

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.

New Government to Assume State Authority in April

Experiences and challenges encountered during the tenure should be systematically documented and handed over to ensure the incoming government does not face similar difficulties.



Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing speaks on review of government development undertakings during 2021-2025 tenure.

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech on review of development undertakings of the government from 2021 to 2025 at Thabin Hall of the Office of the National Defence and Security Council in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Also, present at the ceremony were Commission Vice-Chairman Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Commission member Prime Minister U Nyo Saw, Executive Chief U Aung Lin Dwe, Commission Secretary General Ye Win Oo and commission members, Union-level dignitaries,

Union ministers, deputy ministers, permanent secretaries and directors-general of ministries, together with chief ministers and members of region and state governments through videoconferencing.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General delivered a speech. He said: As we assumed responsibility for the State in accordance with the Constitution, the government was not formed solely with members of the Tatmadaw to ensure compatibility with the democratic system. Instead, it was constituted by also including experienced civilians capable of serving the national interest. At the time we began undertaking State

responsibilities, we adopted and implemented five forward-looking processes. Among them, it was clearly stated that once the election-related processes were completed, a general election would be held, and State responsibilities would be transferred to the government that emerges from that election. However, during the period in which we assumed these responsibilities, political disagreements led to nationwide protests that escalated into acts of violence. At the same time, the COVID-19 pandemic was also occurring. Therefore, amid various difficulties and challenges, efforts had to be made to maintain national stability and peace while promoting development.

Preparatory measures were undertaken in advance in order to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic general election. To ensure the accuracy of voter lists, the 2024 Population and Housing Census was conducted. Similarly, preparations were also made to enable the casting of votes using the Myanmar Electronic Voting Machine (MEVM) system. In 2024, during a visit to Meiktila, it was first announced, while meeting with local people, that the election would be held in 2025. Registration of political parties was permitted starting in 2023, and political parties were given approximately three years to make preparations.

SEE PAGE 3

NATIONAL

Schoolchildren Must Be Nurtured as Future Intellectuals and Leaders

❖ It was urged that every child who is in the classroom today be regarded as a future intellectual and intelligentsia who will shoulder and shape the future of Myanmar, and that efforts be made to further promote education.

(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

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of Service Organizations appointed

THE National Defence and Security Council has appointed the following individuals as Heads of Service Organizations, as shown against each of their names being on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin Deputy Director-General Department of Labour Ministry of Labour	Director-General Department of Labour Ministry of Labour
(2) Dr Swe Set Deputy Director-General (Laboratory) Department of National Health Laboratory Division Department of Medical Service Ministry of Health	Rector University of Medical Technology (Mandalay) Department of Human Resources for Health Ministry of Health

Russian Navy warships conclude goodwill visit to Myanmar, depart Thilawa Port

THREE warships from the Russian Navy, which paid a goodwill visit to Myanmar, departed yesterday evening from the MITT jetty at Thilawa Port in Yangon.

They were seen off by senior officers and other ranks of the Myanmar Navy, as well as

the Russian military attaché to Myanmar and other officials.

The visiting ships were led by Captain (1st Rank) Andrei Gaevoi and carried a total of 350 officers and sailors. During their stay in Myanmar from 5 to 10 March, the personnel visited the landmarks

in Yangon. They also took part in friendly football, volleyball, tug-of-war and basketball matches between members of the Myanmar Navy and the Russian Navy, and conducted reciprocal visits aboard each other's naval vessels. — MNA/MKKS



Senior officers, other ranks, and officials bid farewell to departing Russian naval vessels.

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မြန်မာ့မျက်နှာတစ်သစ် ဖိုရမ်
FORUM ON THE DAWN OF A NEW STATE
 (Trust, Stability & Development)
13-14 March 2026
MICC-1, Nay Pyi Taw

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)

New Government to Assume State ...

FROM PAGE 1

In addition, in order to expand party membership, membership recruitment activities were allowed in accordance with rules and regulations. In the election, six parties contested as nationwide parties, while 51 parties participated as regional or state-based parties, bringing the total number of participating political parties to 57. By allowing the establishment of political parties and their participation in the election, the democratic political system was strengthened.

Across all three phases of the completed election, out of more than 24.22 million eligible voters, more than 13.14 million cast their votes. Therefore, the voter turnout exceeded 54.22 per cent. A breakdown of the voting figures shows that 45 per cent of those who voted were between the ages of 18 and 40, while 20 per cent were between the ages of 40 and 50. This indicates that youth groups showed the greatest interest in the election and participated in the largest numbers. During the election, international election observation groups and media organizations from abroad came to observe the process and gather news. Although there had been inaccurate allegations before the start of the election, during and after the election, the international community personally witnessed that it was a free and fair election, and the unfounded accusations subsequently subsided. As the election was successfully held, elected representatives chosen by the people have now emerged. Consequently, Hluttaw sessions will be convened in March, and in April 2026, the State authority will be transferred to the government that will emerge, enabling it to assume responsibility for governing the country.

Tatmadaw has continued to firmly follow the path of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA). In order to further advance the peace process, 2022 was designated and implemented as the Year of Peace. Meetings and negotiations were held a total of 149 times, including 89 meetings with ethnic armed organizations that have signed the NCA, 25 meetings with ethnic armed organiza-



These video grabs show state and region chief ministers and cabinet members attending yesterday's event as audiences via videoconference.

tions that have not yet signed the NCA, 22 meetings with political parties, and 13 meetings with peace facilitators. During these discussions, the demands of ethnic armed organizations, matters relating to amendments to the 2008 Constitution, and issues that are genuinely necessary and appropriate for the regions and the country were discussed in detail.

With regard to peace, efforts were made to create a platform that includes participation from all national-level stakeholders in the peace process. Peace talks were organized, as well as peace forums aimed at identifying strategies that could support the peace process. In addition, youth peace forums were held to encourage young people across the country to take a greater interest in peacebuilding activities.

Discussions emerging from these forums are expected to provide significant support for the peace process and for constitutional amendment efforts. It was also emphasized that by promoting greater participation of young people in national affairs, efforts must be made to ensure a better future for the country.

During the period in which our gov-

ernment assumed responsibility, efforts were also made to strengthen the media sector as part of civil society. In addition to state-owned media, support was provided to upgrade and further develop other media organizations, including the provision of technological and other forms of assistance.

Furthermore, necessary assistance and support were provided to individuals and organizations facing difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic and other circumstances, including those from the media and journalism sectors, as well as from the film, music, and performing arts industries.

Artists also contributed their support to ensure the successful holding of the recently completed multiparty democratic general election. In order to ensure the long-term preservation of Myanmar's traditional culture and arts, the government awarded honorary titles and medals to artistes from various fields who had worked diligently and made outstanding contributions.

Such encouragement and recognition were provided to strengthen civil society organizations, including those

in the arts sector. Political stakeholders have reviewed and discussed the activities carried out during the government's tenure, and it is necessary to draw lessons from these experiences and make preparations in advance for the incoming government.

In the agricultural sector, in order to achieve per-acre production targets, skilled human resources with knowledge and expertise in agriculture and livestock, as well as adequate inputs, are required. For this reason, industrial, agricultural, and livestock science schools have been established to provide education and training. Similarly, basic knowledge related to industry, agriculture, and livestock is also being taught in basic education high schools. Beginning in the coming academic year, such subjects will also be introduced at the middle school level in order to strengthen sectors that support the country's key economic activities and development. In addition, basic education high schools focusing on industrial, agricultural and livestock studies are being opened and operated in districts across the country.

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NATIONAL

New Government to Assume State ...

FROM PAGE 3

Therefore, to increase foreign exports, it is necessary to promote the development of agro-based industries. From this foundation, higher-value products should also be increasingly produced. Only then will the country's GDP grow. During the two previous democratic administrations, the country recorded a trade deficit of about US\$25 billion. Lessons should be drawn from this situation, and efforts should be made to strengthen production activities to increase export production.

If activities continue to be carried out in the usual manner without stronger efforts to improve productivity, it will not be possible to achieve the goal of reducing poverty. Agricultural and livestock activities that correspond to the population and conditions of each region are necessary to ensure regional food sufficiency. This would also help keep the prices of basic food commodities at reasonable levels. High commodity prices in some regions occur mainly because of mismatches between local demand and production capacity, as well as high production costs. It is also necessary to promote the development of the livestock sector by producing animal feed based on locally produced agricultural products.

To support domestic production, reduce imports, and promote national economic development, efforts have been made to develop micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). In developed countries around the world, MSMEs are actively operating, and their growth has led to increased domestic production and the substitution of imported goods.

Currently, with government support, MSMEs in Myanmar are achieving development that is distinct from the past, and further efforts are needed to continue this progress. It is also encouraged that states and regions provide even greater support to MSME development.

The electricity needs of MSMEs can be met through the use of solar energy, and the government is doing its best to provide this support. MSME production is essential in agro-based industries, as these enterprises can significantly

contribute to the country's economic growth.

The Senior General said that greater emphasis was placed on promoting the public transportation system. In developing countries, public transport services, including railways, are also being developed. During this term of government, efforts were made to ensure that the public could travel more conveniently and smoothly and that the flow of goods could be carried out more easily and quickly. Railway lines were upgraded, and railway services were expanded. The upgrading of the Yangon-Mandalay railway route was continued using the State budget. The railway services have improved, and trains are now able to run at speeds of up to 100 kilometres per hour. Moreover, to promote tourism, trade and investment through international air routes, upgrading works were carried out at Patheingyi, Lashio, Kengtung, Tachilek, Monghsat, NyaungU, Dawei and Myeik airports.

He said that when the government first assumed State responsibilities, the use of electric vehicles (EVs) was encouraged, and plans were also made to operate electric trains. Due to current international conflicts, many countries around the world, including Myanmar, are facing fuel difficulties. Under such circumstances, the role of electric-powered transportation is becoming increasingly important. Because of fuel shortages, efforts are being made, like in other countries, to reduce unnecessary fuel consumption as much as possible. The relevant officials need to systematically supervise these measures, and the public is also urged to cooperate.

In the education sector, he stated that education is an essential foundation in implementing a firm and better living system. The government promotes the role of education and fulfils the facilities and teaching aids for the universities, basic education schools, libraries, research departments, and sports stadiums to have fine figures.

The quality of technology and computer universities is also upgraded, and Naypyitaw State Academy and Naypyitaw State Polytechnic University were opened in Nay Pyi Taw, and the Poly-

technic Universities were also opened in four regions and states.

When looking back at the country's historical development, he said that there have been many weaknesses in education. Currently, it can be seen that there is a weakness in education due to the local unrest, and the regions with no proper tranquillity are affected more in the education sector. Therefore, education should be improved for school-age children to be able to learn. Without peace, it will be very difficult to achieve development. Therefore, peace must be established. Concessions that are suitable for the country will be made, but armed groups should make only reasonable demands that focus on the interests of the regions and the country.

In promoting the health sector, the government made efforts to provide healthcare services for the entire population, including the prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19. Although the life expectancy in Myanmar has increased compared to previous years, it remains the lowest among neighbouring and ASEAN countries, and so further improvement is necessary. To achieve this, living standards must be improved, people must have access to nutritious and healthy food, and education must be accessible to all so that public awareness can be enhanced.

The government has the responsibility to ensure that citizens can live long and healthy lives and that national life expectancy continues to increase, and such improvements must be pursued from all aspects. Education and health are the lifeblood of the nation, and the Union Government, region, and state governments should systematically work to advance these sectors.

He continued that in the international relations sector, the country practices an independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy and follows the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in maintaining friendly relations with other countries. He highlighted the visits to Thailand, China, Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan to strengthen cooperation and enhance national interests through international collaboration made during this government term.

He added that the international election observers, including ASEAN, studied the election, and they witnessed the successful holding of a free and just election.

He also said that regarding the case filed at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the government had participated in all stages of the legal proceedings from 2021 to 2026 and had effectively addressed the matter through legal means.

He continued that the government emphasizes the elimination process of online scams and gambling, and drug cases, as a national duty. While online fraud, gambling activities and drug cases are being actively suppressed, the offenders are detained, and the drug manufacturing sites are also uncovered. In reviewing the seizures, it can be seen that some ethnic armed groups operate online fraud and drug manufacturing for their own interests and survival. Therefore, the relevant administrative units should supervise to ensure that such activities do not occur within their areas.

Regarding illegal trade, he said that responsible officials must strictly supervise and control it. The bad practice of encouraging illegal trade through various means must be eradicated. Such practices can lead to rising commodity prices and corruption, and they can also generate income for armed insurgent groups that can harm State stability and peace. Illegal trade can harm both the State and the people in many ways, so everyone must cooperate to prevent it.

The Senior General said that during the period in which the government served its responsibilities, it had faced numerous difficulties and challenges while striving for the development of the country. He expressed special gratitude to all those who had faithfully worked together for the benefit of the country during this time, noting that their efforts would be recorded.

He also said that the experiences and challenges encountered during this tenure should be documented and systematically handed over so that the next government would not face similar difficulties, and that good practices should be continued and passed on. — MNA/TTA,KTZH

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NATIONAL

The rows of toddy palm or toddy groves are common in the central part of Myanmar, and can be seen in Anya (upcountry), such as Bagan, NyaungU, Kyaukpadaung, Pakokku, Myingyan and Yesakyo.

The toddy palm is known as *Borassus flabellifer* Linn and is called the Palmyra palm in English. In Mon and Shan languages, it is known as Tan.

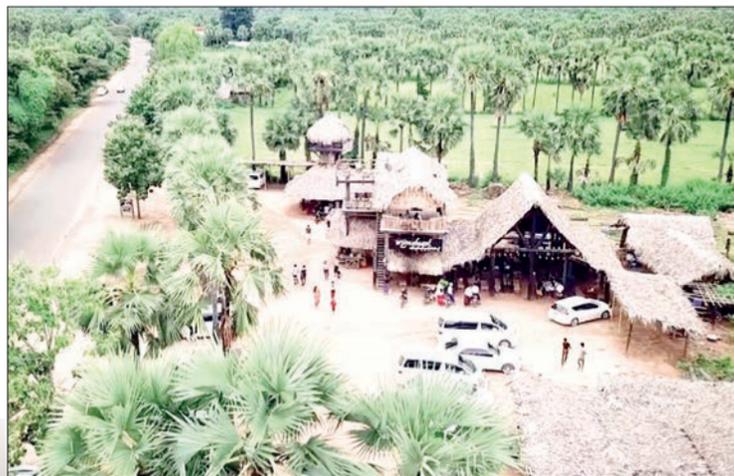
Palms like dry season with 20-40 inches of rainfall, and are common in dry countries such as Myanmar and India. They can grow in every places of the country except the wetland areas, especially in the middle parts of the country, whereas they can be seen in Taninthayi and Ayeyawady regions.

There are male palms and female palms. Although both types produce palm sap, only the fruits from female trees can be used for sampling. In spring, male palm trees about ten years old begin to produce flower clusters from which palm sap is obtained. Female trees start

bearing palm fruits at about fifteen years of age, and sap can also be collected from the fruit stalks. Palm farmers cut and prepare both male and female trees seasonally to collect the sweet sap, which is often boiled to produce jaggery. Fresh palm sap has a light green colour, and when boiled, it produces slightly brown jaggery.

All parts of palms are useful. According to experts, one acre of palm trees can produce an average of about 3,300 palm fruit clusters. A single palm tree can yield around 12 litres of sap per day. In moist soil, a palm tree can become usable within about 15 years, while in dry soil it takes around 25 years to mature. Palm trees can grow to an average height of 60 to 80 feet and may live for more than 100 years. Therefore, once planted, they can provide many benefits to farmers with minimal investment.

Palms are categorized into three types: male trees, female trees, and fruit-bearing trees. The toddy farmers climb the male trees



in Pyatho and Tabodwe, whereas female trees in Taboung and Tagu, fruit-bearing trees later Kasone and early Waso. Palm tapping is a job that cannot be skipped even for a sin-

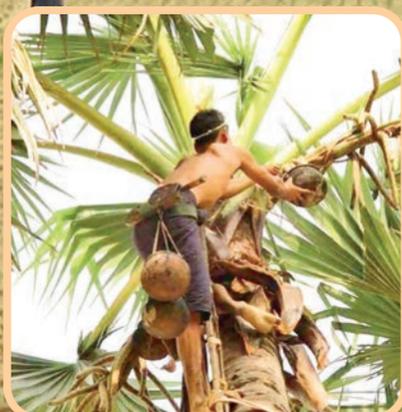
gle day. The tree must be cut daily to maintain sap flow; if days are missed, the sap will stop flowing. First, the tree is prepared and cut, and then clay pots are attached to collect the sap. Each tree may have

four to six sap pots. A palm branch can produce about one pot of sap per day. Palm trees are usually climbed and tapped twice daily, in the morning and in the evening.

Various food products are produced from palm trees, including palm fruit, jaggery from palm sap, preserved palm sap, vinegar, wine, alcohol, jam, pudding, jelly and snacks. To produce long-lasting palm sap, the sap collected in the morning is filtered carefully and placed in sterilized pots or plastic bottles. It is then heated at about 120°C for around five minutes and sealed in sterilized bottles. In this way, the sap can be preserved for up to two years while maintaining its original aroma and taste. The preserved palm sap can also be mixed with other natural fruit juices to produce beverages for sale. High-quality sugar and various types of jaggery are also being exported.

The dense palm groves in the central dry zone help regulate the local environment and climate to some extent, in addition to improving the social status of farmers. They also contribute to about 300,000 toddy farmers and their families, and so all should save toddy palms and groves as they depict the natural beauty of rural areas. — Zeya Naing (Shwe Kan Myay)/KTZH

Toddy palm groves depicting Anya's beauty



NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Defence and Security Council

Order 8/2026

8th Waning of Taboung 1387 ME
10 March 2026

Approval for Retirement

THE National Defence and Security Council has allowed Dr Lin Aung, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, to retire from his duties due to his health condition under Subsection (b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

By order,
Aung Lin Dwe
Executive Chief

Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Defence and Security Council

Order 9/2026

8th Waning of Taboung 1387 ME
10 March 2026

Appointment of Deputy Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar

THE National Defence and Security Council has appointed Dr Sandar Oo as Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar under Subsection (b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

By order,
Aung Lin Dwe
Executive Chief

Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Defence and Security Council

Order 10/2026

8th Waning of Taboung 1387 ME
10 March 2026

Approval for Retirement

THE National Defence and Security Council has allowed U Nay Soe, Chief Justice of the Chin State High Court, to retire from his duties due to his health condition, effective 1 March 2026, under Subsection (b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

By order,
Aung Lin Dwe
Executive Chief

Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Defence and Security Council

Order 11/2026

8th Waning of Taboung 1387 ME
10 March 2026

Appointment of Chief Justice of Chin State High Court

THE National Defence and Security Council has appointed U Myat San as Chief Justice of the Chin State High Court under Subsection (b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

By order,
Aung Lin Dwe
Executive Chief

Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Defence and Security Council

Order 12/2026

8th Waning of Taboung 1387 ME
10 March 2026

Appointment of Judges of State High Courts

THE National Defence and Security Council has appointed and assigned the following individuals to the duties of Judges of State High Courts, as shown against each of their names under Subsection (b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) U Kyaw Thaung Aung | Chin State High Court |
| (2) U Aung Maw | Shan State High Court |

By order,
Aung Lin Dwe
Executive Chief

Bago Shwemawdaw to host 2608th Buddha Pujaniya Festival

THE 2608th Buddha Pujaniya Festival of the Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago, Bago Region, will be held with great festivity, according to the pagoda's Board of Trustees.

The festival will take place for ten days, from the 10th waxing day (27 March) to the 4th waning day (5 April) of Tagu. The opening ceremony is scheduled for the afternoon of the 10th waxing day of Tagu and will be held at the Shwekyaungtaw Kyaukpadaung Dhammayon on the terrace of the pagoda.

"The 2608th Buddha Pujaniya Festival of the Shwemawdaw Pagoda will feature meritorious activities, trade fairs

and entertainment programmes. On the full-moon day of Tagu, offerings, including rice and other alms, will be respectfully donated to 500 members of the Sangha," said U Shwe Thein, a member of the Board of Trustees.

The festival, which will be organized in accordance with tradition, will include Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha Pujas, traditional Myanmar trade exhibitions, and the sale of consumer goods, beauty products and household items from factories across various regions and states. Entertainment programmes will also form part of the celebration. — ASH/MKKS

MPC opens 6th Media Training Course in Yangon

THE Media Training Course 6, organized by the Media Development Committee of the Myanmar Press Council, is being conducted from 9 March to 13 March at the office of the Myanmar Press Council in Botahtaung Township, Yangon

Region, it is learnt.

At the opening ceremony, Myanmar Press Council Chairman Dr Tin Htun Oo and Second Vice-Chairman U Khin Maung Kyaw Din, team leader of the Media Development Committee, delivered the opening and

welcoming remarks. A total of 39 trainees are attending the course.

Subjects being taught at the training include Basic English for Journalists, Media Ethics, Media and Electronic Technology, International Affairs and the

Media, Translation of News into English, Media and International Relations, Media and Human Rights, and Laws that Journalists Should Know. These topics are being taught free of charge by external scholars, members of the Myanmar Press Council

and experts from relevant departments.

The Media Development Committee of the Myanmar Press Council is reported to continue to organize similar media training courses in the future. — ASH/KNN

NATIONAL

MIFER Union Minister receives Sri Lankan Ambassador

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Wah Wah Maung received Ms Prabashini Ponnamperuma, Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Myanmar, yesterday morning at Office 1 of the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations.

Both sides frankly discussed and exchanged views

on matters relating to enhancing bilateral relations, economic cooperation and investment promotion, as well as the plans between Myanmar and Sri Lanka.

The meeting was attended by senior officials and responsible personnel from the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations. — MIFER



The Sri Lankan ambassador calls on Union Minister Dr Wah Wah Maung yesterday.

Myanmar attends 35th Meeting of ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council



Deputy Minister Daw Nu Mra Zan (2L) participating in the 35th Meeting of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council in the Philippines on 3-7 March 2026.

THE Myanmar delegation, led by Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Daw Nu Mra Zan, attended the 35th Meeting of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council held in Makati, the Philippines, from 3 to 7 March.

The meeting was held to ensure resilient and empowered families, inclusive development, smart youth and innovation, and an environmentally sustainable and food secure future. These priorities build a people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN that is sustainable and resilient, whilst empowering ASEAN people by fostering social inclusion, protecting people in vulnerable situations, and

strengthening ASEAN identity and Community.

On 3 March, the Myanmar delegation arrived in Makati and attended the dinner event at the Peninsula Manila Hotel.

On 4 March, the deputy minister attended the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community High-Level Forum 2026.

During the forum, she discussed under the title of Culture, Values, and Social Harmony: Strengthening ASEAN's Social Fabric through Cross-Sectoral engagement.

On 5 March, she attended the 35th Meeting of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council and participated in a discussion regarding the perspectives of respective

countries on the strategies of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community.

In the evening, she attended the dinner at the National Museum of Natural History, and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council Chair of the Philippines presented gifts to the attendees after the dinner.

The deputy minister observed the National Museum of Natural History before the dinner.

On 6 March, the Myanmar delegation visited Fort Santiago, Rizal Park and Intramuros as cultural visits. The delegates arrived back in Myanmar on the evening of 7 March. — MNA/KTZH

T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar Season 3 to follow last season's rules

INTERESTED contestants for T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar Season 3 can learn the rules and song details as in the previous year.

Season 3 is coming soon, and Myanmar nationals who are interested in the Thai singing contest can submit audition videos in the first week, said T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar.

Rules of the contest will be the same as the previous year, and contestants can visit <https://www.tpopstar.com/2025/index.php/campaign-background> for rules and song details, just like last year, it said. TikTok and the Royal Thai Embassy in Yangon

have also re-uploaded contested videos in seasons 1 and 2, so contestants can also visit <https://www.tiktok.com/@rteyangon?r=1&t=ZS-94SNZLAz6dm> for inspiration.

T-Pop Star Challenge Myanmar is the biggest Thai singing contest in Myanmar and organized by the Royal Thai Embassy, aiming to promote the soft power of Thai music, promote the public interests in the Thai language and strengthen the friendship relation between the Thai and Myanmar people. Many Myanmar nationals above 18 years old across Myanmar participated in the previous season 2. — MT/ZS



Prize-winners in T-Pop Star Challenge, Myanmar Season II.

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OPINION

Study and practise at the dry dock of Tatmadaw (Navy)

Tatmadaw (Navy) is responsible for protecting Myanmar's water territory as part of safeguarding the sovereignty of the State, in addition to conducting activities of saving and rescuing various types of victims, regardless of nationality, who accidentally suffer hardships in the Myanmar seas.

In this regard, Tatmadaw (Navy) is joining hands with various local organizations such as government departments and organizations and the Myanmar Coast Guard, in addition to international organizations in diligently serving its assigned duties in the Myanmar waters. To be able to accomplish the missions, it is necessary for Tatmadaw (Navy) to have capable naval equipment, such as various types and sizes of war vessels equipped with modern technologies and weapons and skilled servicemen.

The 40,000-tonne dry dock of Tatmadaw (Navy) is capable of constructing large-scale warships, as well as simultaneously building or repairing either one 40,000-tonne cargo ship or two large warships. Moreover, it can construct and repair large warships, cargo ships, and container ships. This capability will further enhance the nation's maritime economic benefits and naval strength, providing substantial support for the country's development.

critically important for the nation's maritime economic interests, such as energy resources, fisheries, major maritime communication routes, shipping trade, and deep-water ports.

The 40,000-tonne dry dock of Tatmadaw (Navy) is capable of constructing large-scale warships, as well as simultaneously building or repairing either one 40,000-tonne cargo ship or two large warships. Moreover, it can construct and repair large warships, cargo ships, and container ships. This capability will further enhance the nation's maritime economic benefits and naval strength, providing substantial support for the country's development.

Therefore, members of the Navy and relevant personnel should use the large naval dockyards they now possess to carry out the construction and repair of various types of ships, learning through the process while simultaneously enhancing their own technical skills and expertise. Moreover, by constructing more advanced ships, they should strive to generate appropriate revenue for the nation and Tatmadaw and work to be on par with international navies. The technical knowledge they have acquired should also be passed on to future generations, training and cultivating a more advanced and skilled generation.

As such, the government is striving to improve Tatmadaw (Navy) with the fulfilment of capable servicemen and weapons as well as naval vessels. Moreover, emphasis is being placed on the establishment of infrastructure, such as the shipyards, so as to initiate the shipbuilding industry. Recently, the 40,000-tonne dry dock has been launched for Tatmadaw (Navy) in order to build and repair naval vessels and cargo vessels. It showed a great milestone of Tatmadaw (Navy) in its history. Myanmar's maritime economic interests extend not only within its territorial waters but also to the exclusive economic zone along its offshore seas. Moreover, Myanmar's coastline is part of major global shipping routes where large international trade vessels transit. The presence of good ports and deep-water harbours makes it

The third option is a programme run by the Ministry of Labour that connects individuals who do not wish to become government employees but want to work in the domestic and international private sectors. Under this programme, the Ministry of Labour, in cooperation with the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), will prioritize hiring those who have completed their military service in companies, factories, and workshops. The discipline, ability to cooperate harmoniously with organizations, leadership and management skills, as well as physical fitness and proper moral character of the military veterans, who have been systematically trained and nurtured by the military, are invaluable human resources for the private sector. That is why entrepreneurs are willingly welcoming them. Furthermore, the Ministry of Labour, in cooperation with foreign employment agencies, is arranging to give special priority to those who have completed their military service when sending workers abroad.

For people's military service members who wish to choose the second and third options, the "Employment Management Committee on Military Veterans" has arranged a special programme. This programme is designed to arrange for those wishing to enter either government service or private sector employment to have the opportunity to attend training courses to acquire solid vocational skills that will be beneficial in their chosen field of work. Relevant ministries, including the Ministry of Border Affairs, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of La-

bour, the Ministry of Science and Technology, and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, are working in harmony to enable them to properly learn comprehensive vocational skills. Preparations have already been made for them to be able to attend over 100 types of training courses that will be run at training schools across the country. These courses are categorized into short-term, medium-term, and long-term programmes. The subjects to be taught will include industrial and technical skills such as electrical power, mechanics, construction, welding, computer repair, and mobile phone repair. Furthermore, training will also broadly include agricultural and livestock breeding technologies, hotel services, and management-related skills. The state will bear the cost for most of these courses, and accommodation and meals will also be provided free of charge, making this an excellent opportunity that youth performing military service should not miss for their life advancement.

The essence of these training programs is much deeper and broader than merely providing simple vocational skills. Young people who complete the systematically arranged training programmes provided by the state will transition from being unskilled labourers to becoming valuable, skilled labourers with

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

By Min Khant

practical leadership abilities in the workplace, thereby elevating their standard of living. To achieve these significant goals, the gov-

ernment is strategically coordinating with the National Skills Standards Authority (NSSA) to put an emphasis on these programmes. Long-term trainees will receive Certificates of Recognition for their skills, which are systematically designed and set to meet not only domestic but also

fill the human resource needs in modernizing industrial zones, bustling construction sites, and various service sectors. They will undoubtedly become the most reliable and valuable human resources for driving the nation's economy. The fourth and final option



A scene showing the issuance of certificates recognizing completion of military service to people's military service members who have been granted for reduction of military service

international standards. Hence, for those aspiring to work abroad, this certificate will enable them to confidently enter the international job market with credentials that are acknowledged. These comprehensively trained military veterans will be the best ones to

is for those who do not wish to become soldiers or government employees but want to return to their native homeland to engage in private businesses, including agriculture and livestock farming. For them, the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural

wishing to start new businesses, the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development will provide necessary capital and loans in accordance with regulations, while the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation will provide technical support for agricultural and livestock enterprises.

As the future journey of these people's military service personnel, who have served their full term, is being planned and facilitated from multiple angles, full medical treatment is also being undertaken for those who sustained injuries to their limbs while performing defence duty during the prescribed period. Throughout their hospital stay, they continue to be recognized as active service personnel and are granted full salary and allowances without any deduction. In addition, they are being provided with training in practical vocational skills suitable for their health condition, such as computer repair, tailoring, hairdressing, and home electrical appliance repair, to ensure a stable livelihood. It has also been reported that they will be selected and appointed to positions matching their skills in State-owned factories, companies, and relevant ministries.

I believe that military veterans will feel satisfied and proud of these systematic arrangements made by the Government and the Tatmadaw, from the initial call-up through to the completion of their duty and their future homecoming journey. In truth, these people's military service members transitioned from

ordinary civilian youth to the noble status of serving military personnel through the people's military service call-up assembly points. Through systematic nurturing and training, they have overcome challenges and, while performing their duties during the prescribed period, have personally experienced and understood the hardships, sacrifices, and commitments of military personnel. Therefore, upon returning to their hometowns as military veterans, they will proudly emerge as a strong force building mutual trust and understanding between the civilian and military societies, and will be able to stand with high dignity in their communities.

This law, which came into effect on 10 February 2024, marked a unique and remarkable new milestone in the history of national defence and the armed forces. All citizens must acknowledge with pride and joy that this honourable historic landmark was made possible by the tremendous achievements of good citizens cum people's military service members, and will soon be returning home. The people's military service members, who will return home in victory, have successfully overcome the unsolicited criticisms and disruption from countries, organizations, and individuals that opposed the state and the armed forces when the People's Military Service Law came into effect. Particularly, armed terrorist insurgent groups are experiencing firsthand the courage and

great mental strength of people's military service members on the battlefields. This is precisely why those terrorist insurgents and opponents of the government are attempting to delay and obstruct the people's military service processes. In doing so, they are agitating and harassing through social media platforms with groundless misinformation, such as claims that youth are being forcibly detained for military service, that those who have completed their service are being compelled to serve further, and that women are being registered for military service.

Amidst these criticisms, attacks, and harassments, the youth who have fulfilled their people's military service duty are the ones who have bravely opened a new chapter in the nation's history. The rare experiences they have gained over the two years, their discipline as strong as steel, and their robust mental strength will become invaluable assets for their lives. The government is also making multifaceted arrangements to ensure that these good citizens cum the people's military service personnel, can smoothly and peacefully traverse a proud and honourable future homecoming journey. This is being done through concrete job creation plans, practical vocational training, and precise, firm policies. Accordingly, the People's Military Service Law will not only enhance the nation's defence capabilities but will also greatly contribute to improving civil-military relations. Furthermore, this article is written with joy and pride that the dutiful, good citizens, who have successfully fulfilled their military service duty, will soon be returning to civilian society with honour and dignity. They will then actively participate as a new force in various sectors of national development.

Prolonged West Asia conflict could slow down India's growth: SBI Research

The ongoing conflict in West Asia could have multiple economic implications for India, particularly through higher oil prices, disruptions in energy supply routes, and potential impacts on remittances and trade, according to a new report by SBI

Research. The report highlighted that while the immediate inflationary impact of the widening conflict in the Middle East may remain limited, prolonged tensions and supply chain disruptions could significantly affect global economic stability.

One of the major concerns for India is the potential impact on crude oil supplies if tensions disrupt traffic through the Strait of Hormuz, a critical global energy corridor. The report noted, "India imports nearly 90 per cent of its crude oil requirements.

About two million barrels per day of this, out of 5.5 million, transits through the Strait of Hormuz." Any closure or disruption in this route could lead to supply constraints and higher import costs for the country. Nearly 20 per cent of the world's crude oil passes through

this narrow waterway, making it one of the most important oil transit chokepoints globally. Global oil markets have already reacted to the rising tensions. Brent crude prices have surged from about US\$58.92 per barrel in December 2025 and US\$70.75 per barrel in late

February 2026 to around USD 85.40 per barrel in early March, crossing USD 89 per barrel as geopolitical risks intensified. Higher oil prices could have broader macroeconomic consequences for India. According to the SBI Research estimates, every USD 10 per barrel in-

crease in crude oil prices could widen India's current account deficit (CAD) by around 36 basis points. The rise in oil prices may also lead to cost-push inflation, increasing consumer price inflation by around 35-40 basis points.

SOURCE: ANI

ARTICLE

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India has taken several steps to reduce vulnerability to supply shocks. PHOTO: PRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ANI

NATIONAL

National Defence and Security Council Law 13/2026

CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY

62. No person shall, in relation to foreign liquor:
- manufacture it without an excise licence;
 - bottle it without an excise licence;
 - import it from abroad without a distribution excise licence;
 - store it without a storage permit;
 - distribute or sell it without an excise licence;
 - transport it without a transport permit;
 - transport it in violation of the conditions contained in the transport permit.
63. No person shall, in relation to domestically produced liquor (other than beer and wine) of international standard:
- manufacture it without an excise licence;
 - bottle it without an excise licence;
 - export it abroad without a manufacturing excise licence or a distribution excise licence;
 - store it without a storage permit;
 - distribute or sell it without an excise licence;
 - transport it without a transport permit;
 - transport it in violation of the conditions contained in the transport permit.
64. No person shall, in relation to beer:
- manufacture it without an excise licence;
 - bottle it without an excise licence;
 - export it abroad without a manufacturing excise licence or a distribution excise licence;
 - import it from abroad without a distribution excise licence;
 - store it without a storage permit;
 - distribute or sell it without an excise licence;
 - transport it without a transport permit;
 - transport it in violation of the conditions contained in the transport permit.
65. No person shall carry out any matter under Section 38 without the approval of the Ministry.
66. No person shall knowingly lease or rent a place to someone who does not hold an excise licence for the purpose of conducting any excise business.
67. No person shall alter or modify adulterated liquor to make it suitable for consumption, and shall not:
- make any alterations or modifications;
 - distribute or sell the altered or modified liquor;
 - possess or transport the altered or modified liquor.
68. No person shall sell or offer liquor to the following individuals:
- religious clergy;
 - mentally incapacitated persons;
 - persons under the age of 18;
 - persons otherwise prohibited by rules and regulations.
69. No person shall, in relation to liquor or excisable substances:
- sell through an automatic vending machine;
 - sell online to the general public for consumption;
 - advertise by installing billboards, creating or displaying signs, linking advertisements, posting advertisements, distributing advertising leaflets, or using any other form of promotion;
 - sell by lowering the usual price to boost sales, giving samples, conducting lucky draws, or offering additional gifts with purchases.
70. No person other than a holder of an excise licence shall possess liquor exceeding the quantity or amount specified under Section 35.
71. No licence holder shall:
- transfer, sell, or lease their excise licence to another person without the approval of the Department;
 - use the excise licence at any place other than the licensed premises.
72. No holder of a liquor sales licence shall employ or allow a woman to work at a place where liquor is sold.
- Chapter XVII**
Offences and Penalties
73. Any person who is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 56, Section 57, or Section 72 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or with a fine not exceeding K5 million, or with both.
74. Whoever —
- is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 58 (a) or (b), or Section 59 (a) or (c), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or with a fine not exceeding K10 million, or with both.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 58 (c) or (d), or Section 59 (d) shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than six months and not more than two years, or with a fine of not less than K10 million and not more than K30 million, or with both.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 58 (e), or Section 59 (e), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or with a fine not exceeding K5 million, or with both.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 58 (f), or Section 59 (f), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or with a fine not exceeding K10 million, or with both.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 58 (g), or Section 59 (g), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or with a fine of not less than K2 million and not more than K5 million, or with both.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 58 (h), or Section 59 (h), shall be punished with a fine of not less than K1 million and not more than K3 million.
75. Whoever —
- is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 59 (b), Section 60, Section 62 (a), Section 63 (a), or Section 64 (a), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than one year and not more than three years, and may also be fined not less than K20 million and not more than K50 million.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 61 9a), Section 62 (b), Section 63 (b), or Section 64 (b), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than one year and not more than two years, and may also be fined not less than K10 million and not more than K20 million.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 61 (b), Section 62 (c), Section 63 (c), or Section 64 (c) or (d), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than six months and not more than two years, or a fine of not less than K10 million and not more than K30 million, or both.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 61 (c), Section 62 (d), Section 63 (d), or Section 64 (e), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or a fine not exceeding K5 million, or both.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 61 (d), Section 62 (e), Section 63 (e), or Section 64 (f), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or a fine not exceeding K20 million, or both.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 61 (e), Section 62 (f), Section 63 (f), or Section 64 (g), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or a fine of not less than K5 million and not more than K10 million, or both.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 61 (f), Section 62 (g), Section 63 (g), or Section 64 (h), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or a fine of not less than K2 million and not more than K5 million, or both.
76. Whoever is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 65 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than six months and not more than two years, and may also be fined not less than K50 million and not more than K100 million.
77. Whoever is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 66 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or a fine of not less than K5 million and not more than K15 million, or both.
78. Whoever —
- is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 67 (a), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of not less than six months and not more than one year, and may also be fined not less than K15 million and not more than K20 million.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 67 (b), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or a fine not exceeding K20 million, or both.
 - is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 67 (c), shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or a fine of not less than K5 million and not more than K10 million, or both.
79. Whoever is convicted of violating any prohibition contained in Section 68 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or a fine of not less than K2 million and not more than K5 million. **TO BE CONTINUED**

NATIONAL

Chinese national arrested in Mon State for illegal border crossing linked to online scam

THE Government of Myanmar is actively carrying out measures to ensure that online fraud and online gambling operations cannot establish a base within the country. In implementing these anti-online scam operations, the government has been coordinating closely not only with domestic forces but also with the governments of neighbouring countries. Joint departmental teams across various regions and states are also conducting inspections and

supervision to combat online scam activities and to prevent foreign nationals from illegally entering and residing in the country.

During such operations, a combined team carrying out security and inspection duties at the Mopepalin checkpoint in Kyaihto Township, Mon State, discovered a suspicious Chinese national at about 8 am on 9 March. The individual was seen walking along the Yangon-Mawlamyine highway near Mopepa-

lin Village, travelling from Kyaihto towards Theinzayat. Upon being stopped and questioned, he was identified as Mr Jiang Xiaoqiang, son of Mr Jiang Xingfu, aged 45, from Zhejiang Province, China. It was found that he had illegally crossed the border into Myanmar via Thailand, and he was therefore arrested and detained.

According to the statement of the arrested Chinese national, while he was living in China, he had made contact

with another Chinese national who was working in Thailand. In January 2024, he arrived at a location in Mae Sot, Thailand (still under verification), where he was employed in online scam and gambling operations for a monthly wage of 2,000 Thai baht. His belongings, including his mobile phone, passport and visa, were confiscated. During this period, he did not work at a fixed location but was moved between about five different sites. In March 2026, he crossed the

Thaungyin River by motorboat from Mae Sot into Myawady, Myanmar, where he was kept in a building. He later managed to escape from that location and was subsequently arrested near the Mopepalin checkpoint.

The Chinese national who illegally crossed the border into Myanmar is currently being detained by the relevant authorities, and legal action is being taken against him under Section 3(1) of the Myanmar Immigration Act. — MNA/KNN

73 foreign nationals deported over online scam activities via Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge

FOREIGN nationals who had illegally entered Myanmar through border routes after transiting through neighbouring countries, including Thailand, and who had committed illegal online gambling, online fraud, and other criminal activities in the Myawady-Shwe Kokko area of Kayin State were deported yesterday.

A total of 73 foreign nationals, comprising 55 Vietnamese, five Kenyans, four Sierra Leoneans, three Nepalese, two Rwandans, two Burundians, one Congolese, and one Liberian, were deported and handed over to the relevant authorities of their respective countries via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge No 2 in accordance with legal procedures, with due regard to humanitarian considerations and friendly relations between nations. In addition, eight more foreign nationals were newly identified and detained for verification in preparation for deportation.

To ensure that the deportation and handover procedures were conducted systematically and smoothly, Chairman of the Myawady District Management and Administration Committee,



Officials oversee the deportation process of undocumented foreign nationals.

District Administrator U Kaung San Lin, together with responsible officials, met with departmental personnel. They inspected records and data to ensure their accuracy and completeness and coordinated necessary arrangements.

During the deportation and handover process, officials, including Deputy Director U Kyaw Kyaw Than, Head of District Immigration and Population Department, and relevant staff, attended. Also present were First Secretary Mr Le Trung Kien and

officials from the Embassy of Vietnam in Thailand, embassy representatives, including Ms Amy Kristen Miller and officials representing the embassies of Kenya, Sierra Leone, Nepal, Rwanda, Burundi, the Congo, and Liberia, and officials from the Immigration Office of Tak Province, Thailand. Myanmar officials systematically handed over the relevant documentation related to the deportation and repatriation process to the authorities of the respective countries.

Furthermore, eight foreign

nationals: two Pakistanis, two Rwandans, two Kenyans, one Nepalese, and one Burundian, who had entered sites around Myawady Township in Kayin State through illegal routes, were identified and detained for verification before deportation.

From 30 January 2025 to 10 March 2026, a total of 14,393 foreign nationals who had illegally entered Myawady Township were detained. All of them have been verified, and 13,335 have already been systematically deported to their respective

countries via Thailand in accordance with legal procedures. The remaining 1,058 foreign nationals are ready to be transferred to the relevant countries and are being properly accommodated and cared for.

Among the remaining 1,058 foreign nationals awaiting transfer, 25 Chinese nationals are being detained at the Myoma Police Station. As they violated entry visa regulations, arrangements are being made to prosecute them on 7 March 2026 in accordance with legal procedures under Section 3 (1)/13 (1) of the 1947 Myanmar Immigration (Emergency Provisions) Act.

The State is actively cooperating with neighbouring and regional countries as well as international organizations to identify, arrest, and take effective and strict legal action against individuals involved in online scam centres and the foreign nationals who mastermind such operations. At the same time, effective coordination is being undertaken to ensure the swift repatriation of foreign nationals who are in distress for various reasons, including victims of human trafficking, to their respective countries. — MNA/KNN

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.

NATIONAL BUSINESS

Coord meeting on trade facilitation at Kampaiti border



Trucks loaded with export and import cargo are seen passing the Kampaiti border.

A coordination meeting on trade facilitation at the Kampaiti temporary vehicle inspection zone, based in Mongna, was held on 8 March at the Malika Hall of the Kachin State government office.

Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan urged officials to exert efforts in ensuring goods entering Myitkyina from the neighbouring country

are legitimized, granting import permits with valid import licences to prevent shortages of goods, and applicable taxes and duties to be paid. As the Kampaiti One-Stop Service (OSS) team has commenced operations since 6 March at the foot of the Shwemotaung Pagoda in Mongna Village, Waingmaw Township, he urged concerted efforts to ensure the smooth

conduct of inspection activities.

Attendees raised matters regarding the opening of the temporary vehicle inspection zone and trade activities in line with directives and Standard Operating Procedures, requirements in inspecting trucks by the OSS, parking area and security matters, and he coordinated necessary matters in the respective sectors. — NN/KK

CBM injects over US\$6M to edible oil sector on 3-9 Mar

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) has injected over US\$6.17 million into the edible oil sector from 3 to 9 March, with \$1.97 million on 9 March, \$1.96 million on 6 March, over \$1.24 million on 4 March and \$1 million on 3 March.

Furthermore, CBM pumped \$220,000, 300,000 yuan and over five million baht into the foreign exchange market on 6 March. CBM also injected over 5.6 million baht into the market on 4 March. CBM injected \$1 million into the fuel oil import sector on 3 March, along with selling over 470,990 yuan and over 631,800 baht in the foreign exchange market.

CBM sold over \$35 million, 34 million baht and over three

million yuan in February. CBM sold over \$43 million, 65 million baht and over four million yuan in January 2026.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK



An aerial drone view of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) in Yangon.

MGMA members invited to register for Indo Intertex 2026 in Jakarta

THE Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) announced on 10 March that all member factories and companies are invited to register for Indo Intertex 2026, one of Southeast Asia's largest trade shows for the textile and garment industries, to be held from 15 to 18 April at Jakarta International Expo, Jakarta, Indonesia.

It is a premier trade exhibition showcasing the latest production technologies, machinery, and solutions for the garment sector. Attendees will benefit from new technologies and equipment, networking with international professionals, and discovering new business opportunities.

Through a partnership between MGMA and the event organizers, a Buyer Delegation Programme led by MGMA officials is being organized. Participating officials from member factories will receive three nights of free accommodation and round-trip



airfare, while all other personal expenses must be covered by the participants. Up to two representatives per member factory or company may join. Non-members may participate by paying a \$100 registration fee. Due to logistics and room limitations, registrations must be submitted by 17 March on a first-come, first-served basis. For more details, participants may contact Ms Khin Thandar Aung (Event & PR Officer) at 09 758451158. — MT/ZN

2 firms blacklisted for fraudulent solicitation in Hajj service

THE Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) stated that the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture put two companies, MANARSIK Co Ltd and E-VISA Services & Travels Co Ltd, on the blacklist for deceptive practices in soliciting money from three companies operating Hajj pilgrimage services and for damaging the reputation of the govern-

ment and the ministry.

soliciting money from three companies operating Hajj pilgrimage services, and for damaging the reputation of the Union Government and ministries through such fraudulent solicitation.

DICA has already notified that the registrar will publicly declare the deny list and weak compliance matters on the DICA's website

if companies registered on the online registry system, MyCO, fail to comply with the existing law, rules and bylaws of the government institutions concerned and provisions stipulated in the Myanmar Companies Law.

DICA declared the blacklisting of 25 companies for fraudulent addresses for registration until the end of the 2026-2027 financial year.

These 25 companies were flagged for unauthorized address as they are no longer at the registered address on the MyCO submitted by the relevant ministries: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Bureau of Special Investigation, and the Internal Revenue Department. One was referred by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 13 by the Bureau of Special Investigation, and 11 by the Internal Revenue Department. — NN/KK



The facade view of the DICA office in Yangon.

Airline SAS introduces 'temporary fuel-related price adjustments' over oil price: statement

SCANDINAVIAN airline SAS said Tuesday that it was introducing a "temporary" price increase due to soaring oil prices triggered by the war in the Middle East.

"In recent days, jet fuel prices in Europe have risen sharply — reaching their highest levels since 2022 — largely driven by disruptions to global supply," the company said in a statement to AFP, adding the development had "an immediate impact on airlines' cost base".

"Given the unusually rapid and substantial increase, SAS has introduced... temporary

fuel-related price adjustments," SAS said.

Oil prices have risen dramatically in recent days amid supply woes from Gulf countries, due to the near-paralysis of the Strait of Hormuz caused by the war in the Middle East.

However, oil prices sank markedly Tuesday morning after US President Donald Trump said the US-Israel war on Iran could end "very soon".

SAS stressed that fluctuations in the price of oil had "a direct impact on the cost of jet fuel, which is one of the largest cost components for airlines". — AFP

Volkswagen says to cut 50,000 jobs as profit slides

VOLKSWAGEN said Tuesday that it would cut 50,000 jobs in Germany by 2030 as its profit slid to its lowest level since 2016.

"In total, around 50,000 jobs are due to be cut by 2030 across the Volkswagen Group in Germany," Volkswagen CEO Oliver Blume said in a letter to shareholders in the firm's annual report.

The 10-brand group had already struck a deal with unions at the end of 2024 to cut 35,000 jobs by 2030, mostly at its namesake brand, as part of plans to save 15 billion euros a year. The additional cuts would come from premium brands Audi and Porsche as well as Volkswagen's software subsidiary Cariad, Blume added.



An aerial view shows the illuminated tower storage facility (L) and the power plant of German carmaker Volkswagen (VW) at the company's headquarters in Wolfsburg, central Germany, at dusk on 21 November 2025. PHOTO: AFP

Even before US President Donald Trump slapped tariffs on non-American carmakers last year, Eu-

rope's largest automobile manufacturer was facing a triple whammy of stagnant demand in Europe,

the costs of investing in electric cars despite patchy demand as well as cratering sales in China. — AFP

Malaysia unveils 5-year plan to boost capital market

THE Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) on Monday unveiled the Capital Market Masterplan 2026-2030 (CMP), a strategic blueprint to position Malaysia's capital market as a key driver of national growth and economic prosperity.

The regulator said in a statement that with a long-term 20-year vision, the CMP supports economic transformation by accelerating growth in emerging sectors while strengthening the market's role in building a more advanced, inclusive, sustainable and regionally integrated economy. Under the CMP, Malaysia's capital market is projected to outpace gross domestic product growth, expanding at a compound annual growth rate of six per cent to eight per cent, to 5.8 trillion ringgit (about US\$1.46 trillion) and to 6.3 trillion ringgit by 2030 from 4.3 trillion ringgit in 2025. — Xinhua

Sri Lankan Airlines reroutes Europe-bound flights after Mideast airspace closures

Sri Lanka's national carrier, SriLankan Airlines, has shifted to an alternative route through Afghanistan and Azerbaijan for its European destinations after the closure of Middle Eastern airspace, a senior Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka (CAASL) official said here Tuesday.

Daminda Rambukwella, director-general and CEO of CAASL, told journalists that the new route had increased flight time to London by about one and a half hours. Therefore, the airline had to reduce payload, including the combined weight of passengers, baggage and cargo carried, he said. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (279N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (279N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-3-2026** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MOON LIGHT VOY.NO. (ML022)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MOON LIGHT VOY.NO. (ML022)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-3-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S THURIYA SANDAR WIN COMPANY LIMITED

Transferring Distributorship For Registered Pesticides

We, **Lionchem Pte., Ltd** would like to change the distributor of the following product, which registered under Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar from **Lionchem (Myanmar) Pte.,Ltd** to **Sunrise Agri-Science Co.,Ltd**. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, West Gyogone, Insein township, Yangon from here to next two weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration Type	Registration No
1	Florid 300 OD	Flonicamid 100 g/l + Nitenpyram 200 g/l OD	Provisional	P2024-5719

Sunrise Agri-Science Co.,Ltd (Address: No 64, 5th floor, Yadanar Street, Kamayut (1) Qtr, Kamayut Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Ph no. 09-789505363, 09-401562282)

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ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD



A delivery staff unloads liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders from a truck at a distribution point in Mumbai on 10 March 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

India tightens gas supplies over Mideast war, restaurants warn of closures

INDIA ordered tighter controls over natural and cooking gas on Tuesday following import disruptions caused by the Middle East war, with restaurants warning it could spark widespread closures.

The world's most populous nation is the fourth largest liquefied natural gas (LNG) buyer, and second-largest buyer of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), such as that used for cooking — much of which is sourced from the Middle East.

"The ongoing conflict in the Middle East has resulted in the disruption of liquefied natural gas shipments through the Strait of Hormuz," the Ministry of Petroleum said in an order issued on Tuesday.

It said the new rules would "ensure equitable distribution and continued availability for priority sectors".

The ministry ordered that LNG supplies be prioritized to supply households, transport sectors and production of LPG.

But other sectors, including fertilizer plants and tea industries, would receive 70 to 80 per cent of consumption needs, "subject to operational availability".

To meet the gap, gas supplied to petrochemical facilities and power plants would either be fully or partially curtailed.

Indian industries including several ceramics and tile firms have already said they are facing a cutback in gas

supplies that could impact production.

Restaurants and hotels across India also warned of disruptions to operations, after a separate ministry order on Monday that prioritized domestic LPG supplies to households. The National Restaurant Association of India warned that the government order had resulted in LPG suppliers "across the country" signalling that supplies to eateries would be stopped. "The restaurant industry is predominantly dependent on commercial LPG for its operations," it said in a statement. "Any disruption therein will lead to a catastrophic closure of majority of restaurants." — AFP

Iran vows to fight on and block all Gulf oil

IRAN vowed on Tuesday that not one litre of oil would be exported from the Gulf while its war with the United States and Israel continues, in a stark rebuke to President Donald Trump's boast that the conflict was all but over.

Trump's argument that the war would be "ended soon" helped reverse the Monday's spike in oil prices, which have surged since Iranian attacks on shipping closed the Strait of Hormuz in response to the US-Israeli strikes that killed its supreme leader.

The price increase also followed strikes on oil depots in Iran and after attacks on oil infrastructure in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

After Trump's comments, European gas prices opened 15 per cent lower, and Asian stock markets recovered from Monday's slump and their European counterparts opened higher. But

concern remains high.

Qatar, which has suspended LNG exports and sent European energy prices sky-high, said Iranian attacks on its civilian infrastructure were continuing, and the Israeli military announced a new wave of attacks on Tehran.

"There would be catastrophic consequences for the world's oil markets the longer the disruption goes on, and the more drastic the consequences for the global economy," Saudi oil giant Aramco's president and CEO Amin H. Nasser told journalists. "It's absolutely critical that shipping resumes in the Strait of Hormuz."

As long as it takes

Egypt increased the cost of fuels by up to 30 per cent and Pakistan said it would provide naval escorts to commercial shipping. France has dispatched warships to the region. — AFP



A man rides a motorcycle past a banner displayed at Valiasr Square in central Tehran on 10 March 2026, depicting Iran's late supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini (L) watching as his successor the late Ayatollah Ali Khamenei (C) hands over a national flag to his son and new supreme leader Mojtaba Khamenei (R). **PHOTO: AFP**

Concrete barrier blamed for fatal S Korea jet crash built to save money: audit

A concrete barrier blamed for a deadly South Korean jet crash that killed 179 people in December 2024 had been built to cut costs, the state auditor said on Tuesday.

Jeju Air Flight 2216 was coming in to land at Muan International Airport from Thailand when it struck a flock of birds and was forced to make

a belly landing.

While the pilots managed to put the aircraft down and slide it along the runway, it burst into a fireball after colliding with a concrete structure buried inside a mound at the end of the runway, killing 179 people on board.

Only two flight attendants seated in the tail section s

urvived.

A government-commissioned simulation released earlier this year found that all passengers would have survived had the concrete structure supporting the localisers — a navigation antenna system that helps aircraft during landing — not been present. — AFP

RSP bags 125 seats in Nepal's parliamentary elections

THE Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) has won 125 out of 165 seats of the House of Representatives under the first-past-the-post system in Nepal's parliamentary elections, as the vote counts for the category completed on Monday night, the Election Commission said in a report.

The Nepali Congress, which was the largest party in the dissolved parliament, managed to secure 18 seats. The Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) got nine seats.

The RSP is leading in the proportional representation category as well with around 50 per cent vote share, according to the commission. — Xinhua

SPORTS

No Mbappe, no chance? Real Madrid on ropes against Man City

RARELY do record 15-time winners Real Madrid enter a Champions League clash as underdogs but this is the situation when Manchester City visit the Santiago Bernabeu on Wednesday.

With key attackers Kylian Mbappe, Jude Bellingham and Rodrygo Goes set to miss the game injured and Alvaro Arbeloa's team in inconsistent form, the Premier League side are firm favourites in the last 16 tie.

Man City beat Madrid in the league phase in the Spanish capital and have strengthened since then, with Antoine Semenyo and Marc Guehi arriving, while midfielder Rodri is fit

after missing that match during a long-term injury absence.

Xabi Alonso was at Madrid's helm then. But his successor Arbeloa has not got the team playing with more quality or consistency.

Perhaps his biggest success has been helping winger Vinicius Junior back to form, and the Brazilian represents Real Madrid's best hope of success against City.

The winger was key in Madrid's triumph over Jose Mourinho's Benfica in the play-off round, despite allegedly being racially abused in the first leg by Benfica's Gianluca Prestianni, who denies it. — AFP



Real Madrid's Brazilian forward (7) Vinicius Junior (L) and teammates attend a training session on the eve of their UEFA Champions League football match against Manchester City at Real Madrid Sports City in Valdebebas, in the outskirts of Madrid on 10 March 2026. PHOTO: AFP

Yangon United snatch late win over Yadanabon

YANGON United defeated Yadanabon 3-2 in a 2025-2026 Myanmar National League match at Thanlyin Thihadipa Stadium on 10 March, keeping their title hopes alive.

Kaung Si Thu opened the scoring for Yangon United in the first minute, but Yadanabon equalized through Nay Oo Lwin before the break. Pyay Moe then put Yadanabon ahead from the penalty spot in the 65th minute.

Yangon United fought back late in the match as Myo Set Paing scored the equalizer in the 89th minute before Blamovi netted the winner in stoppage time. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Yangon United and Yadanabon players compete during the MNL match. PHOTO: MNL



Alcaraz battles back to reach Indian Wells fourth round

CARLOS Alcaraz had to dig deep to extend his 2026 unbeaten run, rallying from a set and a break down to beat Arthur Rinderknech 6-7 (6/8), 6-3, 6-2 in the third round at Indian Wells on Monday.

The big-serving Frenchman's aggressive game forced

world number one Alcaraz to call on every shot in his arsenal to turn a tense contest his way.

Alcaraz will face 13th-seeded Norwegian Casper Ruud for a place in the quarter-finals.

"Really happy that I was able to turn things around,"

said Alcaraz.

The Spaniard nearly managed to steal the first-set tiebreaker, in which he had trailed 2-5, but a wayward forehand on set point gave Rinderknech his chance to pocket the set with a pair of winners. — AFP

Galaxy FC crowned champions of Glan Master Futsal League II 2025-2026

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF), Galaxy FC has secured the championship title of the Glan Master Futsal League II 2025-2026, finishing the season with a total of 59 points.

Following the final matches held at the MFF Futsal Stadium on 9 March, an awards ceremony took place. U Zaw Wint Thu, Chairman of the Yangon Region Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee, presented awards to the match officials.

Medals and a cash prize of five million Kyats to Galaxy FC were presented by



Galaxy FC celebrate their championship win at the Glan Master Futsal League II 2025-2026.

Managing Director U Sai Win Aung of Century Beverage Co Ltd, and the trophy by MFF Futsal President U Win Thaw and Beach Soccer Committee. Other awards include the fair-play award and K3,000,000 to YRG Academy FC, K500,000 to the best goalkeeper: Min Khant Chit (7 Brother FC), and K500,000 to the best player: Arkar Kyaw (Galaxy FC).

Final standings and team prizes are runner-up: 7 Brother FC and K3,000,000, third place: ULAD FC and K1.5 million, fourth place: Maryar NOKA and K1 million. — MT/ZN

India tightens gas supplies over Mideast war, restaurants warn of closures

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WORLD

Russian President Vladimir Putin conveyed to US President Donald Trump proposals for resolving the crisis around Iran, and Moscow will see how the coordination process goes, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Tuesday. On Monday, Putin and Trump held a telephone conversation and discussed the international agenda among other things.

Putin and Trump's conversation about the situation around Iran does not yet indicate that the Russian President became a mediator in the settlement, Peskov added.

Many of the proposals that have been put forward by Russian President Vladimir Putin that could help reduce tensions in the Middle East still on the table, Peskov added. Answering a question from reporters about whether Trump's decision on oil sanctions was discussed during a telephone conversation between the presidents, Peskov told journalists the two leaders did not discuss the topic.

"No, somehow this topic did not appear in any detail," he said.

On Ukraine Talks

All parties, including Russia, are interested in continuing trilateral negotiations on a settlement in Ukraine, Peskov said. "The main specific is that the trilateral format must continue, precisely trilateral. Everyone is interested in it, and most importantly, the Americans are ready to continue their mediation efforts.

President Putin highly values these mediation efforts, we are grateful for this and are interested in this process continuing," Peskov told reporters, when asked whether any specifics had emerged

Putin conveys to Trump proposals for resolving crisis around Iran – Kremlin



US President Donald Trump greets Russian President Vladimir Putin on the tarmac after they arrived to attend a meeting at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska, the United States. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

regarding the continuation of trilateral negotiations on a settlement in Ukraine following Putin-Trump phone call.

There are no specific dates or locations for a new round of trilateral talks, the spokesman added.

Washington did not set conditions for Moscow to cease fire before continuing negotiations, Peskov also said. — SPUTNIK

Europe turning away from nuclear energy was 'strategic mistake': EU chief

EU chief Ursula von der Leyen on Tuesday called Europe's turn away from civilian nuclear power a "strategic mistake",

arguing that the Middle East war had exposed the continent's fossil fuel "vulnerability". "It was a strategic mistake

for Europe to turn its back on a reliable, affordable source of low-emission power," she said at the opening of a nuclear energy summit just outside Paris as the US-Israeli war with Iran entered its second week.

"For fossil fuels, we are completely dependent on expensive and volatile imports. They are putting us at a structural disadvantage to other regions," she said at the summit, which aims to boost the use of civilian nuclear energy.

"The current Middle East crisis gives a stark reminder of the vulnerability it creates," she added.

"We have home-grown low-carbon energy sources: nuclear and renewables. And together, they can become the joint guarantors of independence, security of supply, and competitiveness — if we get it right." — AFP



French President Emmanuel Macron (L) and Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael Grossi (R) pose with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen (C) upon arrival at the Nuclear Energy Summit at the Seine Musicale venue in Boulogne-Billancourt, outside Paris, on 10 March 2026. PHOTO: AFP

Thailand, Vietnam push remote work to save energy

THAILAND and Vietnam encouraged public employees on Tuesday to work from home and take up other energy-saving measures as the Middle East war disrupted oil supplies and sent fuel prices swinging.

Thai authorities said government workers should shift to remote work where possible and asked that government offices set their air conditioners to 26C to conserve energy.

"The government wants all sectors to use resources wisely and effectively," it said in a statement.

It also urged officials to avoid overseas trips. Thailand said last week it had secured two months' worth of oil supplies but was suspending exports to conserve its holdings. It also capped the price of diesel at just under 30 baht (\$0.94) per litre for a 15-day period. — AFP