the maize sector.

OPINION

Provide better treatment to cancer patients

In order to reduce the mortality rate from cancer and enable early detection and treatment of the disease, Myanmar has formulated the National Strategic Plan for Cancer Control (2023-2027) and is implementing it as a national-level strategy for the prevention, control and treatment of cancer.

Health is the most fundamental foundation for survival and human resource development, as it is said that in human life, "only when one is healthy can one pursue education, and only when one is healthy can one work". Only when the people are healthy and strong can the nation enhance its productivity, maintain social stability, and promote the development of future generations. Therefore, efforts are being vigorously undertaken with the objectives of enabling the people to live their full life span, remain free from diseases, and maintain good health and physical fitness.

Since 2021, seven new radiotherapy machines have been installed at general hospitals in Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw. As a result, there are now five radiotherapy centres, 15 radiotherapy machines and four brachytherapy units in public hospitals and departments under the Ministry of Health. In addition, there are four radiotherapy centres, four radiotherapy machines and one brachytherapy unit operating in military hospitals. Consequently, treatment has been given to 285 inpatients and 3,805 outpatients.

Since 2021, seven new radiotherapy machines have been installed at general hospitals in Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw. As a result, there are now five radiotherapy centres, 15 radiotherapy machines and four brachytherapy units in public hospitals and departments under the Ministry of Health. In addition, there are four radiotherapy centres, four radiotherapy machines and one brachytherapy unit operating in military hospitals. Consequently, treatment has been given to 285 inpatients and 3,805 outpatients.

No matter how modern and advanced the available equipment may be, the most crucial factor for successful treatment is the skill and dedication of the human resources who operate and use the machines. As cancer patients may also suffer psychological distress related to their illness, healthcare workers are urged to uphold the three guiding virtues already embedded in their profession and to care for patients with compassion, warmth and kindness, treating them with a family-like spirit.

The Honourable Homecoming Journey of People's Military Service Members (Part I)

By Min Khant

For the perpetuation of the sovereignty of a nation, it is a very noble national duty for every citizen to serve in the responsibility of national defence. To ensure that those who are eligible by age can fulfil this honourable national duty with a sense of conscientiousness, the People's Military Service Law officially came into effect on 10 February 2024. The first batch of People's Military Service Training was successfully conducted on 8 April 2024. At present, it has been reported with pride and joy that the first batch of People's Military Service members who faithfully carried out the national defence duty is about to complete the designated service period, and will soon begin their honourable journey back home.

The performance of dutiful people's military service members, who are about to begin their homecoming journey, has been recorded in history as an important turning point for national security. Their sacrifice and valour clearly demonstrate the es-

sence that "the national defence duty does not belong only to the active-duty military personnel but to all citizens". Furthermore, those who have served in the people's military service have practically led by example in fulfilling the fundamental duty of citizens as prescribed in Section 385 of the Constitution, which states: "Safeguarding the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is the duty of every citizen".

The government has been systematically implementing detailed laws, by-laws, and procedures for every stage of the people's military service process, from the initial call-up of people's military service members, to the training, their service period, and finally their honourable return home after completing their duties. When recruiting military service members, the relevant recruitment committees careful-

ly follow the established laws and regulations in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, who instructed that "orderly and disciplined recruitment must be given priority". If any unfair actions that violate the law occur during the recruitment process, they are investigated, and action is taken against them under the law. Likewise, false accusations or fabricated complaints are also dealt with effectively.

For national defence, in accordance with the motto "Only when the Tatmadaw (armed forces) is strong will the nation be strong," the implementation of the People's Military Service Law is considered a very beneficial long-term process. To avoid placing a burden on the state, not everyone within the eligible age group is required to serve at the same time. Instead, only individuals who pass medical examinations among those who meet the required qualifications are



selected and called up in small numbers on a rotating monthly basis to serve in the people's military service. Among those who are eligible under the law, individuals who qualify for exemption, reduction, or deferment are also granted such permissions in accordance with legal provisions. The selected young citizens are properly trained at military training depots to ensure they acquire the necessary military skills required during their

service, improve their physical fitness, and develop correct and strong moral attitudes.

Although every youth serving in the people's military service is trained to become proficient in the military skills required for national defence, not everyone is assigned solely to infantry battalions. Instead, responsibilities are distributed among various appropriate military service branches based on each individual's educational qualifications and professional skills. Throughout the entire period of their service, they receive the same salary, ration, and other benefits as regular military personnel. Moreover, the valuable experiences gained during their military service have helped them greatly improve their personal discipline, as well as develop stronger mental maturity, emotional stability, self-confidence, perseverance, and physical fitness.

Starting from April 2024, people's military service training courses have been conducted monthly, and the 20th batch has already been conducted. The people's military service members turned-out from these training programmes include people from different social backgrounds and ethnic groups. They are now serving diligently in different roles in national defence as responsible and capable citizens. Among these responsible citizens are not only highly respected medical

doctors with postgraduate degrees, but also many other educated young people who have completed undergraduate and postgraduate studies.

In addition, it has been reported that some individuals have fought bravely in military operations and have been awarded gallantry medals for their courage. It is honourable to see that those who have received double commendations for bravery have courageously applied the military knowledge they learned during training and fought with strong determination and spirit. With the firm belief that the national defence duty does not belong only to members of the armed forces but to all citizens. The first batch of people's military service members, who set an example in modern history, is about to complete their duties one batch after another, and begin their journey back home toward their future lives.

To ensure that the future journey of these individuals, who have faithfully fulfilled their national security duty, is smooth and secure, and to strengthen their life opportunities, the government has formed a committee called the "Employment Management Committee on Military Veterans". This committee will help provide employment opportunities for those who have completed their service. The committee is chaired by the Union Minister for

Defence, with ministers and responsible officials from relevant ministries forming five working committees. These committees will officially present certificates of completion to those who have completed their military service, and will help create various pathways for them to obtain employment opportunities.

Among the options arranged by the management committee, the first option is for those who wish to continue serving in national defence duty under the care of the armed forces by converting their service into standing military service. During the two years of military service, the youths in the People's Military Service programme have already become proficient in military skills. They have also demonstrated discipline, bravery, and physical fitness in real operational environments. Therefore, the armed forces will proudly welcome them to continue serving. For those who choose to transition into standing military service, their two years of service will be officially counted as part of their work experience, and they will also be promoted to ranks appropriate to their abilities and qualifications.

In particular, university students and those who have passed the matriculation examination will be promoted to serve up to the rank of sergeant. Furthermore, if they meet the required

qualifications, they will also be allowed to sit for the relevant officer training examinations. Therefore, this first option is considered an honourable and proud option for those who possess strong patriotism, courage, a spirit of sacrifice, and a genuine love for the life of a soldier. However, it should be clearly noted that no one will be forced to continue serving as a permanent soldier. Only those who personally wish to continue their lives in the armed forces and sincerely aspire to become soldiers will be accepted.

The second option is a good opportunity for those who wish to transition into civil service positions. Those who have received the certificate recognizing the completion of the people's military service and who meet the required qualifications will be given priority for appointment as government employees through cooperation between the Union Civil Service Board and the relevant ministries. In these appointments, the maximum age limit for applicants will be extended by up to three years. For individuals who were already government employees before serving in the people's military service, once their service period is completed, they will be reinstated to their original positions and departments, and their two-year military service period will be counted as part of their official service tenure.



People's military service members undergoing military training.

SCI/TECH WORLD

Why have 1,000 ships at times lost their GPS in the Mideast?

Jamming is simple: a louder radio transmitter overwhelms the faint GPS signal, creating “a wall of mush”.

GPS jamming in the Middle East has crippled navigation for about 1,000 cargo ships and oil tankers in the Gulf and Gulf of Oman—half the vessels there, mostly off the UAE and Oman—since US-Israeli strikes began. Unlike modern smartphones, which tap into four GNSS constellations (US GPS, Europe’s Galileo, Russia’s GLONASS, China’s BeiDou) and dual-frequency bands for robust posi-

tioning, most ships rely solely on the outdated L1 C/A GPS signal from the 1990s. This leaves them vulnerable when jammed.

Jamming is simple: a louder radio transmitter overwhelms the faint GPS signal, creating “a wall of mush”. More insidious is spoofing, which fools a ship’s AIS — transmitting fake positions, like vessels appearing on land in Iran or the Emirates.

GPS powers more than loca-



The persistent GPS jamming in the Middle East has exposed a critical vulnerability in global shipping, as most vessels still rely on outdated navigation technology from the 1990s. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/SHUTTERSTOCK**

tion; it synchronizes clocks, radar, and speed logs essential for massive ships. Without it, crews revert to 20th-century tools like radar and landmarks, risking peril in crowded waters like the

Strait of Hormuz.

Gulf states jam defensively against Iran’s Shahed drones, accepting disruptions to air traffic, maritime ops, and apps — mirroring Israel’s 2024 tactics.

Aviation fares worse: no plane uses multi-GNSS receivers due to regulations. Startups explore magnetic or inertial alternatives, but reliable GPS-free navigation remains distant. — AFP

AI, autonomous systems to play major role in future warfare: CDS Gen Anil Chauhan



PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/PIXABAY

CHIEF of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan, highlighted the growing importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in modern warfare, stating that AI and autonomous systems are expected to play a decisive role in future conflicts.

Speaking during a session at the Raisina Dialogue 2026 on Saturday, the CDS discussed the evolving nature of warfare and said that while AI remains an emerging technology in the military domain, it is already beginning to influence ongoing conflicts through ap-

plications such as decision support, targeting, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR).

“The importance of AI in warfare is emerging now. It’s a new thing, but shortly it’s already playing a major role in ongoing conflicts also. Artificial intelligence is playing a major role in condition support, targeting, ISR, and number of such issues,” CDS Chauhan said.

He noted that traditionally, military strength was measured by the number and

capability of platforms such as tanks, aircraft, ships and submarines.

However, he said that the character of warfare is changing, and modern combat now also relies heavily on data, networks, integration and intelligence.

The Chief of Defence Staff further said that contemporary combat has become increasingly complex, taking place across multiple domains, including the physical, synthetic and cognitive realms. — ANI

NEWS IN BRIEF

OpenAI senior robotics exec resigns over Pentagon deal

OPENAI’S top robotics executive said Saturday she had resigned over the artificial intelligence giant’s deal with the US government to allow its technology’s deployment for war and domestic surveillance.

The company behind ChatGPT secured a defence contract with the Pentagon last month, hours after rival Anthropic refused to agree to unconditional military use of their technology.

OpenAI’s CEO Sam Altman later posted to X saying the startup would be modifying a contract so its models would not be used for “domestic surveillance of US persons and nationals”, after criticism it was giving too much power to military officials without oversight.

Caitlin Kalinowski said she cared deeply about “the Robotics team and the work we built together,” but that “surveillance of Americans without judicial oversight and lethal autonomy without human authorization are lines that deserved more deliberation than they got”. — AFP

Malaysia’s Transport Ministry announces no findings in latest MH370 search

THE ongoing search for missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 in a new area of the southern Indian Ocean has not led to the aircraft’s location yet, the Transport Ministry said on Sunday.

The ministry’s Air Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) said in a statement that the operations were conducted in two phases: 25 to 28 March 2025 (Phase I) and 31 December 2025 to 23 January 2026 (Phase II), with the government having previously engaged the UK-based Ocean Infinity to reinstate the search for the missing aircraft.

“In total, 28 operational search days were undertaken across both phases following the signing of the agreement, resulting in the survey of approximately 7,571 square kilometres of seabed within the defined search area,” it said. — Xinhua

Pixar's 'Hoppers' jumps to top of N America box office



(L-R) Bobby Moynihan, Piper Curda, and Lacey Beaty, Mayor of Beaverton, speak onstage during the Hoppers Day Event in Beaverton, Oregon on 5 March 2026. PHOTO: MAT HAYWARD / GETTY IMAGES NORTH AMERICA / GETTY IMAGES VIA AFP

"HOPPERS," the latest original animated film from Disney's Pixar, easily topped the North American box office with \$46 million in ticket sales in its opening weekend, industry estimates showed Sunday.

The adventure comedy tells the story of Mabel (Piper Curda), a young animal lover who uses technology to transfer her consciousness into a robotic beaver so she can better communicate and protect wildlife.

The voice cast features Meryl Streep, Jon Hamm and Kathy Najimy.

"This is a very good open-

ing for an original Pixar film," said analyst David A. Gross of Franchise Entertainment Research.

"The movie has strong ancillary business, merchandising, and theme park potential, and it's going to be very profitable."

"Scream 7," the latest installment in the 30-year-old slasher series featuring yet another Ghostface killer, held strong in second place at \$17.3 million in the United States and Canada, according to Exhibitor Relations.

The Paramount film fea-

tures franchise veterans Neve Campbell, Courteney Cox and David Arquette.

"The Bride!" — Maggie Gyllenhaal's genre-hopping take on 1935's "The Bride of Frankenstein" starring Oscar hopeful Jessie Buckley and past Oscar winner Christian Bale — opened in a disappointing third place at \$7.3 million.

"Warner Bros has had recent success making films with auteur writer/directors and big budgets," Gross said, citing Academy Award frontrunners "Sinners" and "One Battle After Another."

"This time, the reception is weak."

Sony's family-friendly animated film "GOAT" — the story of an undersized goat who wants to join a basketball-like "roarball" team — finished in fourth place at \$6.6 million.

The film was produced by NBA superstar Stephen Curry, who also takes on a voice role.

"Wuthering Heights" — starring Margot Robbie and Jacob Elordi as the doomed lovers Cathy and Heathcliff from Emily Bronte's classic novel — dropped to fifth place at \$3.75 million. — AFP

Singer Rihanna's LA mansion struck by gunfire: reports

POP superstar Rihanna's Los Angeles home was hit by gunfire on Sunday after a woman opened fire on the property while the singer was reportedly inside, according to US media.

The shooting erupted after 1 pm (2000 GMT) when a suspect fired approximately 10 rounds from a vehicle across the street from the mansion in the Beverly Hills area, the Los Angeles Times reported, citing police.

At least one round pierced a wall of the residence, where Rihanna lives with partner

A\$AP Rocky and their children, local news station KTLA said. The singer was inside the residence, the reports said.

Rihanna, one of the world's most popular pop stars, has not publicly commented on the shooting.

Officers said the suspect was a woman in her 30s who allegedly fled the scene before being arrested without incident a short time later. Police recovered a weapon during the arrest, KTLA added.

Investigators are still determining a motive for the attack. — AFP



Barbadian singer Rihanna attends the CFDA (Council of Fashion Designers of America) Fashion Awards at the American Museum of Natural History in New York on 3 November 2025. PHOTO: AFP

China Film Festival kicks off in Madagascar to promote cultural exchanges

MADAGASCAR launched the 2026 China Film Festival on Sunday in the capital of Antananarivo, with nearly 100 guests attending the opening ceremony.

At the ceremony, Secretary-General of Madagascar's Ministry of Communication and Culture Miary Rasolofoarijaona expressed his deep gratitude for the organization of "this unprecedented festival", held as part of activities celebrating the China-Africa Year of People-to-People Exchanges.

"The China Film Festival is a concrete illustration of the willingness to bring our hearts and minds closer together through the power of images and shared stories," he said, adding that the festival will enable Malagasy audiences to discover the richness, modernity and depth of Chinese culture.

Chinese Ambassador to Madagascar Ji Ping said the continuous deepening of people-to-people and cultural exchanges



People attend the opening ceremony of the 2026 China Film Festival in Antananarivo, capital of Madagascar, on 8 March 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

between China and Africa carries paradigmatic significance that transcends the bilateral framework, especially in the cur-

rent global context marked by divisions caused by geopolitical conflicts.

"Let us seize the opportunity of this

film festival to make the cultures of our two countries shine on the global stage," he said.

Zhang Xuxia, deputy director of the China Film Archive, said in a video address that the themes and styles of Chinese films have become increasingly diverse, while the unique charm of Malagasy films and other cultural works has been widely appreciated.

"We are convinced that Chinese and Malagasy filmmakers can inspire each other and generate new ideas, so that more works can be seen, understood and appreciated by audiences in both countries," she said. The 2026 China Film Festival, which runs until 15 March and features the screening of six Chinese films, is expected to strengthen mutual understanding between China and Madagascar, while promoting people-to-people and cultural exchanges between the two countries. — Xinhua

ECONOMY WORLD

Asian equities plunge as oil soars 30% on Mideast crisis



A man pumps gasoline into his vehicle at a gas station in Los Angeles, California on 2 March 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

ASIAN stock markets plunged Monday as oil prices soared 30 per cent on fears about supplies from the Middle East as the US-Israeli war against Iran continued into a second week with no sign of letting up.

Investors, already spooked by concerns over extended tech valuations and the huge spending on AI, ran for the hills as crude rocketed to its highest level since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

Fears grew that the Middle East conflict could last for some time after US President Donald Trump said only the

“unconditional surrender” of Iran would end the war.

He added at the weekend that the spike in prices was a “small price to pay” to eliminate Iran’s nuclear threat, reiterating the White House’s insistence that the rise is temporary.

Both main contracts, which had surged more than a quarter last week, spiked as Iran carried out retaliatory strikes against crude-producing Gulf nations.

West Texas Intermediate and Brent both jumped around 30 per cent to hit peaks just short of \$120 a barrel. Euro-

pean gas prices also soared 30 per cent on Monday.

Since the beginning of the war, WTI is up more than 75 per cent and Brent more than 60 per cent.

However, the surge was pared after a Financial Times report said finance ministers from the Group of Seven industrialized nations would discuss tapping emergency reserves in coordination with the International Energy Agency.

Attacks on oilfields were reported in southern Iraq and in the northern autonomous Kurdistan region, which forced a US-run oilfield to cease production, while the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait have started reducing output.

That came with maritime traffic in the Strait of Hormuz — through which a fifth of global crude and gas passes — halted since the war began on 28 February.

The prospect of high energy prices for a sustained period has fanned fears of a fresh spike in inflation that could hit the global economy while preventing central banks from cutting interest rates to support growth. — AFP

S Korea’s industrial lending rises slower in Q4

SOUTH Korea’s industrial lending rose slower in the fourth quarter of 2025 due to weaker demand from manufacturing and service companies, central bank data showed Monday.

Debt, owed by all industries to the deposit-taking financial institutions, amounted to 2,026.1 trillion won (US\$1.36 trillion) at the end of December 2025, up 8.6 trillion won from three months ago, according to the Bank of Korea.

It was down from an expansion of 20.2 trillion won in the Ju-

ly-September quarter.

Loan to manufacturers climbed 1.2 trillion won in the October-December quarter, down from an increase of 4.1 trillion won in the previous quarter.

Loan demand from service firms swelled 9.3 trillion won in the fourth quarter after soaring 15.7 trillion won in the third quarter. Lending to construction companies reduced 2.9 trillion won in the fourth quarter, maintaining a downward trend for the sixth straight quarter since the third quarter of 2024. — Xinhua

Japan Feb bankruptcies hit 13-yr high on labour shortages, inflation

THE number of corporate bankruptcies in Japan climbed 11.3 per cent in February from a year earlier to 851, the highest level for the month in 13 years, pressured by labour shortages and rising prices, a survey by a credit research firm showed Monday.

A total of 47 companies cited labour shortages, rising above 40 for the first time in five months, while inflation triggered 69 bankruptcies, marking a year-on-year increase for the third consecutive month, according to Tokyo Shoko Research.

Labor-intensive industries were hit hardest by cost increases driven by worker shortages, with bankruptcies focused on construction, shipping and food services. — Kyodo

Singapore expects heavy traffic at land checkpoints during upcoming holiday period

SINGAPORE expects “very heavy traffic” at its two land checkpoints linking Malaysia during the upcoming school holidays from Friday to 22 March, which coincide with the Hari Raya Puasa festival weekend, the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) said on Monday. During the recent Chinese New Year period from 13 to 19 February, more than three million travellers crossed the Woodlands and Tuas checkpoints, the authority said in a statement. Traffic

peaked on 13 February, when nearly 565,000 people crossed the two checkpoints in a single day.

Car travellers departing during peak hours had to wait up to three hours for immigration clearance, the ICA said. The authority added that it has stepped up security checks on arriving travellers, cargo and vehicles at all checkpoints in view of the heightened global security situation, including recent developments in the Middle East. — Xinhua



A general view shows private and public residential high-rise buildings in Singapore on 27 February 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

China reports continued improvement in factory-gate prices in Feb

CHINA saw continued improvement in factory-gate prices last month, with the decline in its producer price index (PPI) continuing to narrow, according to official data on Monday.

The PPI, which measures costs for goods at the factory gate, went down 0.9 per cent year on year in February. This decrease narrowed from a 1.4-per cent decline registered in the previous month, data released by the National Bureau of Statistics showed.

On a monthly basis, the PPI rose 0.4 per cent in February, maintaining the same rate of increase recorded in January, the



A drone photo shows the automated production at the Seres Super Factory in Liangjiang New Area, southwest China's Chongqing, 19 September 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

data revealed.

NBS statistician Dong Lijuan attributed the month-on-month PPI rise and the narrowing decline in the index year on year to factors including the upward trend of international

commodity prices, the rapid growth of demand in some domestic industries, and the effectiveness of macro policies.

China's PPI has increased on a monthly basis for five consecutive

months, Dong said, noting that this trend has been fuelled, in particular in February, by the upward trend of international non-ferrous metal and crude oil prices that drove up prices of related domestic industries, and the growth of computing power which also increased demand in some industries and resulted in corresponding price increases.

Monday's data further showed that China's consumer price index (CPI), a main gauge of inflation, rose 1.3 per cent year on year in February. On a month-on-month basis, the CPI increased by one per cent last month. — Xinhua

Permanent withdrawal of the advertisement on the date (17-2-2025) of Global New Light of Myanmar Newspaper for disinheritance as a son

U Aye Lwin (10/MaLaMa(N)026657) and Daw Aye Aye Maw (10/MaLaNa(N)028935) from Yangon City, Tamwe Township, Bowling Aung Mingalar Ward, Gandhamar Street, No.29, had posted an announcement disinheriting their son Maung Thet Oo Lwin (12/TaMaNa(N)122912) on the date (17-2-2025).

Now, We would like to announce to the public that the advertisement posted by the parents have been permanently withdrawn.

U Aye Lwin + Daw Aye Aye Maw

10% oil price rise would slow world economic growth by up to 0.2%: IMF

EVERY 10 per cent increase in the price of oil over the course of a year is expected to result in a 40 basis point increase in global inflation and a 0.1 per cent to 0.2 per cent fall in global economic output,

the chief of the International Monetary Fund said Monday.

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva gave the estimate in a speech in Tokyo as crude oil prices have been rising

on concerns the conflict in the Middle East stemming from US-Israeli attacks on Iran will disrupt supplies.

"If the new conflict proves prolonged, it has clear and obvious potential to affect market

sentiment, growth, and inflation, placing new demands on policymakers," Georgieva said in the keynote speech at a symposium organized by Japan's Finance Ministry. — Kyodo

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC RUIDE VOY.NO. (2604S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC RUIDE VOY.NO. (2604S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-3-2026** 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

Advertise with us/ Hotline: 09251022355, 09974424848

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of Shandong Max Agro Co.,Ltd have registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "Myanma Taiza Co.,Ltd", to new distributor name "Pure Crop Chemical Co.,Ltd". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Pure Crop Chemical Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Max Ema 50	Emamectin Benzoate 5% WG	P2024-6565

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of Shandong Max Agro Co.,Ltd have registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "Myanmar Max Agro Service Co.,Ltd", to new distributor name "Pure Crop Chemical Co.,Ltd". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Pure Crop Chemical Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814.

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Max Secure 240	Chlorfenapyr 240g/l SC	P2025-6626
2.	Max Hmoe Shel	Dimethomorph24% + Pyraclostrobin 13% SC	P2025-6721

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of Shandong Binnong Technology Co.,Ltd have registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "Myanma Taiza Co.,Ltd", to new distributor name "Pure Crop Chemical Co.,Ltd". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Pure Crop Chemical Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	BNS Halox 108 EC	Haloxfop-P-methyl 10.8% EC	F2025-4856

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of Shandong Max Agro Co.,Ltd have registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name "Myanmar Max Agro Service Co.,Ltd", to new distributor name "First Start Company Limited". If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. First Start Company Limited. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Max Kway Sinn	Emamectin benzoate 10% + Lufenuron 40% WDG	P2025-6776

ROLLING UPDATES WORLD

Antonio Jose Seguro sworn in as Portugal's president

ANTONIO Jose Seguro was sworn in as Portugal's new president on Monday during a ceremony at the Assembly of the Republic, formally beginning his mandate after winning the country's presidential runoff election.

Seguro, the centre-left candidate backed by the Socialist Party, took the oath of office before lawmakers in Lisbon. In his remarks, Seguro said that after "a cycle of three elections and four trips to the polls in just nine months", Portugal now has "a golden opportunity" to pursue "lasting solutions" during what he described as a new three-year period without national elections.

Seguro won the presidential election by defeating Chega party leader Andre Ventura by a wide margin in the second round of voting held on 8 February.

The Portuguese president serves a five-year term and may be re-elected once. While the presidency is largely ceremonial, it carries important constitutional responsibilities, including appointing the prime minister, dissolving parliament and vetoing legislation. The president also plays a key role as a political moderator during periods of institutional tension. — Xinhua

UN chief calls for making justice a reality for women, girls

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Sunday called for making justice a reality for women and girls everywhere, in his message on the International Women's Day.

"Worldwide, women hold just 64 per cent of the legal rights enjoyed by men," Guterres said, adding that legal discrimination can shape every aspect of a woman's life.

A woman may be prevented from owning property, seeking a divorce, or taking a job without her husband's permission; in more than 40 countries, marital rape is not recognized as a crime; and other laws restrict women's access to education, their ability to pass on citizenship to their children, or even their freedom of movement outside the home, he added.

The UN chief pointed out that where legal protections do exist, discrimination and weak enforcement mean women still struggle to access courts and legal support.

He warned of "a dangerous new trend" — hard-won advances are being rolled back, from fairer work protections to sexual and reproductive rights, amid rising authoritarianism, growing political



United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres speaks at the UNA-UK conference to mark the 80th anniversary of the founding of the UN, at Methodist Central Hall, the site of the inaugural UN General Assembly, in London on 17 January 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

instability, and a renewed push to entrench patriarchy.

"By fighting discriminatory laws and practices — and defending the progress already achieved — we can ensure the dignity, opportunity and freedom all women deserve," he said

Noting that this year's International Women's Day focuses on rights, action and justice for all women and girls, Guterres said: "When we are not equal under the law, we are not equal." "It is time to make justice a reality for women and girls, everywhere," he said. — Xinhua

Iran says all legal procedures, formalities completed in new supreme leader's appointment

IRAN'S Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said on Monday that all legal procedures and necessary formalities have been completed in the appointment of the country's new supreme leader Mojtaba Khamenei.

He made the remarks at a weekly press conference in Tehran hours after Iran's Assembly of Experts appointed the leader.

Baghaei said Iran's supreme leader has been selected and announced, adding, following the announcement, "the duty is clear, we are defending ourselves".

He added, "The messages are also very clear. Those who must receive the message have received it. The Iranian nation will stand with all its might, united and with one voice, to defend the dignity, national



A demonstrator holds a picture of Iran's new Supreme Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei as people wave Iranian flags during a rally in support of the new Supreme Leader at Enghelab Square in central Tehran on 9 March 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

sovereignty, and security of its citizens in this battle, which is

an existential one."

Announcing the appoint-

ment of Mojtaba Khamenei, who is the son of Iran's late Su-

preme Leader Ali Khamenei, the Assembly of Experts said in a statement that he secured the "decisive vote" of its representatives.

Following the new leader's appointment, Iranian officials, bodies, state organizations and institutes, as well as armed forces, extended congratulations and pledged allegiance to him.

The United States and Israel launched surprise airstrikes on Tehran and other Iranian cities on 28 February killing Ali Khamenei, along with some of the leader's family members, Iran's senior military commanders and civilians. Iran responded through several waves of missile and drone attacks targeting Israel and US assets across the Middle East. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Wrestling Coaching and Refereeing Course opens in Yangon

THE opening ceremony for the Wrestling Coaching and Refereeing Course (Level 1) was held yesterday morning in the Old Office Hall of the Institute of Sports and Physical Education (Yangon) in Tamway Township. The programme is organized by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, in collaboration with the Department of Sports and Physical Education and the Myanmar Wrestling Federation (MWF).

The ceremony was attended by MWF Vice-President Dr Aung Kyaw San, Vice-Chairman U Naing Myint Oo of the Yangon Region Wrestling Subcommittee, deputy directors from the Department

of Sports and Physical Education, MWF coach Mr Mahabir Prasad, course instructors, and trainees.

The course is being attended by 30 participants, including former regional and state-level wrestling and judo athletes, members of the Myanmar national wrestling team, and individuals aged between 20 and 45. The group also includes high school students from various regions and states, as well as students from the Institutes of Sports and Physical Education and the MWF. The programme, which runs from 9 to 13 March, will consist of both theoretical and practical examinations. — Bala/MKKS



The launch of the Wrestling Coaching and Refereeing Course (Level 1) is underway in Yangon.

China beats DPRK to claim top spot in Group B at Women's Asian Cup



Players of China celebrate after winning the Group B match of Women's Asian Cup between China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in Sydney, Australia, 9 March 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

DEFENDING champion China came back from a goal down to beat the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) 2-1 in Sydney

on Monday night and secure first place in Group B at the 2026 AFC Women's Asian Cup.

After falling behind to a Kim

Kyong Yong counter-attack goal in the 32nd minute, defender Chen Qiaozhu drew China level two minutes later.

Chen, who was a standout in the middle of China's defence, received the ball on the edge of area from Shao Ziqin and fired a powerful shot into the bottom right corner.

Wang Shuang gave China a 2-1 lead before the interval when her goal in the fourth minute of stoppage time was awarded upon review.

The goal was initially ruled out, but the video assistant referee found that Zhang Chengxue was on side before she played the ball across the penalty area to set up a simple finish for Wang. — Xinhua

Sinner sets up Fonseca clash, Zverev advances at Indian Wells

WORLD number two Jannik Sinner took another step towards a first Indian Wells Masters title on Sunday, easing past Denis Shapovalov 6-3, 6-2 to reach the fourth round and a clash with exciting Brazilian teenager Joao Fonseca.

After dropping just two games in his second-round opener against Czech qualifier Dalibor Svrčina, Sinner was caught napping to drop his serve in the opening game.

He responded with confidence against a potentially tricky opponent known for producing winners.

Sinner quickly recouped the

break and grabbed another in the eighth game.

"It's a very tough second match for me," the Italian said. "He's a very high-quality player... he had great wins in the past so I'm very happy about today's performance."

With one set in his pocket Sinner was in full control in the second, opening with a break on the way to a 5-2 lead and closing it out with a love game.

"I tried to stay solid on the baseline but also a bit more aggressive in the second set," Sinner said. "It was a tough start for me with a break

down but I'm happy how I reacted."

Sinner faces the 19-year-old Fonseca for a place in the quarter-finals.

Fonseca, who saved two match points in his second-round victory over Karen Khachanov, beat another seeded player, American Tommy Paul, 6-2, 6-3.

Fonseca brought the heat, displaying thunderous groundstrokes as he reached the fourth round of a Masters 1000 for the first time.

He said he was eager for the chance to test himself against four-time major winner Sinner. — AFP

Port Vale, Southampton upset Premier League sides to reach FA Cup quarterfinals

PORT Vale produced the shock of the FA Cup fifth round on Sunday with a 1-0 home win over Premier League side Sunderland, who sits 57 places above it in the league pyramid.

Bottom of League One, Port Vale reached the quarterfinals for the first time since 1954 thanks to Ben Waine's 29th-minute header. Sunderland enjoyed nearly 70 per cent possession and registered 17 shots, but was unable to break down Vale's stubborn defence over the remaining hour.

Championship side Southampton also advanced to the last eight after Ross Stewart's stoppage-time penalty sealed a 1-0 victory away to Fulham, who peppered the visitors' goal and saw an 18th-minute strike controversially ruled out when the referee judged the ball to have been moving at a set piece.

Leeds United ensured there was no third upset with a 3-0 home win over Daniel Farke's former club Norwich City, thanks to goals from Sean Longstaff, Gabriel Gudmundsson and Joel Piroe.

Earlier, Premier League clubs Arsenal, Manchester City, Chelsea and Liverpool had all booked their places in the quarterfinals. — Xinhua



Southampton's Scottish striker (11) Ross Stewart (2nd R) scores on a penalty kick for his team's first goal during the English FA Cup fifth round football match between Fulham and Southampton at Craven Cottage in London on 8 March 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**



Shenzhou-21 crew conducts advanced medical tests, brain science experiments in space

The Shenzhou-21 crew members aboard China's Tiangong space station have made significant strides in terms of space medical experiments and physical science research over the past week, while also maintaining the station's habitable environment, according to the China Manned Space Agency.

In the field of space medicine, the crew consisting of Zhang Lu, Wu Fei and Zhang Hongzhang focused on understanding the psychological and physiological effects of long-duration spaceflight. They used laptops to complete tests on "trust and coordination mechanisms" and "human-machine trust", which are crucial

for designing future spacecraft interfaces and ensuring efficient teamwork between astronauts and automated systems, China Media Group reported on Sunday night.

A key advancement involved the use of the space Raman spectrometer, a device that identifies molecular compositions by shining a laser on a sample. The astro-

nauts used this tool to analyze metabolic components in urine samples. The data collected will be used to refine medical standards for monitoring astronaut health in orbit.

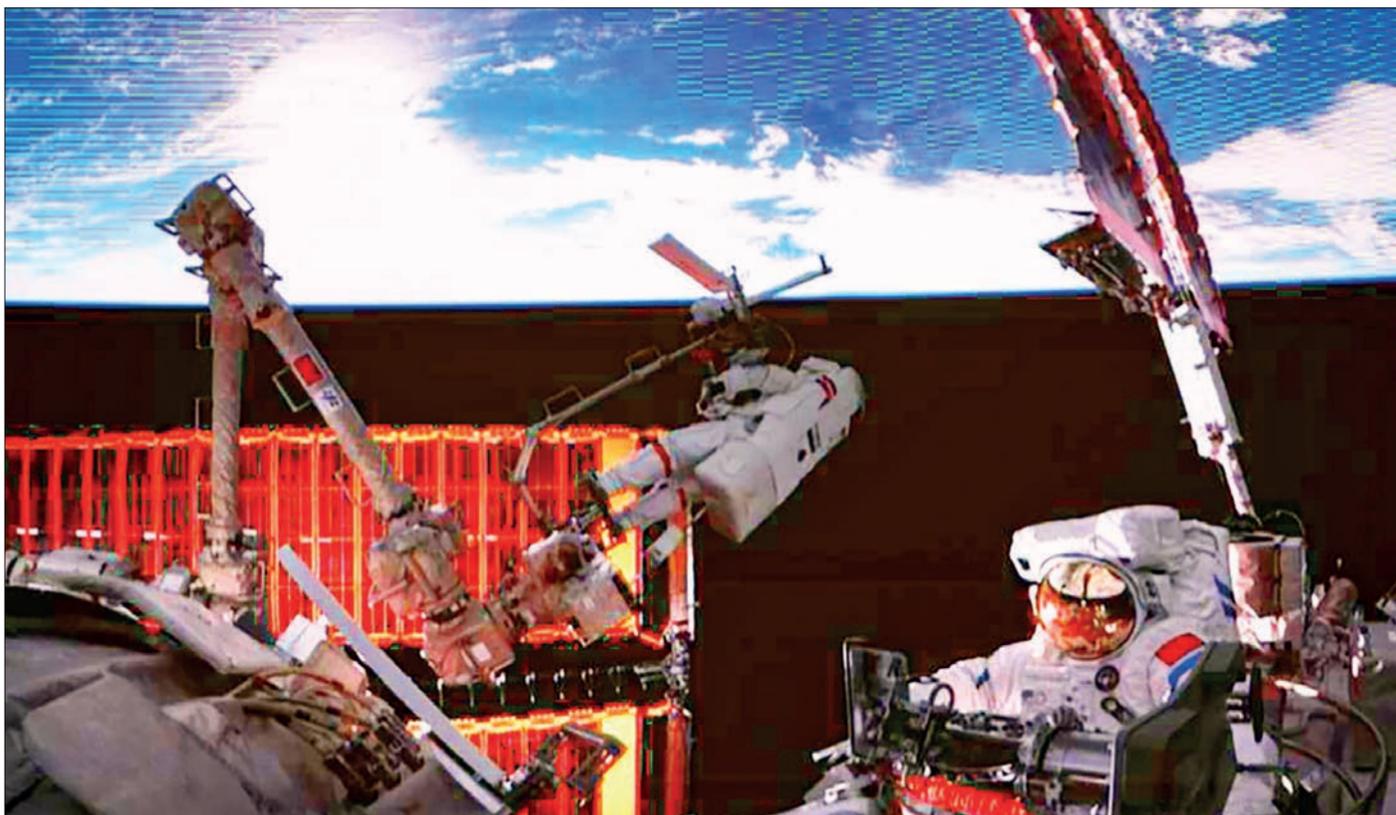
To explore how the brain perceives the physical world without gravity, they also conducted "microgravity intuitive physics behaviour" experiments.

Leveraging electroencephalogram (EEG) equipment, which records electrical activity along the scalp, the crew gathered data for "meta-cognitive monitoring" and "group brain cognitive-emotion analysis" studies, helping scientists on Earth understand how the absence of gravity alters brain function and group dynamics, the report noted.

In the microgravity physical science domain, the team maintained experiment racks, replacing sampling covers in the combustion science rack and swapping samples in the fluid physics rack.

To safeguard their own health, the astronauts underwent medical checks including intraocular pressure tests, fundus exams and cardiopulmonary assessments.

Notably, they also utilized a Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) four-diagnosis device, an instrument that mimics the traditional TCM methods of inspection, listening, enquiry and pulse-taking, seeking to provide a comprehensive health assessment in microgravity, the video report revealed. — Xinhua



This screen image captured at Beijing Aerospace Control Centre on 9 December 2025 shows Shenzhou-21 astronauts Zhang Lu and Wu Fei (R) performing extravehicular activities outside China's orbiting space station. PHOTO: XINHUA

Maldives extends childcare breaks for working mothers

THE Maldivian parliament has passed an amendment to the Employment Act extending childcare breaks for working mothers until their children reach two years old, state media PSM News reported on Monday.

The amendment won unanimous approval, with all 62 lawmakers present voting in favour. Under the previous law, employees were entitled to two 30-minute breaks per day during working hours, without salary deduction, to care for their child until the child turned 1 year old. The amendment extends that entitlement by an additional year.

Employees in the Maldives already receive a one-hour break during the workday, and childcare breaks are granted in addition to that existing entitlement, according to the report. — Xinhua

G7 to discuss releasing strategic oil reserves: French government source

RELEASING strategic oil reserves in a bid to stabilize energy markets rocked by the Middle East crisis will be one option discussed at Monday's G7 finance ministers' meeting, a French government source said.

The Financial Times had reported earlier that G7 finance ministers were scheduled to discuss a joint release of strategic oil reserves coordinated by the International Energy Agency.

The French finance ministry said the meeting at 1:30 pm Paris time (1230 GMT) would "review the situation in the Gulf from an economic point of view" and the "events of recent days".

"The use of strategic reserves is an option being considered," the government source said.

France holds the rotating presidency of the Group of Seven advanced economies, which also includes Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Asian stock markets plunged Monday as oil prices soared 30 per cent on fears about supplies from the Middle East as the US-Israeli war against Iran continued into a second week with no sign of letting up.

The surge was pared after the Financial Times report, which said that three G7 countries, including the United



This photograph shows the flags of (From L) the European Union, Germany, United Kingdom, United States, France, Canada, Italy and Japan during the opening press conference for the Finance and Digital tracks of the French G7 Presidency at the French Economy Ministry in Paris on 3 February 2026. PHOTO: AFP

States, had so far backed the idea.

US President Donald Trump said the spike in prices was a "small price to pay" to eliminate Iran's nuclear threat, repeating the White House's insistence that the rise is temporary.

The IEA was created to coordinate responses to major supply disruptions after the 1973 oil crisis. — AFP