

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



Waterbird species are seen inhabiting Indawgyi Lake.

**T**he Research and Development Division of the Department of Fisheries found over 80 species of amphibians and reptiles and 90 species of fish inhabit Indawgyi Lake in Mohnyin Township, Kachin State.

“The research findings showed that over 80 amphibians and reptiles were found residing in Indawgyi Lake by December 2022. More than 90 fish species are found in the lake. As the lake is associated with the Ayeyawady River, some fish species are researched to lay eggs in Indawgyi Lake as well. Fish species living in Ayeyawady River moved to the lake

## Indawgyi Lake: A biodiverse haven for amphibians, reptiles, and fish

to spawn when river flooding occurred and then, they returned to their habitats. Therefore, the department will conserve and protect fish spawning habitats,” said an official of the division.

The Department has been researching habitats across lakes to protect the

critically endangered freshwater fish originated in Myanmar and more conservation activities will be implemented.

Indawgyi Lake is the largest freshwater lake in Myanmar and Southeast Asia’s third largest. It is home to a large number of mammals, amphibians, water-

birds, reptiles and fish species, boosting its rich biodiversity, surrounding wetlands and forests. The lake is 14 miles north to south and seven miles east to west. It is located 700 feet above sea level, spanning 314.67 square miles. — ASH/KK



## Maha Zeyapahta Brick Bridge in Inwa attracts photo, video enthusiasts

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A stone plaque of Maha Zeyapahta Brick Bridge and some historical records.

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2591<sup>st</sup> Buddha Pujaniya festival commences at Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda



# NATIONAL

## Boosting Agriculture-Based Industries to Strengthen the State Economy and Increase Output

TO promote manufacturing and industries rooted in agriculture and livestock farming – the country's primary economic sectors – supporting the development of the State economy and enhancing product output.

*(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with members of the Bago Region government on 30 August 2024)*



## National Objectives for 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Union Day 2025

1. To strive for the perpetual development of the Union through the Union spirit, patriotic values, a sublime state of mind and a genuine nationalist spirit.
2. To encourage collaborative efforts among all ethnic nationals to pursue dialogue for durable peace and to end armed conflicts.
3. To collectively advance cooperation amongst all national people, the government, and Tatmadaw to ensure stability and the rule of law.
4. To enhance collaborative efforts to ensure nationwide stability and tranquillity, enabling the successful conduct of multiparty general elections.
5. To promote balanced development across all regions and states, as well as enhance health, education and job opportunities for ethnic nationals.

## Mottos for 78<sup>th</sup> Union Day 2025

1. When all ethnic national brethren stand in unity, hand in hand, the Union will firmly stand.
2. Drifting in one boat, on the same voyage we float; Bound together in communion, the heart of the Union.
3. United in heart and soul, Marching towards the Union's goal.
4. Let's build peace to achieve prosperity.
5. Strong in unity, Ethnic national brethren ensure the nation's strength.

## Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

1. Ministry of Defence  
<https://www.mod.gov.mm>
2. Ministry of Legal Affairs  
<https://www.mlis.gov.mm>
3. Ministry of Information  
<https://www.moi.gov.mm>
4. Myawady Webportal  
<https://myawady.net.mm>
5. Myanmar National Portal  
<https://myanmar.gov.mm>

## Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 2 February 2025)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Weather is partly cloudy over the South Andaman Sea and South Bay, a few cloud over the North Andaman Sea and Central Bay and generally fair elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 3 FEBRUARY 2025:** Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing and Taninthyi regions and Kachin, Kayin and Mon states and generally fair in the remaining regions and states.

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-7 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, Chin and (Northern and Eastern)Shan states.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 FEBRUARY 2025:** Generally fair weather.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 3 FEBRUARY 2025:** Generally fair weather. — DMH



# NATIONAL

## Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

*(Excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)*

## Maha Zeyapahta Brick Bridge in Inwa attracts photo, video enthusiasts

**M**aha Zeyapahta Brick Bridge located in ancient city Inwa has drawn the attention of visitors who want to take photoshooting and videomaking, according to writer and researcher Bo Shake (Yadanapura).

The bridge is about one mile long from Hanthawady Gate in the south to TadaU Mingalar Pagoda. It was first built by Min Swe also known as King Min Khaung I, and renovated by Salin City governor U Oh, the younger brother of Nanmadaw Mei Nu in the fourth Inwa era. It was opened to the public on the 2<sup>nd</sup> waxing of Taboung in 1189 ME and also called U Oh Brick Road.

The bridge is nowadays in splendid look with its brick tiles and brick walls.

“Such a mile-long brick bridge can’t be found in Mandalay ancient city neither in Bagan ancient city, but only in

Inwa. Maha Zeyapahta means the way leads to triumph. Previously, people didn’t take notice of the bridge even when they passed but felt later its feature is cultural heritage. The bridge looks attractive with shade trees and brick walls, so people come to take photos and videos,” said writer Bo Shake.

At present, preservation has been commenced at the bridge, according to residents.

The bridge is built crossing three creeks namely Myittha, Panbe and Tayoke and one moat. If it is renovated into a three-tier archway like the Inwa era’s architecture, it will draw more attention, he said. The painting in Parabeik (folded paper) about the bridge is still present and if it is restored to its original state, it will attract more foreign and local visitors, he said. — MT/ZS



Maha Zeyapahta Brick Bridge and some historical records.



Chairman of the Ethnic Cultural Troupe Welcome, Accommodation and Reception Sub-committee Deputy Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Htein Lin and officials welcome members of ethnic traditional culture troupes from regions and states yesterday.

## Ethnic cultural troupes from regions and states arrive in Nay Pyi Taw

MEMBERS of ethnic traditional culture troupes from Sagaing Region and Chin, Rakhine and Shan states who will attend the 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Union Day celebration 2025 arrived at Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Deputy Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Htein Lin, who is the Chairman of the Cultural Troupe Welcome, Accommodation and Reception Subcommittee, along with other officials, warmly welcomed and greeted them. The Deputy Minister also inspected meals arrangements for these troupes. The Deputy Minister instructed officials to ensure proper accommodation and dining facilities for the troupe members. — MNA/KZL

### Gold Market Rate as of 2 February 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,450,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

### EARTHQUAKE NEWS

A slight earthquake of magnitude 3.2 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 15 miles northwest of Zabuthiri), latitude 19.92 °N, longitude 95.95 °E, depth (10) kilometres, about 16 miles northwest of Nay Pyi Taw seismological observatory was recorded at 09 hour 47 minute 04 second MST on 2 February 2025. — DMH



# NATIONAL

## Tatmadaw hospital ship provides medical care in Hainggyikyun, delivers 22<sup>nd</sup> baby in its record



Specialists team from the Tatmadaw Hospital Ship Thanlwin successfully delivers a baby girl via caesarean section on 2 February 2025. This baby is the first to be delivered during the current mission and the 22<sup>nd</sup> baby successfully delivered aboard the Tatmadaw Hospital Ship Thanlwin in its operational record.

THE Tatmadaw Hospital Ship Thanlwin, accompanied by mobile specialist medical teams comprising consultants, doctors, and nurses, has been providing healthcare services to residents along the Taninthayi coastal region, as well as to communities near Cokoyun Township in Yangon Region and Hainggyikyun in Ayeyawady Region.

Yesterday morning, the hospital ship arrived at Hainggyikyun in Ngaputaw Township, Ayeyawady Region, where it was warmly welcomed by Tatmadaw members from the local battalion, department officials, town elders, teachers, and students.

Yesterday, the mobile medical team set up a temporary base at the Tatmadaw hospital at Hainggyikyun to provide healthcare services to 613 residents from the town and nearby

villages. The treatments included general medical consultations for 116 patients, surgical care for 52 patients, obstetric and gynaecological care for 34 patients, paediatric treatment for 22 children, orthopaedic care for 104 patients, ear, nose, and throat treatment for 32 patients, ophthalmology services for 210 patients, and dental care for 43 patients.

Moreover, nine patients underwent general surgery, 35 received eye surgery, 45 had X-ray examinations, 70 were tested using ultrasound, 71 underwent ECG heart screenings, and 105 had laboratory tests. Furthermore, arrangements were made for 35 patients requiring further treatment to be referred to nearby Tatmadaw hospitals.

In addition, specialists in surgery, paediatrics, and anaesthesiology from the Tat-

madaw Hospital Ship Thanlwin successfully delivered a baby girl weighing six pounds and three ounces via caesarean section at 2.32 pm at the Tatmadaw hospital at Hainggyikyun. The mother, Daw Hnin Hnin Aye from Maungpa Village in Hainggyikyun, and her baby are both in good health. The newborn was presented with a monetary gift and other presents from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy), which were handed over by an official representative. This baby is the first to be delivered during the current mission and the 22<sup>nd</sup> baby successfully delivered aboard the Tatmadaw Hospital Ship Thanlwin in its operational record.

Officials from the local battalion visited the site to observe the medical activities and provided necessary coordination and support. — MNA/KNN

## 41<sup>th</sup> collective New Year festival of Lahu people held in Kengtung

THE Lahu ethnic group, known for its rich tradition of culture, literature, and history, celebrates its most sacred and grand festival—the collective New Year—when the pine trees bear buds and the cherry, apricot, and peach trees are in full bloom.

The Lahu New Year festival, celebrated since ancient times, is a joyful occasion where people donate rice, fruits, and belongings gathered throughout the year. A small pine tree is placed in the centre, around which people gather to play gourd flutes, perform a round dance, seek forgiveness, cleanse their sins, and young people also perform traditional hand-washing rituals for elders and respected individuals.

The 41<sup>st</sup> Lahu Ethnic Collective Traditional New Year Festival was held in Kengtung Township, following traditional customs, at 10:30 am on 1 February in Katzin Village, Mongzin Village-tract. The event was attended by Command Chief of Staff Brig-Gen Kyaw Htet from

the Triangle Region Command along with officials, members of social organizations, local ethnic groups, and invited guests.

First, Brig-Gen Kyaw Htet delivered a speech and presented New Year gifts to the New Year Celebration Committee.

Then, U Kya Le Soe, on behalf of the committee, delivered a New Year greeting, and a hand-washing ceremony was held in accordance with the traditional customs of the Lahu ethnic group. Afterwards, the Lahu ethnic group played gourd flutes while performing traditional cultural dances and songs. Officials and guests participated in the famous Myaywaing dance alongside the Lahu ethnic group, and honoured them with cash gifts.

The Lahu ethnic group currently resides in China, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam, with a concentration in Shan State (East) and Shan State (North) in Myanmar. There are approximately 30 Lahu tribes. — Aung Zin Myint (IPRD)/TH



The 41<sup>st</sup> Lahu Ethnic Collective Traditional New Year Festival in progress in Kengtung Township on 1 February 2025.

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## 2591<sup>st</sup> Buddha Pujaniya festival commences at Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda

A ceremony to commence the 2591<sup>st</sup> Buddha Pujaniya festival of Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda took place at the venue in Minbu Township of Magway Region yesterday morning.

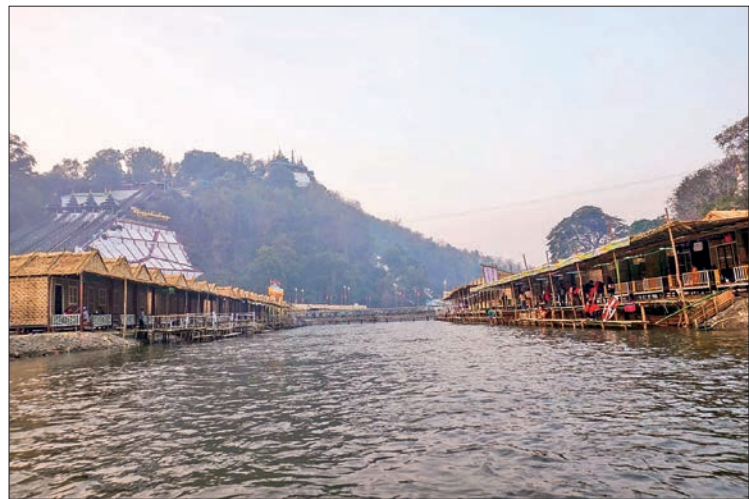
Nagayon Tahtaung Samataung Monastery Sayadaw of Lewe Aggamaha Saddhammajo-

tikadhaja Dr Bhaddanta Vamsasiri and Magway Region Chief Minister U Tint Lwin pressed the button to unveil the archway of the festival and released birds and fish to mark the opening ceremony.

Member of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee



The opening of 2591<sup>st</sup> Buddha Pujaniya festival in progress at Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda in Minbu Township yesterday. **PHOTO: MAUNG MAUNG (MINBU)**



Pyinmana's Aungsitha Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vicakkhana, Nagayon Tahtaung Samataung Monastery Sayadaw of Lewe, the Chief Minister and officials unveiled the glass cover of the lower replica footprint of the Buddha and open the doors of the upper replica footprint.

Ovadacariya Sayadaw of the pagoda consecrated two replica footprints and Hsaungtaungpy-

ae Lotaya Nammada Nagayon Pagoda.

The congregation took the five precepts from Ovadacariya Sayadaws and offered alms and day meals.

The term of Buddha Pujaniya festival for Mann Shwesettaw Pagoda is the longest among other festivals of pagodas across the nation. It lasts for 75 days from 2 February to 17 April yearly.

The pagoda board of trustees and local authorities managed construction of lodges to accommodate pilgrims from four corners of the nation with more than 300 rooms during their visit to the pagoda. In addition, some 350 shops were allowed to sell products at the festival, according to the Pagoda Board of Trustees. — Maung Maung (Minbu)/TTA

## Illegal goods worth K378M seized nationwide

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, authorities continue to take effective legal action against illegal trade.

Inspection teams led by the Customs Department seized industrial goods worth K16.8 million on 1 February and a Chenglong truck worth K40 million at the permanent checkpoint in Mayanchaung.

Similarly, a KIA Light Truck carrying motorcycle spare parts and consumer goods worth K107.87 million was intercepted in Hpa-an, bringing the total seizure to K127.87 million.

Illegal timber of teak and other woods weighing 5.139 tonnes valued at K1.73 million was confiscated in Toungoo and Pyay districts of Bago Region.

In Mandalay Region, inspections at Kywetetson checkpoint, Yadanapon Bridge

checkpoint and along the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway led to the seizure of consumer goods, industrial materials, motorcycle spare parts and vehicles worth some K192.24 million, including seizures of a Mitsubishi Fuso Truck worth K30 million, a Foton truck worth K30 million, nine parts of motorbikes worth K51.4 million and an Ankai Bus worth K70 million.



Officials inspect seized timber in Bago Region.

On 1 February, a total of 16 cases involving illegal goods worth approximately K378.64 million were recorded. The Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee stressed that such smuggling undermines fair market competition and causes significant tax losses for the State. Authorities pledged to intensify efforts to curb illegal trade. — MNA/KZL

## Registration for July exam extends until February first week

FOR the exam in July 2025, the duration of registration will be extended until first week of February, JLPT organizing committee, Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni (MAJA) announced.

Previously, the registration period was set from 27 January to the end of the month, but now will be extended,

at 4 pm from 1 to 4 February, for training schools which want to register after online results of December exam were released.

Training schools which already made registration don't need to do again, it said. Login ID and registration status will be sent to email address, which was filled in registration form, by 4:00 pm on 7 February.

Further announcement will be released for application period and payment methods, it said. Detailed information on previous registering is available at <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/15iU-JXnmEx>, said MAJA. — MT/ZS



MAJA Education Centre.



# NATIONAL

## 2024 Myanmar Film Academy Award ceremony to include fashion awards



Judging panel for the 2025 Myanmar Academy Fashion Awards.

THE 2024 Myanmar Film Academy Awards will include the Myanmar Academy Fashion Awards, according to U Aye Kyu Lay, Vice Chairman of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization.

These fashion awards will be given in four categories: Best Dressed Male Grand Award, Best Dressed Female Grand Award, Best Dressed Male and Best Dressed Female. The winners will be selected from the artistes attending the ceremony, with a total of four recipients chosen.

“These awards were also presented last year. The selection will be led by Academy Swe Zin Htaik and the panel consists of five members including photographers and designers,” U Aye Kyu Lay stated.

The judging panel for the Myanmar Academy Fashion Awards includes Academy Swe Zin Htaik, John Lwin (Star and Model International), designer Pyi Soe Aung, makeup artist Khin San Win and photographer Ko Naing (R2). The awards will be determined based on scores from the judging panel with results announced at exactly 7 pm. Artistes attending the event are required to arrive by 6:30 pm.

The 2024 Myanmar Film Academy Awards will take place in Nay Pyi Taw on 9 February 2025. The Academy Awards selection panel has assessed 49 films and shortlisted 18 finalists for the final round. Reportedly, a total of 12 awards will be presented at the event. — ASH/KZL

## Nine different parameters functional at 41 points in Mandalay Region

WATER quality is monitored monthly at 41 designated measuring points in Mandalay Region using nine different parameters, said Director U Kyaw Aung Moe from the Environmental Conservation Department (Mandalay Region).

Reportedly, such water quality measurements include not only the water quality of rivers and creeks but also the water quality of underground water sources, incorporating both surface water and groundwater quality in the assessment.

U Kyaw Aung Moe stated, “Water quality measurements are conducted at 10 locations in Mandalay City, as well as in other designated areas. In Mandalay Region, water quality is assessed using sample water taken from the Ayeyawady River and its tributaries in addition to Dokhtawady River and Kandawgyi Lake. According to current measurements, the water quality in Mandalay Region remains at normal levels. However, due to climate change, water pollution tends to be highest during the rainy season and decreases during the dry season”.

Regarding the water quality in Man-



Officials are conducting measurement of water quality.

dalay Region, it has been observed that creeks such as Thinzagya Creek and Shwetachaung Creek, which are affected by wastewater inflow, tend to have lower water quality and higher levels of pollution. However, the water quality remains normal in areas like Taungthaman Lake,

Kandawgyi Lake, the Ayeyawady River, and the Dokhtawady River.

The water quality monitoring processes are conducted 41 times per month from the 1st to the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month and over 480 times per year. — ASH/TTA

## National Library (Yangon) to host precursor event for Children’s Day

ON 8 February, the National Library (Yangon) in Pabedan Township, Yangon Region, will hold a children’s library activity programme and a photo exhibition in celebration of Children’s Day, which is observed on 13 February.

This event will be jointly organized by the National Library (Yangon) and the National University of Arts and Culture (Yangon), with the attendance of students from basic education schools in Pabedan Township.

Dr Kay Thi Aye, Director of the National Library (Yangon), shared, “As an introduction to Children’s Day on 13 February, we will organize various activities, including a photo exhibi-



This photo shows a poster of Children’s Day.

tion, storytelling sessions, painting activities, and storytelling and picture contests for children, with prizes awarded to the winners. Additionally, games will be arranged to bring joy to the children”. — ASH/TH

## Pyay Shwesandaw to host Htamane festival and Sesbania stalk fire offering

THE annual Htamane-making competition and Sesbania stalk fire offering ceremony will be held at the Shwesandaw Pagoda in Pyay, Bago Region, according to the Pagoda’s Board of Trustees.

The Htamane-making competition will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the Sesbania stalk fire offering ceremony will be on the 101<sup>st</sup>. On the full moon of Tabod-

we, alms will be dedicated to the Buddha, and Satuditha Htamane will be provided to devotees who come from near and far at the Pagoda’s Kyapyan Dhamma Hall.

“The 23<sup>rd</sup> Htamane-making competition and the 101<sup>st</sup> Sesbania stalk fire offering ceremony will take place on 11 and 12 February. The Htamane-making

competition will be held at the Mahabodhi Terrace of the Pagoda at 7 am on 11 February. At dawn on 12 February (the full moon day), the 101<sup>st</sup> Sesbania stalk fire offering ceremony — a unique traditional ritual that occurs on the morning of the full moon day of Tabodwe in the Myanmar calendar and is found only in Pyay Township – will take place, with

pilgrims each bringing their share of Sesbania stalks,” said a member of the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

Pilgrims offering fire to the Buddha using aromatic woods for warmth in the winter season will be provided with Htamane. They believe that the Sesbania stalk fire offering practice grants them great wisdom. — ASH/MKKS



## Shwemawdaw Pagoda welcomes 400,000 pilgrims, 4,700 international visitors in 2024



Pilgrims and travellers visit Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago.

**I**N 2024, approximately 400,000 domestic pilgrims and over 4,700 international travellers visited Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago, according to U Shwe Thein, an alternate member of the pagoda's board of trustees.

Between January and December 2024, more than 390,000 domestic pilgrims and 4,750 international visitors came from various regions to pay homage to the pagoda.

"Throughout the year, Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago attracts many pilgrims from near and far. In particular, a large number of day-trip pilgrims from Yangon visit regularly. Most of them come on weekends. These visitors often extend their pilgrimage to other sacred sites such as Shwethalyaung

Reclining Buddha Image, Maha Ceti, and Hinthagon Pagoda. Over the course of the year, nearly 400,000 domestic pilgrims and more than 4,700 international travellers from countries such as Thailand, China, and Cambodia visited Shwemawdaw Pagoda," said U Shwe

Thein.

The annual Buddha Pujaniya Festival of the revered Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago is traditionally held for ten days, from the 10<sup>th</sup> waxing to the 4<sup>th</sup> waning of Tagu. The festival features religious merit-making activities, com-

mercial trade fairs, and entertainment programmes, creating a lively and festive atmosphere. Additionally, on the full moon day of Tagu, 500 members of the Sangha are offered alms, including rice and other donations, by generous devotees. — ASH/KNN

## Rice exports earned US\$1.33 bln last year

RICE and broken rice export to nearly 50 destinations last year earned US\$1,331.899 million, said the Myanmar Rice Federation in a statement.

A total of 103 companies exported rice and broken rice totalling 2,767,414 tonnes to 49 trade partner countries, earning \$1,331.899 million of incomes.

MRF from the aspect of the private sector has worked on rice and broken rice export following the government's policy and directives and at the same

time, it has encouraged new export companies by sharing knowledge and conducting training on rice quality, quantity and the process of the international rice market, it said.

New exporters have engaged in rice and broken rice export sector in a systematic approach, it said. MRF membership expanded to 1,196 at the end of December 2024, up from 980 at the end of December 2023, it stated.

With the membership growth and

their trust and cooperation, MRF will make sure better service, more efficient sharing of information and stronger cooperation, it added.

Including farmer groups, agricultural cooperative societies and rice millers, MRF has invited exporters who are keen to cooperate in the rice and broken rice export sector in 2025 and would provide them market links and help in the operation, it said. — Htet Oo Maung/ZS



Yams produced in Myanmar.

## Yam export goes to China as well as India and Thailand

YAM has been exported to China which is major destination as well as India and Thailand.

"China is the major buyer and we export to India and Thailand as well. Thailand buys from me and other traders. But India buys from me only," said Ko Salai from Cherrymyay yam trading.

The culture of yam consumption has developed recently in domestic market and it has been also used at hotels and restaurants, so the price is likely to be better gradually, he said.

"Compared to other foods which are preserved, organic yam food products are healthier and can reduce cholesterol in blood. That is why, the consumption of yam has begun widespread now," he added. — Thit Taw/ZS

Rice bags are loaded at the port.





# OPINION

## Resolve political issues through political ways

**S**INCE taking office, the current government has been fulfilling the responsibilities of the State intending to end armed conflicts within the country, making strenuous efforts to achieve lasting peace in line with the 2008 Constitution and the agreements outlined in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA).

The government designated 2022 as the 'Year of Peace' and invited ethnic armed organization leaders to engage in open, unrestricted discussions without preconditions. Since its establishment, the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation

Committee has initiated 114 peace negotiations—seven with NCA signatory groups, six with non-signatory groups, 21 with political parties, and 10 with other peace advocacy organizations. These negotiations have led to agreements facilitating discussions on certain issues in upcoming Hlutaw sessions, with further negotiations aimed at reaching additional agreements.

This is the most effective way to address the issues caused by politics. As a result, all subsequent actions will safeguard the lives and property of the people, while saving valuable time for the nation in its journey toward building a Union founded on democracy and federalism. Only when Myanmar embraces democracy and federalism will the State and its people witness a bright future filled with peace, prosperity, and progress.

On 26 September 2024, in response to the significant loss of human resources, infrastructure, and the lives and property of innocent people, an invitation was extended to resolve the political issue through peaceful means. It was emphasized that only by ending armed conflicts in various regions could a free and fair election be held.

Furthermore, it was affirmed that efforts to implement the planned processes for achieving peace through the cessation of armed conflicts would continue without interruption. Since political

solutions can only be achieved through dialogue at the negotiating table, it was reiterated that peace negotiations are always welcomed and encouraged with open hearts. Now is the time for all who aspire to embrace the peace to join hands in talking about the peace process.

In fact, only residents and local terrorists can either maintain stability and development or disrupt peace and delay progress. Nation builders spent years constructing essential infrastructure for the benefit of future generations. Had these structures and the peace-building efforts not been destroyed, the country would have experienced significant development. Currently, the government is collaborating with peace-seeking residents to restore stability and put an end to these acts of terror.

This is the most effective way to address the issues caused by politics. As a result, all subsequent actions will safeguard the lives and property of the people, while saving valuable time for the nation in its journey toward building a Union founded on democracy and federalism. Only when Myanmar embraces democracy and federalism will the State and its people witness a bright future filled with peace, prosperity, and progress.

**L**OOKING at the current situation in the country, it can be seen that due to the actions of certain ethnic armed organizations and terrorist groups, local communities in some areas are deprived of security and peace, facing numerous hardships and suffering.

The various hardships and suffering faced by local ethnic people are not theirs alone but are the shared struggles of all the people living together in the Union, as national brethren born on the same land. Just as in a family, when one sibling faces hardship, the other siblings also feel sorrow and distress, sharing the burden of grief and pain.

### Regretful emotion

Due to various domestic and international influences, as well as the malicious and destructive schemes originating from abroad, we should recognize the fact that the devastating situations affecting both sides often involve our fellow citizens. Even now, due to misunderstandings, misguided beliefs, and incitement, Myanmar citizens have been engaging in conflicts, killing, and destruction among themselves. As a result, hundreds of thousands of Myanmar citizens have died, gone missing, suffered injuries, or endured immense hardship. This is a deeply saddening reality for all of us as fellow citizens and members of the same national family.

Since Myanmar gained independence in 1948 until the present day, it is possible to estimate the number of people across the country who have lost their

lives or been injured due to various armed conflicts. These conflicts have resulted in the loss of countless lives and the destruction of countless bodies of the nation's citizens. The lives of families affected, as well as significant human resources, have been lost, which constitutes a great loss to the nation. This is a tragedy that deeply saddens all citizens. Therefore, it is time to cease all armed conflicts.

### Initiate unity

Due to internal and external influences, actions that lack careful consideration and harm the nation and its

people, along with armed conflicts, have caused significant damage and losses. A large majority of

those affected are young individuals between the ages of 18 and 30. We would like to draw the public's attention to this issue. Therefore, it is essential to reflect deeply on activities that incite conflict, create divisions, or promote hatred among one another. Instead, we should cultivate empathy, compassion, and unity

among all national brethren, ensuring the youth are not wasted or lost to such conflicts. Let us nurture and develop a generation of strong, capable young people who contribute to building a modern, prosperous, and peaceful Union with unity and harmony.

In recent periods, various insurgent groups have carried out violent attacks, resulting in significant damage to towns and villages. Armed terrorists residing within states and regions are engaging in actions that destroy their communities. The residents of these regions must take responsibility for the development and stability of their areas. It is essential for the local population to proactively prevent and safeguard against actions that aim to disrupt development and undermine peace and stability in their regions. The terror attacks carried out by local ethnic groups demonstrate a lack of national spirit and misguided ideologies. These actions reflect political immaturity and betrayal of their birthplace and people.

### Lesser development

To establish a peaceful and prosperous nation, the unity and solidarity of national brethren are as vital as life itself during this critical time for the nation. It is essential to strive for everlasting durable peace among ethnic nationalities and to work collectively for the nation's benefit with the unified strength of all ethnic people. Due to the prolonged armed conflicts

over many years, countless lives and resources have been lost, and the nation has significantly lagged compared to neighbouring countries. This reality must be recognized. If divisions and conflicts persist among national brethren, further losses and destruction will occur among the ethnic communities. The nation's development will fall even further behind than it already has.

The main objective is to restore durable peace for the Union. Engaging in political dialogue and advancing a multiparty democratic system are essential steps toward achieving peace in the Union. It is necessary to reduce and eliminate differences in political views, ideologies, ethnic matters, religious beliefs, and racial issues. Everyone must strive to resolve these differences peacefully through democratic methods and parliamentary procedures. When considering peace, political dialogue is not the only approach. Solutions can also be found through democratic means. Only then can political issues be resolved through political methods. (Verse 1)

### Cycle of conflicts

It has been over 70 years since armed conflicts began, and fostering peace for Myanmar can only succeed through political means, grounded in a spirit of unity and mutual understanding among national brethren. This requires meeting, discussing, and negotiating to find solutions. Peace demands sincerity. However, if political solutions are merely proclaimed as a facade, while strategies shift opportunistically and actions lack honesty, the journey toward peace will not only remain out of reach but will also perpetuate the cycle of conflict.

## Hailing the 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Union Day 2025:

# Let's strive to build a peaceful and prosperous Union through the Union spirit

By Ko Yin Maung

In such a scenario, ethnic communities will suffer even more, and the nation will continue to decline further.

The government is steadily advancing following the people's aspirations, and adhering to a genuine and disciplined multiparty democratic system. To strengthen this authentic and disciplined multiparty democracy and to establish a Union based on democratic and federal principles, the government is tirelessly and vigorously carrying out initiatives. These efforts are being made in the interest of the nation and its ethnic peoples. In this regard, preparations are underway to organize free and fair general elections under a multiparty democratic system.

The essential requirement for the nation's development and the building of a democratic State is the intellectual advancement and rational thinking of all its people. It is being nurtured to enable citizens to safeguard and manage the nation's interests through their wisdom and knowledge.

### Effective initiatives

For regional development, it is essential to collaborate on inclusive and sustainable development centred around the people in sectors such as agriculture, livestock, education, health, communications, and others. Efforts must be made to establish economic frameworks that enable fair and equitable use of natural resources while ensuring their long-term preservation. The government is actively working to advance agriculture and livestock industries to achieve food security. Regional development can only be effectively secured when residents work hand in hand with the government. This collective effort is vital for the progress and prosperity of one's state, region, and nation.

Foreign instigation, support, ideologies, beliefs, and misunderstandings that distort perceptions should not be allowed to exploit the interests of the Union and its people, leading to terror acts through armed conflicts. If such actions persist, resulting in divisions and destruction among the people of Myanmar, we must realize that it will threaten the fu-

ture of our regions and our people. To ensure a peaceful, prosperous, and developed Union and region, the spirit and strength of all national brethren living within these areas are crucial. As the strength of the nation lies within, the strength of regions and states also depends on the collective unity and effort of all ethnic citizens residing within them.

### Unified strength

The Panglong Agreement, which served as the foundation for Myanmar's independence, stands as strong evidence of unity and solidarity. It is a result of the collective strength and support of all national brethren working together. The invaluable legacy of unity and solidarity established firmly by our national leaders and forefathers must be preserved and safeguarded without fail. It is the responsibility of all ethnic people in the present era to ensure this. We must continue to build upon the strength of unity among the people to initiate non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty, through the united strength of the entire people.

### Union spirit

For the enduring stability and sustainability of the Union, we must prioritize the Our Three Main National Causes and uphold a spirit of patriotism among ethnic communities, a spirit of unity and solidarity among ethnic groups, and a spirit of Union. With these principles, we must protect and safeguard the nation and the people.

We must protect, nurture, and develop valuable human resources to ensure the future generations of the nation do not face destruction. The ethnic people in states and regions must also come together and collaborate in the reconstruction process with correct thinking, ideas, and concepts, working with a spirit of unity so that the entire Union can achieve peace and prosperity, progressing in all aspects. This is a call to action and encouragement to carry out these efforts with the spirit of the Union.

*Translated.*



To establish a peaceful and prosperous nation, the unity and solidarity of national brethren are as vital as life itself during this critical time for the nation.  
**ILLUSTRATION: GNLM**



# SCI/TECH WORLD

## Robots add futuristic twist to China's Spring Festival

*This year's Chinese Spring Festival features AI and robots, including humanoid dancers and tech-driven temple fairs. Over 70 AI applications showcase the fusion of tradition and innovation during celebrations.*

THE Chinese Spring Festival is traditionally celebrated with dumplings, firecrackers and red paper-cut decorations. This year, however, a new element is joining the festivities: robots.

A group of humanoid robots performing a dance routine has become the most talked-about performance at this year's Spring Festival Gala, broadcast on Chinese New Year's Eve. These black-painted life-size robots, adorned with colorful sleeveless jackets, danced alongside 16 human performers in Yangko, a traditional folk dance renowned for its sweeping steps and twirling handkerchiefs.

Behind their precise mechanical arm movements is the integration of advanced AI algo-



People enjoy a performance made by robots at a New Year science and technology temple fair in Haidian District of Beijing, capital of China, 30 January 2025. Various events were held across China to celebrate the Spring Festival. **PHOTO: CHEN XIAOGEN/XINHUA**

rithms and smart sensors.

In addition to the televised event, the first-ever tech-driven temple fair, held in Beijing's Haidian District, also combined cultural heritage with cutting-edge technology.

A robot greeting visitors with Chinese New Year blessings, a humanoid robot playing Peking Opera tunes, and the first AI display of the Chinese mythological character Lord Rabbit are all part of the ongoing 2025 Haidian Spring Festival-Themed Sci-Tech Temple Fair. Over 70 AI application scenarios from over 50 innovative companies are on display, showcasing the integration of AI technology with traditional Spring Festival customs and elements. — Xinhua

## UK's first AI classroom without teachers sparks debate



David Game College in London is experimenting with AI-driven education, using AI systems for personalized learning. Experts debate its impact on teaching, with concerns about unequal access and long-term effectiveness. **PHOTO: AFP**

BRITAIN'S first teacherless AI classroom may be an "outlier", but it underlines the potential benefits and risks of a UK government drive to rollout artificial intelligence in education, experts say.

David Game College in London is experimenting with AI-driven education, allowing

students to learn core subjects for their GCSE exams using artificial intelligence. This trial, now six months in, involves AI systems that monitor students' responses to course materials and provide feedback to improve personalized learning.

Co-principal John Dalton believes AI will transform ed-

ucation, enhancing teachers' roles rather than replacing them. At the college, "learning coaches" guide students through the AI systems and mentor them in skills like debating and financial literacy, though these coaches may not be experts in the subject matter. — AFP

## 1 dead amid widespread flooding in northeast Australia

ONE person has died and residents of several suburbs have been told to evacuate within hours amid widespread flooding in Australia's northeast.

Authorities in the state of Queensland said one person died after a State Emergency Service (SES) boat capsized while assisting members of the public in Ingham, about 100 kilometres north of Townsville on Sunday.

Authorities said that there were six people, including SES members, on the boat when it

capsized. Five people were recovered but a member of the public could not be saved from the floodwaters.

Authorities advised residents of six suburbs in Townsville, a city of about 200,000 people on Australia's northeast coast, to evacuate.

"Your safety is more important than anything else and we're asking you to leave by midday if you're in one of those affected areas," Queensland Premier David Crisafulli said. — Xinhua

## Calls for UK govt to allow bird flu vaccines for poultry

SEVERAL farming organizations on Friday urged the UK government to allow vaccinations for poultry against bird flu amid an outbreak of the highly contagious disease in the country.

To date 27 farms have had confirmed cases of bird flu, most being in England and with one outbreak discovered in Scotland.

On Friday, affected poultry were discovered on a commercial property in Norfolk, eastern England, and the birds were being destroyed.

So far, health authorities have only detected one rare case of bird flu in a human during the latest outbreak, and say "the risk to the general public's health is very low". — AFP



## Life experiences of nonagenarian “hibakusha” resonate on social media

*Fumiko Morita, a 95-year-old Nagasaki survivor, uses social media to advocate for nuclear disarmament. She shares her painful first-hand experience of losing her family to the 1945 bomb.*

FUMIKO Morita, a 95-year-old atomic bomb survivor from Nagasaki, uses social media to share her powerful anti-war message. At 16, Morita experienced the horrific effects of the atomic bomb on 9 August 1945, which claimed the lives of five family members. She was only 200 metres from the bomb’s hypocenter and witnessed the devastating aftermath, including the charred bodies

of her parents and younger siblings. After her family perished, Morita survived by walking through the wreckage and eventually cremating her loved ones. For years, she kept this trauma private.

At the age of 90, Morita began using X (formerly Twitter) to raise awareness about nuclear weapons and advocate for their abolition. Her online presence has grown signifi-

cantly, with 85,000 followers who value her firsthand accounts and candid views, especially regarding political figures. Morita harshly criticized former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s speeches on nuclear disarmament, believing they belittled the suffering of A-bomb survivors.

Now, Morita continues to speak out, using hashtags like #NuclearWeaponsAbolition



Photo taken on 11 December 2024, shows Fumiko Morita, who calls for the abolition of nuclear weapons on social media platform X, in Tokyo. PHOTO: KYODO

and #NuclearWeaponsProhibitionTreaty, and is preparing to release a book in June to fur-

ther educate the public about the lasting impacts of nuclear warfare. — Kyodo

## Pre-Grammys gala honouring the Grateful Dead focuses on fire relief

MUSIC world A-listers took the stage Friday to honour the Grateful Dead at an annual pre-Grammys benefit gala, which this year raised millions for musicians impacted by the recent wildfires that devastated Los Angeles.

The 34<sup>th</sup> annual MusiCares Person of the Year gala — which benefits the charitable wing of the Recording Academy, behind the Grammys — honoured the psychedelic jam band as it raised more than \$5 million in one evening.

The sum brings its total funds raised since the fires broke out in early January to more than \$9 million, organizers said.

The broader mission of MusiCares involves offering a parachute for artists and other workers in the precarious US music industry, providing assistance for physical and mental health, addiction recovery and human services including basic



Dead & Company was the marquee act to take the stage at the 2025 MusiCares pre-Grammy gala honoring the Grateful Dead. PHOTO: AFP

living expenses like rent.

“So many people who work in music have no safety net. They are living paycheck to paycheck, and they are incredibly vulnerable,” Theresa Wolters, MusiCare’s vice president of health and human services, told AFP in an interview prior to the gala. As of 28 January, she said the organization had received nearly 3,000 claims related to the Los Angeles fires — a number

that’s on top of the assistance requests MusiCares normally receives. She noted that the disastrous fires came on the heels of deadly hurricanes that hit southern and eastern regions of the United States last year, and also led to a surge in need.

Private forecaster AccuWeather has estimated the total damage and economic loss from the fires at between \$250 billion and \$275 billion. — AFP

## UK’s Catherine, princess of Wales, to launch early childhood project

BRITAIN’S Catherine, Princess of Wales, will this week unveil a major project in her campaign to highlight the importance of children’s early development.

Catherine, also known as Kate, set up her Centre for Early Childhood in 2021 and reportedly sees the campaign as her “life’s work”.

The princess, who is

married to heir to the throne Prince William, said people needed to get “much better at acting with compassion and empathy towards one another”. — AFP

## Is it Beyonce’s time? Music’s A-listers ready for the Grammys

MUSIC’S elite are congregating in Los Angeles for Sunday’s Grammy awards, and Beyonce’s name is on the tip of everyone’s tongue: will Recording Academy voters finally give the megastar her due?

She is the most decorated Grammy artist in history but Beyonce has infamously never won the coveted prize for Album of the Year — despite four previous nominations for her studio albums — and the 67<sup>th</sup> edition of the awards gala might finally put that paradox to bed.

But her conversation piece of an album “Cowboy Carter” faces stiff competition from work by perennial winners like Billie Ei-

lish and Taylor Swift, along with a buzzy class of pop hitmakers including Chappell Roan, Sabrina Carpenter and Charli XCX.

Despite the high-wattage star power, Grammy week — which is usually loaded up with industry parties and performances — has taken on a more somber tone than usual, as the entertainment capital reels in the aftermath of deadly wildfires that leveled entire neighborhoods just weeks ago.

Organizers decided the glitzy awards show should go on, with a newfound mission to raise aid funds and pay homage to impacted industry members along with first responders. — AFP



Beyonce has won the most Grammys of anyone in history, but can she finally take home the top prize that has eluded her? PHOTO: AFP/FILE



# ECON: WORLD

AIRLINE operators have hailed the Union Budget 2025-26, with the government putting an additional thrust on the ever-growing domestic civil aviation sector.

Inspired by the success of the previous regional connectivity scheme, a modified UDAN scheme will be launched to enhance regional connectivity to 120 new destinations and carry 4 crore passengers in the next 10 years.

The scheme will also support helipads and smaller airports in hilly, aspirational, and North East region districts.

Ajay Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, SpiceJet, said this is a forward-looking, middle-class-friendly budget that promises to boost spending, stimulate development, and set the stage for India's growth in the coming years.

## Budget 2025: Airlines welcome UDAN network expansion, aviation infra plans

*This initiative aims to boost domestic travel, including in underserved areas, and foster aviation infrastructure growth.*



India's 2025-26 budget focuses on enhancing regional aviation through a revamped UDAN scheme, introducing 120 new destinations, and increasing connectivity. **PHOTO: ANI/FILE**

"With the launch of a modified UDAN scheme that will introduce 120 new destinations and bring 4 crore additional passengers into the fold over the next decade, the aviation landscape in India is set for a transformative shift," Singh said.

UDAN has enabled 1.5 crore middle-class people to meet their aspirations for speedier travel. The scheme has connected 88 airports and operationalized 619 routes. The UDAN scheme, launched in April 2017, focuses on improving unserved air routes in underserved regions. India's aviation industry has experienced significant growth in the past decade, and the number of operational airports in the country has since doubled. The government aims to make India a global aviation hub by 2030. — ANI

## Cash-keen Taliban betting on Afghanistan's mines

THE Taliban government in Afghanistan is pushing to exploit the country's rich mineral resources, including jade, emeralds, rubies, gold, and lithium, to secure a crucial revenue stream.

Afghanistan's mineral wealth is estimated at around \$1 trillion, but decades of war have prevented large-scale exploitation. Since the Taliban's return to power in 2021, approximately 200 contracts worth billions of dollars have been signed, mostly

with local companies.

Despite these efforts, the country faces significant obstacles, including a lack of expertise, infrastructure, and knowledge in the mining sector. The Taliban has welcomed foreign investors, especially those with mining experience, to help develop the industry.

However, experts warn of environmental damage and the risks associated with poorly regulated extraction practices. In recent years, the production

of coal, talc, and chromite has sharply increased, while the government is also focused on the exploration of resources like lithium, which may see rising global demand. Although the World Bank reported a 6.9 per cent growth in mining, many contracts have yet to begin operations. The government hopes the mining sector will contribute to the economy, but challenges remain as they work to attract investment and develop the necessary expertise. — AFP



Despite challenges like lack of expertise and infrastructure, the mining sector's growth is vital for economic recovery. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Thailand's economy slows in December despite growth in consumption, tourism



Staff members check the cable of the solar floating project in Rayong, Thailand, 11 April 2022. **PHOTO: WANG TENG/XINHUA/FILE**

THAILAND'S economy slowed in December 2024 on a monthly basis due to declines in exports and manufacturing, despite a slight growth in private consumption and tourism revenue, the country's central bank said on Friday.

The value of merchandise exports, the Southeast Asian country's key driver of economic growth, expanded 8.4 per cent year-on-year last month, slowing from a 9.1 per cent rise in November, according to the Bank of Thailand (BOT).

Private consumption saw a slight uptick across most categories, except for non-durable

goods, which slowed following previous gains supported by the government's cash handout program, the central bank said in a statement.

Private investment remained steady, while tourism revenue saw an increase, driven by a higher proportion of long-haul tourists, said BOT Assistant Governor Chayawadee Chai-Anant.

Public spending continued to grow in both current and capital expenditures, driven by investment by state enterprises, particularly in infrastructure projects, Chayawadee told a news conference. — Xinhua



# China railways carry more than 200 mln in Spring Festival rush

*Measures have been implemented to improve the overall travel experience for passengers, including improvements to both stations and trains.*

CHINA'S railways have transported over 200 million passengers since the 40-day Spring Festival travel rush kicked off on 14 January, China State Railway Group Co Ltd (China Railway) said Friday.

As of 30 January, the country's railways had transported a total of 206 million passengers, according to the China Railway. The transportation was safe, stable and orderly.

China's railways transported 22.95 million passengers during the

first three days of the Spring Festival holiday starting from 28 January, China Railway said.

Railway authorities across various regions have increased capacity on popular travel routes, enhanced station and train services, and implemented measures to provide passengers with a better travel experience, according to China Railway.

The country's total railway operating mileage has exceeded 160,000 km, with the high-speed railway surpassing 46,000



km, China Railway said in early December.

The railway network covers 99 per cent of the Chinese cities with a population of over 200,000 each, and the high-speed railway network covers 97 per cent of cities with a population of over 500,000, it said. — Xinhua

Passengers line up to board their trains at the Wuchang Railway Station in Wuhan, Central China's Hubei province, 25 January 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

# India's exports rise to record high of US\$778.21 billion in FY 2023-24



The country's exports have seen a historic rise by reaching US\$778.21 billion in Fiscal Year 2023-24 (April to March). PHOTO: ANI

THE Indian government on Saturday said the country's exports have seen a historic rise by reaching US\$778.21 billion in Fiscal Year 2023-24 (April to March).

According to the federal ministry of commerce and industry, this marks a 67 per cent increase from \$466.22 billion in FY 2013-14.

The ministry said key sectors that played

a vital role in this surge include electronics, pharmaceuticals, engineering goods, iron ore, and textiles.

"The momentum has continued into FY 2024-25, with cumulative exports during April-December 2024 estimated at \$602.64 billion, a 6.03 per cent increase from \$568.36 billion in the same period of 2023," the ministry said. — Xinhua

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ASIAN ACE VOY.NO. (502W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ASIAN ACE VOY.NO. (502W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-2-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD.**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC SHUNDE VOY.NO. (2503N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC SHUNDE VOY.NO. (2503N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-2-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY.NO. (179N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ALS SUMIRE VOY.NO. (179N/S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-2-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (143N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (143N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-2-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**



# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

## Canada, Mexico, China respond to US tariffs

*The tariffs are part of Trump's broader protectionist agenda aimed at reducing trade imbalances and supporting domestic industries.*



Cars waiting to be exported from a port in Lianyungang in east China's Jiangsu province. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

THE United States' three largest trading partners have responded to tariffs imposed by the Trump administration.

US President Donald Trump signed an executive order on Saturday to impose a 10-per-cent tariff on goods im-

ported from China. The latest US trade protectionist measure has drawn widespread opposition both domestically and internationally.

The White House said the 10-per-cent tariff is on all imports from China on top of existing tariffs. Trump says the tariffs dovetail with his embrace of protectionist measures.

Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning has said that China always believes that there is no winner in a trade war or tariff war; and remains steadfast in safeguarding its national interests. Spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce He Yadong said China's position on the tariff issue is consistent. Tariff measures are not conducive to the interests of either China or the United States, nor to the rest of the world, He said. According to the executive order, the United States also imposed a 25-per-cent tariff on goods from Mexico and Canada. For energy products from Canada, the administration imposed a 10-per-cent tariff. — Xinhua

## Japan successfully launches flagship H3 rocket for more precise GPS

JAPAN on Sunday successfully launched a flagship H3 rocket and put into orbit a quasi-zenith satellite, aiming to improve the accuracy of global positioning data for various applications.

The No 5 H3 rocket marked its fourth consecutive successful liftoff following a failed debut in 2023, carrying the No 6 Michibiki satellite to enhance positioning accuracy by operating alongside previously launched satellites, reducing errors to just a few centimeters.

The system will operate with seven Michibiki satellites by fiscal 2026, and the development of an additional four satellites for backup will begin in fiscal 2025.

Currently, Michibiki satellites No 1 through 4 are in operation, with the latest No 6 becoming the fifth satellite in the series. The geostationary orbit is highly contested among nations, leading the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency to prioritize the launch of the No 6 satellite before the No 5 to secure



Japan's H3 rocket No 5 lifts off from the Tanegashima Space Centre in Minamitane in Kagoshima Prefecture, southwestern Japan, on 2 February 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

its orbital position.

The H3, a large two-stage liquid-fueled rocket, lifted off at around 5:30 pm

from the Tanegashima Space Centre in Kagoshima Prefecture, southwestern Japan. — Kyodo

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Netanyahu heads to US for pivotal Trump talks

ISRAEL'S Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu left Sunday for the United States where he will become the first foreign leader to meet Donald Trump since the US president returned to office.

His visit comes as a fragile truce holds between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, and between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon. Both militant groups are backed by Iran.

Before boarding his flight, Netanyahu said the pair would discuss "victory over Hamas, achieving the release of all our hostages and dealing with the Iranian terror axis".

During his first term, Trump declared Israel "never had a better friend in the White House", an attitude that appears to have endured. — AFP

### Rubio to make debut in Panama as Trump threatens to take canal

MARCO Rubio arrived in Panama Saturday on his debut trip abroad as US secretary of state, as he looks for how to follow up on President Donald Trump's extraordinary threat to seize the Panama Canal. Rubio's mission came as Trump imposed steep tariffs on Canada, Mexico and China — another step showing a far more aggressive US foreign policy.

Rubio will travel later to four other small Latin American countries for an agenda focused on migration, a highly unusual first trip for the top US diplomat, whose predecessors were more likely to start the job with language of cooperation with major allies. — AFP

### Former German president Horst Koehler dies at 81

FORMER German President Horst Koehler passed away at the age of 81 in the early hours of Saturday after an illness, according to the Office of the Federal President of Germany. Koehler, being German president from July 2004 to May 2010, unexpectedly resigned from the post following criticism of his comments concerning the overseas operations of Germany's armed forces.

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier expressed his condolences to Eva Luise Koehler on Saturday regarding her husband's death and appreciated Koehler's service and contributions to the country. — Xinhua



# SPORTS

## 9<sup>th</sup> Asian Winter Games torch relay set to begin on Monday

WITH less than a week out from the official opening of the 9<sup>th</sup> Asian Winter Games in Harbin, the torch relay of the games will officially commence in the “Ice City” on Monday.

Li Na, head of the Torchbearer and Volunteer Management Team of the Torch Relay Command Center, said that the relay will last for one day, covering a total route of approximately 11 kilometres and consist of a launch ceremony, a closing ceremony, and community performances along the route.

“The selection of torchbearers was conducted with an emphasis on inclusiveness, rep-

resentation, and fairness, with participants from the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), the Chinese Olympic Committee, the AWG organizing committee, and various cities across Heilongjiang Province, as well as representatives from the event’s sponsor enterprises,” Li said, adding that a total of 120 torchbearers will participate in the event. The torch relay route, which passes through multiple landmarks in Harbin, has been designed to meet the requirements of being simple, safe, and spectacular while also showcasing the natural landscapes, cultural heritage, and urban charm of the host city. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 20 January 2025 shows the flame lighting ceremony for the 9<sup>th</sup> Asian Winter Games at the Sun Island Scenic Area in Harbin, northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

## MIU crown mid-season champions in MFF Futsal League 1



MIU and MH Dream Team in action during the match.

**PHOTO: MFF**

MIU FC secured the mid-season champion with the 2024-2025 MFF Futsal League 1 reaching its mid-season climax yesterday at the MFF Futsal Stadium in Thuwunna, Yangon.

The final standings were determined after Fixture 9, with MIU and MH Dream Team closely contesting the top position. Before the final match, MIU held a narrow two-point lead over MH Dream Team. With both teams featuring foreign players and national-level athletes, the match turned into

a high-intensity showdown.

MH Dream Team struck first in the second minute through Sarid, but MIU equalized in the 19<sup>th</sup> minute. The first half ended in a 1-1 draw. In the second half, MIU gained momentum with Min Khant scoring in the 28<sup>th</sup> minute, followed by Ko Ko Lwin in the 38<sup>th</sup> minute. Although Nyein Min Soe pulled one back for MH Dream Team in the 39<sup>th</sup> minute but they failed to find another goal and suffered their first defeat of the season.

In other matches, Futsal Chit Thu defeated Generations 3-1, YRG overcame YCDC Marga 3-1, M2K and SGF drew 3-3 while VUC and Winner Soccer played out a 2-2 draw.

At the end of the first half of the season, MIU led the table with 25 points, followed by MH Dream Team with 20 points. YRG had 18 points, Generations 14, M2K 12, VUC 11, YCDC Marga eight, Futsal Chit Thu seven, Winner Soccer six, and SGF four points each. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

## Ayeyawady United’s win boosts survival hope in MNL

THE 2024-2025 Myanmar National League (MNL) Fixture 18 continued on 2 February at Thuwunna Stadium, where Ayeyawady United claimed a crucial 4-2 victory over Dagon Port, improving their chances of avoiding relegation.

With this win, Ayeyawady United strengthened their survival hopes, now sitting seven points ahead of Rakhine United in 11<sup>th</sup> place, with four matches remaining. Meanwhile, Dagon Port is now at risk of relegation as they must perform flawlessly in their remaining fixtures.

Both teams applied their key players and adopted an attacking style, leading to an exciting contest with multiple goals. Dagon Port took an early lead in the 30<sup>th</sup> minute through Kaung Myat Kyaw but Ayeyawady United’s Nyi Nyi Aung struck twice in the 32<sup>nd</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> minutes, putting his team ahead 2-1 at halftime. Dagon



Ayeyawady United and Dagon Port battle for victory in the intense MNL match at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre. **PHOTO:MNL**

Port’s striker Mitchell equalized early in the second half to make it 2-2.

However, Chan Nyein restored Ayeyawady United’s lead in the 66<sup>th</sup> minute, and Dagon Port suffered a setback when midfielder Yae Win Hlaing was sent off with the second yellow card in the 83<sup>rd</sup> minute. Aung Pyae Phyo sealed the win with Ayeyawady’s fourth goal in the 90+1<sup>st</sup> minute. Nyi Nyi Aung was named the match’s best player.

Following this match, Dagon Port has 15 points, while Ayeyawady United now has 14 points.

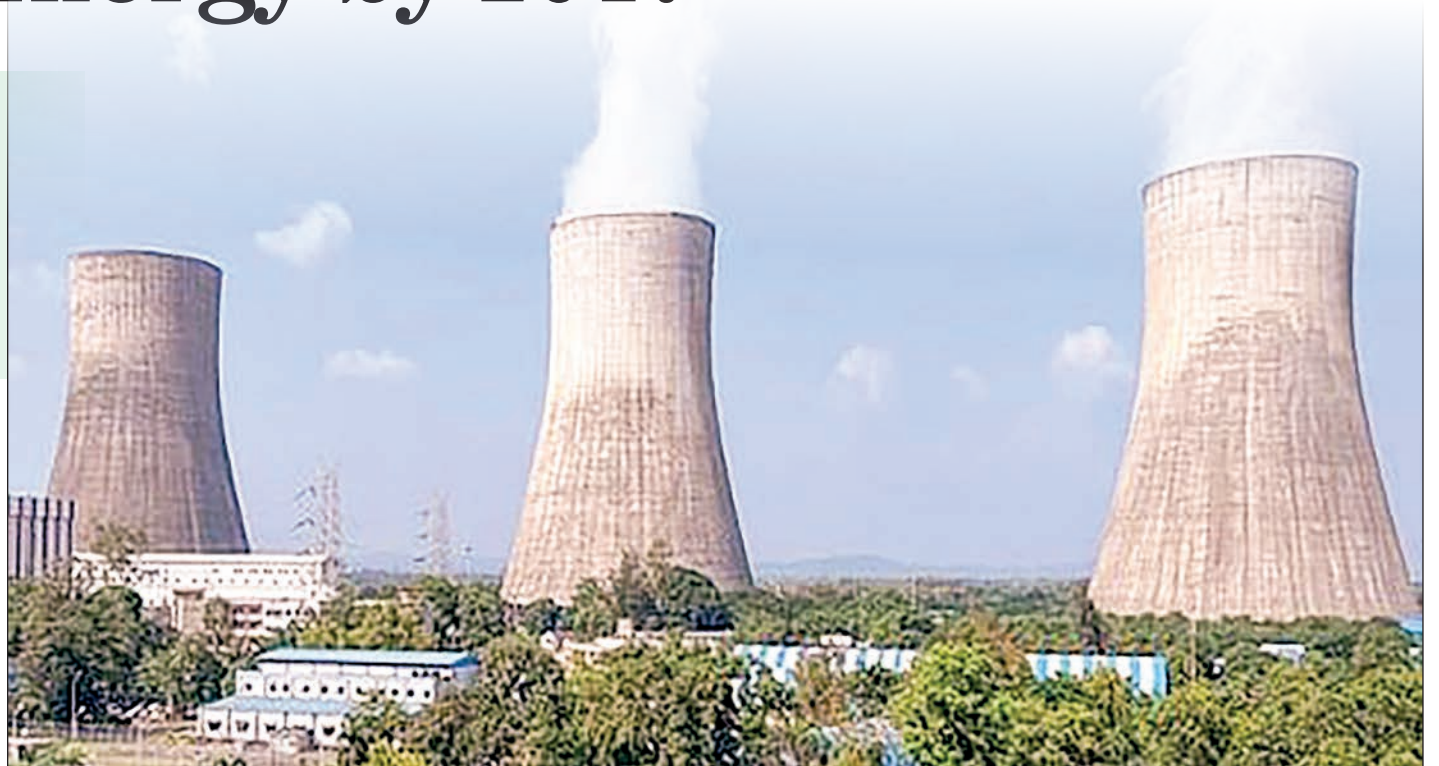
Fixture 18 concludes today with Maha United facing Yadanabon at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre and Thitsar Arman taking on Hanthawady United at Yangon United Sports Complex. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL





# India sets ambitious goal of 100 GW Nuclear Energy by 2047

*The government plans to amend laws to encourage private sector involvement, focusing on Small Modular Reactors to drive clean energy transition.*



Budget 2025: India sets ambitious goal of 100 GW Nuclear Energy by 2047. PHOTO: ANI

**I**N a major step towards clean energy transition, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a Nuclear Energy Mission during the presentation of the Union Budget 2025.

The mission aims to develop at least 100 gigawatts (GW) of nuclear energy by 2047, aligning with India's vision of becoming a developed nation under the "Viksit Bharat" initiative.

FM in her budget speech said "Nuclear Energy Mission for Vikasit Bharat Development of at least 100 gigawatt of nuclear energy by 2047 is essential for our energy transition efforts".

To achieve this ambitious goal, the government plans to amend key laws, including the Atomic Energy Act and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, to enable greater participation from the private sector.

Currently, nuclear energy produc-

tion in India is largely controlled by government-run entities. By allowing private sector involvement, the government hopes to accelerate the development of nuclear power projects and ensure a steady increase in clean energy generation.

As part of this initiative, FM also noted that a special focus will be placed

on Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)- a new generation of compact nuclear reactors that offer cost-effective and scalable energy solutions.

The move is expected to strengthen India's nuclear energy capabilities and contribute significantly to reducing the country's dependence on fossil fuels. The announcement marks a major shift

in India's energy policy, as nuclear power is seen as a reliable and clean alternative to coal and oil-based power generation.

With 100 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047, India aims to become a global leader in nuclear energy while ensuring a stable, low-carbon electricity supply for its growing economy. — ANI

## Castle in west Japan with 400-year history opened for overnight stays

A western Japan city has begun offering overnight stays at Fukuyama Castle, a site dating back 400 years, as regional economies seek ways to attract wealthy visitors amid the country's tourism boom.

The initiative, which received its first guests in October, offers visitors the chance to be lord of the castle for a day.

Plans start from 1.32 mil-

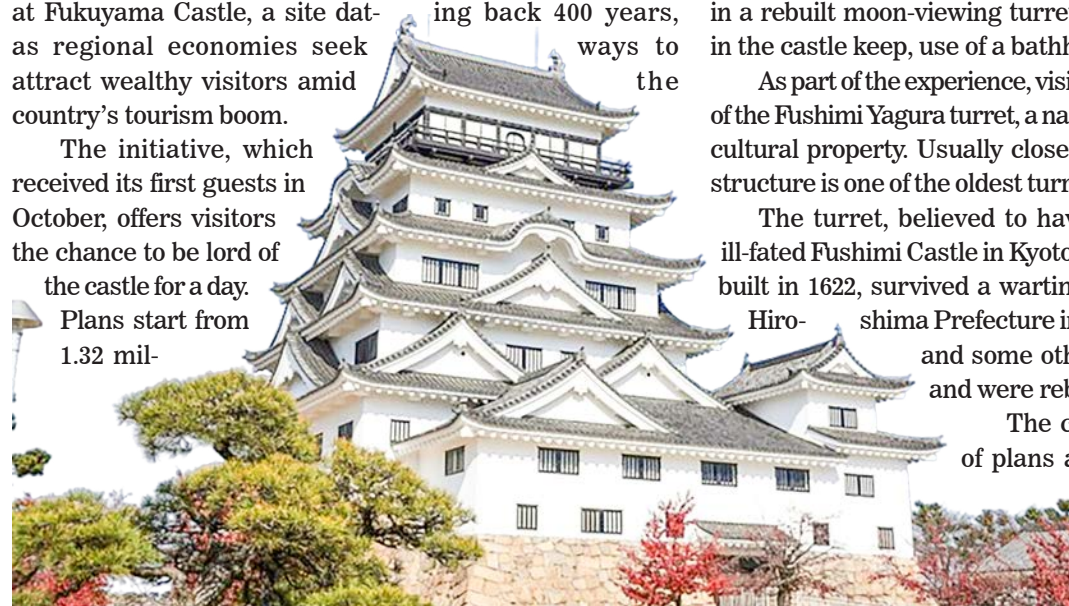


Photo shows the keep of Fukuyama Castle in Fukuyama, Hiroshima Prefecture, on 2 December 2024.

PHOTO: KYODO

lion yen (\$8,500) a night for two people and include a stay at in a rebuilt moon-viewing turret, a night lounge experience in the castle keep, use of a bathhouse and luxurious meals.

As part of the experience, visitors receive an exclusive tour of the Fushimi Yagura turret, a nationally designated important cultural property. Usually closed to the public, this wooden structure is one of the oldest turrets among Japanese castles.

The turret, believed to have been relocated from the ill-fated Fushimi Castle in Kyoto when Fukuyama Castle was built in 1622, survived a wartime bombing of Fukuyama in Hiroshima Prefecture in August 1945, while the keep and some other structures burned down and were rebuilt in 1966.

The castle joins a rising number of plans aimed at affluent travelers, including those at Marugame Castle in Kagawa Prefecture and Ozu Castle in Ehime Prefecture, both located in western Japan.

— Kyodo

### A TWO-STATE SOLUTION

Arab countries reject attempt to displace Palestinians from Gaza, West Bank

EGYPT, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the Palestinian Authority (PA), and the Arab League (AL) stressed in a joint statement on Saturday the rejection of any attempt to displace Palestinians from the Gaza Strip and the occupied West Bank.

The statement was issued after a meeting in Egypt's capital Cairo attended by top diplomats from Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the UAE, as well as high-ranking officials from the PA and AL. Participants of the meeting expressed their commitment to working with U.S. President Donald Trump's administration "to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East based on the two-state solution," according to the statement. — Xinhua