

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Belarus and Myanmar will continue strengthening strategic partnerships, affirms Belarusian President Mr Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing highlights benefits of strengthening Myanmar-Belarus collaboration across sectors



Belarusian President Mr Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko welcomes State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing with the salute of the Guard of Honour at the Presidential Palace on 7 March 2025.

State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who is currently in Belarus on his official State visit at the invitation of President Mr Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko of the Republic of Belarus, was welcomed by the President of the Republic of Belarus alongside the Guard of Honour at the Presidential Palace yesterday morning.

The ceremony was also attended by SAC Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Council Member General Nyo Saw, Union Ministers, the Myanmar Ambassador to

Belarus, deputy ministers and senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief. The Belarusian President was accompanied by senior officers from the Belarusian Cabinet.

The Senior General was welcomed by the Belarusian President with the salute of the Guard of Honour. Meanwhile, the military band played the national anthems of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Belarus.

The Senior General inspected the Guard of Honour. The Belarusian President and the Senior General introduced their entourage to each other.

The Senior General received the salute of the Guard of Honour. Then, both leaders held a specific meeting.

At the meeting, the President of the Republic of Belarus extended his greetings, saying that he believes that through this meeting and discussions, the cooperation between the two countries will continue to develop. The two countries will work to strengthen and expand the agreements and collaborations, and through this goodwill visit of the Senior General, they will make efforts to ensure the success of initiatives. Belarus and Myanmar will also continue to pursue

strategic partnerships. Lastly, he was thankful and pleased for the visit of the Myanmar delegation to his country on this journey of goodwill.

In his speech, the Senior General said that this was his second visit to Belarus as part of a friendship trip. He has also had the opportunity to witness the developments in Belarus firsthand. He is grateful for the warm welcome and honours extended to him at the state level. He also congratulates the Belarusian President for their success in the recent elections. During his previous visit, he

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NATIONAL

State Designates MNDA, TNLA, AA as Terrorist Groups: Collaboration Equals Terrorism

THE State designated the MNDA, TNLA, and AA armed groups as terrorist organizations on 2 September 2024.

Therefore, anyone who engages with these terrorists is also participating in acts of terror.

(Excerpt from the guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting hall of the Eastern Command Headquarters on 3 September 2024)

Objectives of 80th Anniversary of Armed Forces Day 2025

- To actively participate in serving three main functions of Tatmadaw national defence duty, training duty and public benefit duty upholding Our Three Main National Causes;
- To steadfastly carry out measures for State development and genuine, eternal peace by ending the armed conflicts under the Constitution (2008) and NCA;
- To protect the State and its citizens from dangers and provide sector-wise assistance for the safety and socioeconomic development of the people;
- To provide necessary assistance to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic general election by Tatmadaw for the emergence of a Union based on democratic and federal systems after carrying out measures per the stipulations of the State of Emergency.



Public Health Department

Public Notice: Advisory for Prevention against Hepatitis A Infection

HEPATITIS A, caused by the Hepatitis A virus, is an infectious and epidemic disease that can affect any age group, especially children.

Transmissions

- Consuming contaminated food or drinks that contain dirt from an infected person.
- Close contact with infected individuals.

Symptoms

- Fever, fatigue, loss of appetite, vomiting, stomach pain, yellowing of the skin and eyes, dark urine, pale-coloured faeces, and pain in the bones and joints.
- Severe hepatitis can lead to sudden liver failure, posing a life-threatening risk.
- Those with Hepatitis B or C and HIV may suffer severely.

Preventive measures

- Be cautious of personal hygiene, washing hands with soap systematically before touching food, cooking, eating, and using the toilet.
- Wash all food thoroughly with clean water before cooking.
- Drink boiled water or purified water with water purification tablets or FDA-certified purified water.
- Avoid raw food and food that flies land on.
- Ensure that toilets and septic tanks are kept from leaks, and use the fly-proof toilet.
- To prevent the spread of diseases, if a vendor is affected by an illness, they should stop handling and selling food for at least 10 days after their skin and eyes have turned yellow.

Go to the nearest health departments immediately if symptoms are experienced.

Saleaintan Beach bustles with summer visitors

THE visitor arrival to Saleaintan Beach situated very close to Yangon has mounted during this summer holiday, according to residents.

Unlike previous years, the visitor arrival at the beach has been visibly larger this year, said a resident.

“The visitor arrival is usually large on weekends. Now schools are closed, so families have come not only on weekends but on weekdays too. Those who want to swim come on full moon or waning moon days. Those who

have no purpose for swimming come to recreate while enjoying plates of seafood. The beach is more crowded this year,” he said.

Some tour companies have introduced overnight trips to the beach, in addition to day trip packages.

The journey to the beach is also convenient and those who want to take an overnight trip can stay at nearby resorts. It is anticipated that the visitor arrival will rise in this Thingyan, said residents. — MT/ZS



Beachgoers enjoying the Saleaintan Beach.

Shan drums thrive in Myanmar's musical instrument market

SHAN long and short drums are selling well in the market, according to the Myanmar musical instrument sources.

Shan drums are among the most popular instruments as this season is full of festivals.

“The best-selling instruments at this time are Shan long and short drums. Shan drums are ordered by Shan drum groups. Some villages buy them for fun and entertainment. Their sales are always active. It is the festival season, so they sell more for playing at festivals,” said an official at the Myo Chit Bamar Musical Instrument Shop in Mandalay.

Other Myanmar musical instruments that used to rule the fields in the past include bronze gong, iron gong, bronze bell, big drum, alms bowl, various lacquerware and Byaw drum, while Shan long and short drums among them are currently the most popular. — Thit Taw/ZN



This image depicts Shan's long and short drums in the market.

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)

Belarus and Myanmar will continue strengthening strategic partnerships, affirms Belarusian President Mr Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing highlights benefits of strengthening Myanmar-Belarus collaboration across sectors

FROM PAGE 1

observed the successes and advancements in Belarus's agricultural sector, and further strengthening collaboration in various sectors can benefit Myanmar and Belarus. He is pleased to share that the Myanmar-Belarus Business Forum was successfully held, and several economic agreements were signed between the two countries. He also appreciates the invitation to lead a friendship delegation to Belarus as part of an official State visit.

They cordially exchanged views on the enhancement of cooperation in various sectors including bilateral diplomatic relations, economic, agriculture, industry, education, science and technology, culture and sports sectors, plans to promote cooperation in the defence sector, potentials for further strengthening bilateral relations through sectoral cooperation between the two countries, Myanmar-Belarus trade and economic coop-



Belarusian President Mr Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko and SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meet at the Presidential Palace on 7 March 2025.

eration measures, and preparations to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic general

election in Myanmar.

The Belarusian President hosted a working luncheon for

the Senior General and his entourage. During the luncheon, the national orchestra of Bela-

rus performed entertainment with songs of both countries. — MNA/TTA

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

State-level talks emphasize boosting Myanmar-Belarus trade and economic ties



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Belarusian President Mr Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko on 7 March 2025.

The Myanmar-Belarus State-level meeting took place at the Presidential Palace in Minsk of the Republic of Belarus yesterday afternoon, attended by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and President of the Republic of Belarus Mr Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko.

Also present at the meeting were SAC Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Council Member General Nyo Saw, Union Ministers, the Myanmar Ambassador to Belarus, deputy ministers and senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief. The Belarusian President was accompanied by senior officers of the Belarusian Government.

Both sides cordially dis-



Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe and the Belarusian Minister of Foreign Affairs exchange MoU notes.

cussed despite their locations at a far distance, enhancement of diplomatic and defence relations between the two countries as good friendliness countries, plans to sign the memoranda of understanding between the two countries during the visit of the Senior General, holding coordination meetings between Ministries of Foreign Affairs of two countries, potentials for cooperation in dairy product production and cultivation of industrial raw crops, promotion of cooperation in bilateral trade and economy, investment measures, and cooperation in various sectors including manufacturing of agricultural machinery.

Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe and the Belarusian Minister of Foreign Affairs exchanged notes on memoranda of cooperation signed by the Myanmar and Belarusian governments and memoranda of understanding on cooperation in sports, tourism, legal affairs, agriculture and food safety.

The Senior General and the Belarusian President released the joint declaration of the two countries to the media.

(The reciprocal joint declaration and speeches delivered by the SAC Chairman Prime Minister and the President of the Republic of Belarus will be reported separately.)

The Senior General conferred the Agga Maha Thray Sithu Title on Belarusian President Mr Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko.

After the Myanmar-Belarus State-level meeting, State Administration Council Information Team Leader Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun, who accompanied the Senior General, responded to queries raised by the media. — MNA/TTA

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NATIONAL



I view sanctions not as obstacles, but as opportunities. When they arise, they should be embraced as a chance to deepen our collaboration and forge even stronger partnerships.

Belarusian President

“The election is slated for December 2025, with the possibility of an earlier date in January 2026,” stated the Senior General.

Reciprocal joint declaration of two countries and speeches were delivered by Belarusian President Mr Alexander Gregorovich Lukashenko and State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in meeting with the media.

The President of the Republic of Belarus

Distinguished Prime Minister and esteemed guests who have joined us today, I am honoured to share that today's meeting between our two countries focused on discussing the economic sector and collaboration in various areas. We had detailed discussions on how to work together in the field of economics and other sectors. We also addressed areas related to humanitarian support and how to collaborate effectively in those areas. Moreover, we reached a consensus on drafting strategic plans to ensure the successful implementation of economic measures between our two countries. We are committed to collaborating on technology to support global food security through food production businesses emerging in Myanmar. Our collaboration will focus on sectors such as agriculture, pharmaceuticals, and food production. At the recent Business Forum, officials from both countries held detailed discussions on these sectors and related issues. In Belarus, there are advanced technologies related to this arena as well. This year, our two countries will reconvene to discuss further economic cooperation. Moreover, we plan to form a committee to work on science and technological sectors between our countries. We aim to strengthen the cooperation between Myanmar and Belarus. While Myanmar students are studying in Belarus, our country will also do everything to support the students in their learning as much as possible. This year, we have invited a group of children from Myanmar to visit the health retreat in Suprunov Resort, Belarus, for the first time. In the upcoming period, ministers and relevant

officials from our country will visit Myanmar. Similarly, specialists and relevant officials from Myanmar will also visit Belarus. Through these reciprocal visits, we aim to explore opportunities for economic development across both countries and take concrete actions for mutual support. Very soon, during a meeting with the Prime Minister, we discussed some of these key points. In my view, concerning the cooperation between the two countries, there are no obstacles from our side. We always aim to keep the doors open and work closely, transparently, and cordially to carry out economic activities in the best way possible. Belarus has discussed a lot of information related to economic cooperation with Myanmar in today's talks, as well as in the Business Forum yesterday. Regarding this information, we will make every effort to finalize understandings and agreements related to cooperation as soon as possible. I would like to express my gratitude for the transparent discussions I had with my friend, the Prime Minister, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, during this trip. I also appreciate his openness and willingness to discuss all matters of interest. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my friend as well for inviting me to Myanmar. I hope that in the near future, I will be able to meet with my friend in his country. We are committed to supporting and ensuring the success of our collaborative efforts in this business, which will enable us to carry out projects that benefit both sides. I also want to express my gratitude for the time given to this meeting today. On behalf of us, I would also like to extend a warm welcome to my friend at all times.

The State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister

I would like to extend my warm greetings to all the participants of this event, including the President of Belarus, Mr President, the delegation members, and media representatives. Everybody, Mingalaba! I also had the privilege of meeting and discussing matters with the President and government officials during my second visit. I am happy to say that it was a successful trip. To further strengthen and develop the Belarus-Myanmar friendship, and to enhance collaboration, I wish to express my gratitude to President Lukashenko and the responsible individuals, as well as the people of Belarus, and wish for continued strength, progress, and development. During today's meeting, as we discussed openly and clearly, we will continue to strengthen and carry out cooperation in various sectors such as the economies of both countries, agriculture, industry, education, science and technology, culture, and defence. Not only the government-to-government relations but also the people-to-people relations will be expanded. For the successful implementation of the cooperation between the two countries, the involvement of not only government officials but also the media in the relevant sectors is crucial. Therefore, I kindly request your cooperation in this matter. Our country is the largest landlocked country in Southeast Asia. It is a country that is situated between two of the most populous countries in the world, China and India, and also acts as a bridge between Southeast Asia and South Asia.

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NATIONAL

SAC Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Belarusian Prime Minister

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, currently in Minsk, Belarus, received Belarusian Prime Minister Mr Roman Alexandrovich Golovchenko, at the office of Belarusian Prime Minister yesterday.

On arrival at the office, the Senior General was welcomed by the Belarusian Prime Minister.

The Senior General was accompanied by SAC Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, delegates, the Myanmar Ambassador to Belarus, and the Belarusian Prime Minister by relevant officials.

At the meeting, they openly exchanged views on the enhancement of friendship and cooperation between two countries through the goodwill visit to Belarus, the successful holding of Myanmar-Belarus Business Forum and signing of MoUs, the export of locally produced products between two countries, export of industrial crops including rice of Myanmar to Belarus, mutual benefits through cooperation between Myanmar possessing fine soil for agriculture and live-



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Belarusian Prime Minister Mr Roman Alexandrovich Golovchenko at the latter's office yesterday.

stock and Belarus with modern exchange of technologies for agri- in electric vehicles production in bilateral friendship. — MNA/
livestock farming technologies, culture and livestock, cooperation industry and further cooperation KTZH

Reciprocal joint declaration of two countries and speeches were delivered by Belarusian President Mr Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko and State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in meeting with the media.

FROM PAGE 5

It possesses favourable conditions for agriculture, livestock, and transport, with abundant water, land, and climate. Our country is also one of the top exporters of rice globally and ranks as the second-highest bean exporter in the world. Since our country has vast areas of land suitable for agriculture and livestock farming, we are striving to make our country one that can contribute to global food security and safety. Therefore, I am fully confident that if we integrate Belarus' modern agricultural practices, livestock systems, techniques, machinery, and support systems into practical use, it will not only benefit Myanmar but will bring mutually beneficial results for both sides. Along the 1,300-mile coastline, there are also major deep-water ports, particularly the ports at Dawei, Thilawa, and Kyaukpyu, which offer great investment opportunities. Hence, I would like to invite Belarus to invest in Myanmar in various sectors. Our two countries will strengthen cooperation, not only in bilateral relations but also in the international landscape. I would like to express my gratitude to Belarus and the Belarusian people for their support of our country on the international stage. Due to electoral fraud in the 2020 general election, we

had to declare a state of emergency and temporarily take responsibility for the country. Therefore, we plan to hold a free and fair election soon, under the law. We are planning to hold the election in December 2025 or at the earliest by January 2026. Fifty-three political parties have already submitted their lists to participate in the election. Regarding the election, we also invite the observation teams from Belarus to come and observe. I would also like to express special gratitude to His Excellency the President of Belarus for his efforts to help the development and progress of Belarus in every possible way. Under His Excellency's leadership, I believe that Belarus will become one of the world's leading countries. I also fully expect to meet the President of Belarus again in Myanmar. I wish for continued and strong cooperation between our two countries in all areas of mutual interest. Thank you very much.

The Belarusian President

I am grateful for the invitation to Myanmar. I will also be visiting Myanmar. As my friend has suggested, we will send election observers to monitor the elections. I would like to suggest to my friend. If any

actions could positively contribute to the development of the nation and benefit the citizens, I recommend that they be implemented as soon as possible. When implementing these actions, it's possible that some people may not approve, and there could be sanctions that arise in opposition. Both in our country and in your country, there may be sanctions that could form as a result. I consider sanctions to be opportunities, and when such sanctions arise, they should be seen as opportunities to strengthen our collaboration. If we work more closely together with greater unity, we will be able to implement the best possible outcomes. Thank you very much for your visit to Belarus.

The SAC Chairman Prime Minister

By imposing a sanctions, if there is such a group, the opposing groups that are called sanctions will face attacks from software that increases the strength of the majority, which will lead to more intense competition. I want to point out that putting pressure on them under the sanction will never be successful. It will only escalate the conflict. The two of us will work together and overcome it. I want to say that we are ready to cooperate and move forward with our efforts.



State Administration Council Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses the Myanmar-Belarus Business Forum at the Hotel President in Minsk on 6 March 2025.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing expressed his confidence that the successful economic discussions held together with Belarus would lead to greater future collaboration and an enhanced partnership between the two countries.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech at the opening of the Myanmar-Belarus Business Forum at the Hotel President in Minsk on the evening of 6 March.

In his speech, the Senior General said that Myanmar established diplomatic relations with partner countries and has overcome various challenges together through cooperation. Similarly, Myanmar initiated diplomatic relations with Belarus in 1999 and has successfully built strong mutual trust and understanding.

At present, he continued, mutual trust will be further strengthened through the implementation of people-to-people relations, business-to-business relations, intergovernmental departmental relations, and government-to-government relations between the two countries.

The Senior General expressed his confidence that the successful economic discussions held together would lead to greater future collaboration and an enhanced partnership between the two countries.

He underlined that economic cooperation, trade, and invest-

Myanmar, Belarus urged to revive investment agreement talks

Economic cooperation, trade, and investment-related connections are the starting point for stepping towards a shared future.

ment-related connections lead to the starting point for stepping toward a shared future.

He recounted that more than a decade ago, a draft agreement was sent from Belarus regarding commitments for investment cooperation, to which Myanmar responded with interest. At this moment, Myanmar has been making efforts to revive its commitment to investment cooperation in alignment with the renewed interest of Belarus.

Currently, he underscored that although a joint commission has not yet been established between the two countries to define and outline areas of cooperation, discussions between the two nations have reached a certain level of progress in the time of the State Administration Council. Efforts are being made to strengthen friendly relations between the two governments, enhance bilateral cooperation and diplomatic relations, and promote progress in trade and investment sectors.

He noted that it is gratifying to learn that discussions have begun on enhancing cooperation between Myanmar and Belarus in the fields of education, agriculture, livestock, pharmaceuticals, industry, and tourism, as well as on sending students to Belarus to study science and modern technologies. The Senior General expressed his thanks to Belarus for Belarus's consideration and support for Myanmar.

The Senior General highlighted that Myanmar will have the opportunity to closely observe and learn from Belarus's efforts and experiences in private sector development for its path to progress through such ceremonies.

He underscored that Myanmar is keen to study ways to develop the manufacturing sector, create more job opportunities and income for the people, reduce poverty, and enhance food security. By sharing your valuable experiences, both countries can also strengthen trade and

investment cooperation.

He emphasized that the bilateral trade has been progressing to a certain extent. In particular, Belarus is recognized as a leading country in the production of fertilizers, which are essential for an agricultural nation.

Being an agriculture-based country, he spotted that Myanmar aims to primarily enhance the importation of fertilizers. The Senior General invited business partners from Belarus to invest in Myanmar's fertilizer production sector, which is one of its prioritized investment areas.

He unveiled that Myanmar, due to its favourable natural conditions for land and water, has elevated agriculture and livestock-based industries as the country's main production sectors. Myanmar wishes to cooperate closely with Belarus, which has reached the forefront in terms of information and technology, in order to produce value-added products and to up-

grade its agricultural production to Smart Agriculture through a mechanized farming system.

He added that Myanmar is providing job opportunities in relevant areas and is making efforts to develop human resources. Thanks to the support and modern technology from its partner country Belarus, the capabilities of the workforce in Myanmar will improve, and it will help strengthen the cooperation between both sides, leading to a more sustainable and productive partnership.

The Senior General recounted that on 10 January 2025, during the Myanmar-Belarus Business Forum, officials from both countries shared the potential of various sectors, including the energy sector, automotive manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, higher education, agriculture and livestock, veterinary medicine, food products, and water extraction industries.

OPINION

Efficiently use freshwater in daily life

PEOPLE often perceive water as a widely available natural resource. However, for those living in water-scarce regions, water is a precious necessity, valued for its life-sustaining role. In particular, people in areas with low rainfall and limited water supply deeply understand the significance of clean drinking water.

From space, the Earth appears as a “water planet” since most of its surface is covered by water. However, the majority of this water consists of salty oceans, while only about 3 per cent of the total water supply is freshwater. Of this, 1.97 per cent is locked in glaciers and ice caps, 0.5 per cent exists as groundwater and just over 0.3 per cent is found in rivers, streams, lakes, and reservoirs. This highlights the importance of conserving freshwater resources.

As water is essential for the people not only in urban but in rural areas in all countries, it is necessary to make efforts to improve the social and economic well-being of rural populations. To meet the 2030 goal of providing safe and sufficient drinking water to all rural communities across states and regions, active participation from local communities is essential.

According to the 2019 interim census data, access to improved and secure water supply systems in rural areas had reached 77 per cent. Between 2019 and 2024, the government, with support from UNICEF and various funding sources, implemented 15,131 rural water projects across 13,931 villages. These projects were funded through initial grants, renovation funds, state contributions, and tropical zone water access programmes.

The rural water supply initiatives involve both government funding and community contributions. Key approaches include household water tank systems managed by local communities, water purification systems for safe drinking water, village-wide water distribution networks with pipelines, and solar-powered water pumping systems using renewable energy.

As water is essential for the people not only in urban but in rural areas in all countries, it is necessary to make efforts to improve the social and economic well-being of rural populations. To meet the 2030 goal of providing safe and sufficient drinking water to all rural communities across states and regions, active participation from local communities is essential.

SOME people may think that a student tends to become an outstanding one simply due to his or her born ability. It cannot be said this is correct at all. I agree that many students turn out to be natural geniuses, but it will happen together with other external factors. As for me, an outstanding student may or may not have an excellent memory, but surely, he or she is given his or her own never-undiminished perseverance and greater intrinsic motivation than a normal student. Not only that but outstanding students are usually inclined to bring benefits to both themselves and others. Now, I want to describe the reasons behind being an outstanding student, depending on my over ten years of teaching experience.

Some students themselves are hungry for education. They always do loud and still whatever brings education. They are often eager to learn something new and physically, mentally or emotionally ready to do so. As always, they can manage to avert physical fatigue due to their sports or games, mental fatigue due to their relationship with family members, friends or teachers and emotional fatigue due to their close neighbourhood or atmosphere, even though they get involved in these situations. They like to go to school regularly and even without a day's leave throughout the whole academic year. They are seldom browned off with revising or reviewing their well-taken school lessons.

Students, by instinct or with very intrinsic motivation, could do well in their studies without

any external motivation. Despite this, teachers play a huge role in students' learning success. Some students have a terrible memory and like learning by rote as usual, but when they have a chance to be taught by seasoned teachers, their learning achievement is more likely to be considerable than they expect. If students with poor memory can do great in their studies together with experienced teachers, how much improvement of learning effect will highly intelligent students get in studying school subjects? Thanks to skilled teachers, good students will become better, and then better students can be on top of the best scholars' list. This is because skilful teachers can take control of their students' positive or negative emotions, make use of effective pedagogy following students' likes or needs, practise or guide students as much as necessary and have affection or interest in school children.

Some parents want their children to be educated so much, especially those who had very little schooling in their childhood or those well-educated. But here, students' academic success will differ from each other on account of their guardians' parenting style. Parents are the very first teachers of a child, also as the Myanmar saying goes. Some parents wish their children to get educated as much as they can, yet they often neglect to provide financially for their children even if they can afford it. On the other hand, honestly to say, some parents are unable to give financial support to their

Reasons Behind an Outstanding Student

By Hu Wo
(Cuckoo's Song)

children's education. All parents, great and small, should provide physical help for students on the way to school at least, driving them to school for example, if they really desire their students' educational accomplishment. It is certain that under no circumstance will only parents' financial assistance be adequate for outstanding students in the future. Astute parents of their children's education are non-indulgent people as well as they will be able to use the carrot and the stick for the children as much as needed.

A safe, well-developed, enjoyable learning environment looks like a great external motivator for an outstanding student's education. Sometimes, an educational environment stimulates an average student to develop into a better scholar. The educated who can

make an adequate living as per their qualification are role models to young students in the educational environment. Of course, such an environment can be viewed as an atmosphere of educational competition among students; that is, the atmosphere arouses students' endeavour to get into the top ten, not that of beauty, clothing and jewellery competitions, as well as will contribute essential material and energy to efficient learning of students. In the main, only an educationally improved environment is an environment of education. A traditional economics- or agriculture-oriented society is not an educational community.

On the other hand, there are several reasons for not being an outstanding student. Some students themselves appear indifferent to their education. Hence, even

though their parents would like them to pursue education only, it stands to reason that the children will never excel in their studies. Unfortunately for them, some students do not find an opportunity to learn from good teachers who have mastery of both subject matter and instructional methods. Unless these students have powerful self-directed learning or independent study, they will also infrequently do extremely well in their school subjects. Some students compete against others for classroom learning activities, but they do not study at home for love or money, knowing that other students do not do their homework, either. The worst of it is that students are learning in an environment where their educational



ILLUSTRATION: REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE/CONCEPT ART

efforts hardly ever bear fruit.

The main reason behind an outstanding student is the student himself. A student will be an outstanding scholar only if he wants to be. Enough, outstanding students attend school and other classes that are worthwhile without fail. They have everything in readiness for a lesson start. Rarely do they

bring such personal feelings as hunger, thirst, sorrow, depression, despair, hopelessness, and anger due to someone or something in the classroom. They learn quite tactfully from their respective teachers. Even intelligent students will have memorized some subject matter by heart just after class. Whether they have short-term

memory or long-term memory, some students earnestly revise and review their lessons again and again. Finally, conducting study regularly, setting a suitably flexible timetable, having a self-learning style, and taking out an imaginative production in arts or science subjects are other reasons behind an outstanding student.

New insights into how cancer evades the immune system: Study

Researchers have discovered that by restoring the energy balance of T cells, they can enhance the effectiveness of immunotherapy. This finding opens up new avenues for improving cancer treatment.



This discovery brings us one step closer to making CAR T-cell treatment more successful for a greater number of patients. ILLUSTRATION: CONCEPT ART

IMMUNOTHERAPY research primarily focuses on improving the body's immune system's recognition of cancer cells. However, researchers at Amsterdam UMC and Moffitt Cancer Centre have taken a different approach.

They explored how cancer impacts the energy management of a patient's T cells and discovered, for the first time, that contact with chronic lymphocytic leukemia

(CLL) cells causes a severe energy crisis in these cells.

CLL is the most common type of leukaemia in the Western world and mainly affects the elderly. Despite new therapies, the disease remains incurable, and treatments are becoming increasingly expensive.

Some cancers, like acute B-cell leukemia, can now be treated by redirecting a patient's own T cells against cancer cells, known

as CART cell therapy. However, immune cells fail to eliminate tumours effectively in many others, including chronic B-cell leukemia (CLL). While it can be lifesaving, it works in only 15 per cent of CLL patients and costs more than \$250,000 per patient.

“Our research revealed two things to us: firstly, that healthy T cells greatly increase their absorption of cholesterol and fats after they have identified their targets.

Without this fuel, they are unable to proliferate. Secondly, and crucially, that this doesn't happen when T cells come into close contact with leukemia cells,” says Arnon Kater, professor of Translational Haematology at Amsterdam UMC. This second finding is in line with the results of another study, published last month in Blood Advances, by the Amsterdam UMC research team and Moffitt Cancer Centre. In that study, researchers

found that the ‘engine’ of T cells — the mitochondria, small structures in the cell that provide energy — does not function properly in CLL patients. In CLL, these mitochondria become damaged, causing T cells to lose their power to attack cancer cells.

“Just like when a battery is overcharged, we tried to rejuvenate T cells. This was very successful. We demonstrated that an existing drug, which affects energy

management, greatly improved the effectiveness of CAR T-cell therapy. We hope this discovery will lead to improved success of CAR T-cell treatment in the future,” says Javier Pinilla-Ibarz, MD, PhD a senior member at Moffitt Cancer Center

“This discovery brings us one step closer to making CAR T-cell treatment more successful for a greater number of patients. More importantly, it opens the door for exploring similar strategies in other cancers where immune cells struggle to sustain their attack.

SOURCE: ANI

NATIONAL

SAC Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Belarus National Assembly Chairman

State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, currently in Minsk, Belarus, received Mr Igor Petrovich Sergeenko, Chairman of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, yesterday afternoon.

The Senior General was welcomed by the Chairman of the National Assembly of Belarus. The Senior General then signed the visitor book of Hluttaw.

The Senior General observed the National Assembly building.

At the meeting hall, they cordially discussed cooperation between the Hluttaws of the two countries, legislation, ongoing measures to hold free and fair elections in Myanmar; observation made by Myanmar delegates in the general election of Belarus, sending of observers from Belarus to Myanmar election and further enhancement of friendship and cooperation between two Hluttaws. — MNA/KTZH



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Belarusian National Assembly Chairman Mr Igor Petrovich Sergeenko yesterday.

Myanmar, Belarus to promote bilateral trade and technology



SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Belarusian Deputy Prime Minister Mr Yuri Shuleiko on 6 March 2025.

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who is currently in Minsk, the Republic of Belarus, on his State visit, received Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Belarus Mr Yuri Shuleiko at the Hotel President in Minsk on

the evening of Belarusian Standard Time on 6 March.

They cordially discussed the promotion of cooperation between the two countries, bilateral trade in industries, agricultural and dairy product production, bilateral technological cooperation, and enhancement

of the tourism sector.

The meeting was also attended by Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo and delegation members. The Belarusian Deputy Prime Minister was accompanied by officials of the Belarusian Government. — MNA/TTA

Myanmar, Belarus urged to revive ...

FROM PAGE 7

The Senior General expressed his deep honour and pleasure to have the opportunity to share information about the potential cooperation and investment opportunities between the two countries. He said he believes that the signing of trade and investment agreements, particularly the draft investment agreement of investment. There will be numerous opportunities for mutual benefits and positive outcomes for both sides in the future.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Belarus extended greetings, saying that the Republic of Belarus is engaged in agricultural-based production industries and that it is important to collaborate on technologies to enhance agricultural production. He emphasized that hosting the Myanmar-Belarus Business Forum will bring significant benefits to both nations.

The president of UMFC

and officials from the Republic of Belarus participated in the discussions in the first session of the forum.

In the second forum, led by Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Kan Zaw, officials of both countries discussed relevant sectors.

Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw and the President of the Belarusian Chambers of Commerce and Industry extended greetings.

The Myanmar Ambassador to Belarus, Myanmar businesspersons and officials of the Republic of Belarus signed Myanmar-Belarus economic cooperation agreements and exchanged notes.

The forum was also attended by SAC Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Council Member General Nyo Saw, Union Ministers, Myanmar Ambassador to the Republic of Belarus U Thit Linn Ohn and senior officers of the delegation, Deputy Prime Minister of Belarus Mr Yuri Shuleiko, senior officers of the Belarusian Cabinet and guests. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Belarus-trained trainees to serve State and Tatmadaw

CHAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, currently in Minsk of the Republic of Belarus on his official State visit, met officer trainees learning in Minsk of the Republic of Belarus at the Hotel President yesterday evening.

It was also attended by Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Council Member General Nyo Saw, Union-level dignitaries, Myanmar Ambassador to the Republic of Belarus U Thit Linn Ohn, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, deputy ministers, the Myanmar Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air), officials and officer trainees.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General said that generally, just as there are post-graduate students, there are also scholarship students who are sent due to various needs. By sending students to attend train-

ing programmes, the country can develop its human resources. Therefore, students are expected to complete their studies within the designated period and make a genuine effort to master the subjects being taught.

Individuals must spend time and money on their education, and the State and Tatmadaw also incur necessary expenses. Therefore, they have to contribute to the benefit of the State and Tatmadaw as well as serve their interests.

The Senior General urged them to strive to fulfil the needs of the State through the fruits of the knowledge and skills they have learned.

After the meeting, the Senior General presented foodstuffs and cash awards to officer trainees and cordially greeted them.

In the morning, the Senior General visited the Myanmar Consulate-General in Minsk and met the staff of the Consu-



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets officer trainees learning in Minsk, Belarus.

late-General and families. He explained the need to improve diplomatic relations between Myanmar and Belarus, holding the forum during the goodwill

visit, political progress in Myanmar, and efforts to be made to ensure friendly relations and bilateral trade between Myanmar and Belarus, and attended to the

needs of those staff and families.

The Senior General presented foodstuffs and cash awards to staff and families of the Consulate-General. — MNA/TTA



State Administration Council Member Khun San Lwin warmly greets departmental officials and town elders in the Pa-O Self Administered Zone yesterday.

SAC Member meets Pa-O Self-Administered Zone officials, town elders

STATE Administration Council Member Khun San Lwin met officials of the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone administration body, regional and township level departmental officials, and town elders at the office of the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone yesterday.

Speaking at the event, he explained the five-point roadmap and nine objectives of the SAC and preparations to hold free, fair elections.

He urged all to plant high-yield and marketable crops to

reach triple crops from double crops and expand the cultivation of summer paddy, pulses, beans and sunflowers while the SAC assists the farmers to develop the local food security and farming sectors and promote the interests and rights of farmers. He highlighted the need to read the statements of official news agencies while the malicious media outlets spread fake news regarding the People's Military Service Law and Rules.

Afterwards, the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Ad-

ministration body secretary, Hopong Township Administrator and Hsihseng Township Administrator reported on education, social, economy and transportation matters, six-month financial assistance to pregnant women and children under six from April to September in 2024-2025 financial year, damages due to attacks of terrorist and reconstruction of staff housing.

The SAC member gave proper instructions after hearing the reports. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar Press Council opens Media Training 1/2025



This photo showcases Myanmar Press Council Chairman Dr Tin Tun Oo delivering the welcome remarks at the opening ceremony of the Media Training Course 1/2025 on 7 March.

THE Myanmar Press Council's Media Development Committee organized Media Training Course 1/2025 on 7 March, with the course scheduled to be held every Friday for four weeks at the council's office in Botahtaung Township, Yangon Region.

Myanmar Press Council Chairman Dr Tin Tun Oo delivered the welcome remarks at the opening ceremony of the training, which attracted twenty trainees from private and government print media, broadcast media, and online media.

The course provides free lectures on basic journalism, journalism English, mass communication journalism, online journalism, and print journalism in both Myanmar and English, with veteran journalist instructors including U Khin Maung Kyaw Din, U Aye Chan, Dr Khin Maung Lwin, and U Maung Maung Oo (Hein Latt).

The Myanmar Press Council will continue to hold media training courses, which will be taught by experts from the council as well as external experts. — ASH/TH

NATIONAL

Nay Pyi Taw to host 2025 Walking Thingyan Festival



The coordination meeting on the successful holding of the Nay Pyi Taw Walking Thingyan in the 2025 Traditional Myanmar Thingyan Festival in progress yesterday.

A coordination meeting on the holding of Nay Pyi Taw Walking Thingyan to celebrate the 2025 Myanmar Traditional Thingyan Festival was held at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, in his capacity as Chairman of the Organizing Committee for Nay Pyi Taw Walking Thingyan, said the Walking Thingyan festival has been held

twice in Nay Pyi Taw, so there is already experience in organizing it. As the Myanmar Traditional Thingyan Festival is recognized as an Intangible Cultural Heritage representing humanity, it must be carried out with greater

emphasis than in previous years. Moreover, the performance that will expose Myanmar Thanaka on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity will be included in the walking festival this year.

He continued that famous artists will be invited to the festival, and this year walking Thingyan festival will be accompanied by Myanmar Thanaka unlike in previous years.

Then, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin reported on the group dances to be performed at the walking Thingyan festival and the tradition and customs of Myanmar Thingyan festival which was recognized as an Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO alongside Myanmar Thanaka which is being proposed for inclusion in the Intangible Cultural Heritage list.

Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Khun Thant Zaw Htoo,

Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Mayor U Than Tun Oo, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Information U Win Kyaw Aung tabled the suggestions regarding the emergence of Myanmar Traditional Thingyan, image, doing good merits, costumes and performance including the specifications of UNESCO list, public participation in Myanmar Thanaka expression, holding of Nay Pyi Taw walking Thingyan festival, weak points and good points of previous festivals.

The project director of Brilliant Aura Co Ltd reported on preparations for the Nay Pyi Taw Walking Thingyan festival.

Deputy Minister Daw Nu Mra Zan and other attendees coordinated the discussion regarding the designated locations for pavilions, security measures, live streaming, access to water, electricity, regulatory matters and healthcare services. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar extradites 456 Chinese nationals, two Thai nationals

THE government is strictly cracking down on telecom fraud and criminal acts by cooperating with international countries, including neighbouring countries, and systematically deporting foreigners involved in these illegal operations. Authorities transported 456 Chinese nationals via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II and two Thai nationals via the Myanmar-Thailand Bridge I on humanitarian grounds and for the sake of bilateral relations yesterday.

Most of these foreign nationals were persuaded to engage in online gambling, telecom fraud, and other illegal activities in the Myawady-Shwe Kokko, Maehtawthalay, and KK Park areas, having entered the country illegally. According to their confessions, almost all of them entered Myanmar illegally through border crossings with neighbouring countries.

The handover ceremony was attended by Kayin State Security and Border Affairs Minister Colonel Min Thu Kyaw, Deputy Director-General Mr Liu Ning Ning of the Criminal Investigation Department of Public Security Ministry of China, officials from Thailand's Immigration Department in Tak Province, and other authorities, who transferred the documents to the relevant countries' officials.



Myanmar Immigration and officials processing undocumented foreign entrants.

Similarly, yesterday, 250 more foreign nationals who had entered the Myawady-Shwe Kokko areas through illegal routes were arrested, and their personal information and records are being collected by joint departmental teams for immediate repatriation to their respective countries.

From 30 January to 7 March, a total of 4,592 foreign nationals who entered Myanmar illegally were identified and detained. Of them, 1,671 were systematically handed over to the relevant countries via Thailand

per legal procedures, and the remaining 2,921 foreign nationals are ready for repatriation and are being securely detained.

The government is also intensifying efforts to crack down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with international countries, including neighbouring countries, especially through the Myanmar-China-Thailand Trilateral Cooperation, and systematically repatriating foreigners involved in these operations. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

Security forces deny burning villages in Myingyan

MALICIOUS news media are spreading false reports claiming that security forces set fire to villages in the western part of Myingyan from 4 to 6 March.

According to a security official, terrorist groups have been forcibly recruiting villagers and extorting money due to their increasing casualties. When villages refuse to comply, these groups resort to arson attacks and bombings.

The official further stated that malicious media outlets which support terrorism are distorting the facts to conceal the reckless actions of these groups and are deliberately spreading misinformation. — MNA/KZL

India's retail inflation may ease to 4.1% in Feb, food prices remain a concern: BoB Report

Despite the easing of inflation in some categories, certain risks persist.

INDIA'S consumer price inflation (CPI) is expected to decline to 4.1 per cent for February 2025, according to a report by the Bank of Baroda (BoB).

However, the report cautioned that certain factors could keep food prices elevated, such as rising global edible oil prices, inflationary tariff policies, and an anticipated hotter summer.

It said "We expect CPI to settle at 4.1 per cent in Feb'25. However, we completely do not rule out any upside pressure on food prices arising from stickier edible oil prices globally".

The BoB Essential Commodity Index (BoB ECI), which tracks key household goods, also showed a slowdown in February, moderating to 2.4 per cent year-on-year.

This decline was driven mainly by falling prices of vegetables like tomatoes and potatoes.

Additionally, inflation in pulses remained under control due to improved supply conditions. A recent reduction in milk prices further contributed to the downward trend in overall inflation.

Despite the easing of inflation in some categories,

certain risks persist. Global asset price volatility, particularly in gold and base metals, has not yet significantly impacted inflation, as energy prices have remained relatively low. However, tariffs on metals could drive up prices in the coming months. In February, increased demand led to higher prices for metals such as copper and zinc. — ANI



Inflation in pulses remained under control due to improved supply conditions. **PHOTO: ANI**

Adidas reports double-digit sales growth in China

GERMAN sportswear giant Adidas recorded double-digit growth in net sales in China last year, highlighting the market's

role as a key driver of the company's overall performance.

According to the annual financial report

released on Wednesday, Adidas' global net sales reached 23.68 billion euros (US\$25.49 billion) in 2024, reflecting a year-on-year increase of 10.5 per cent.

The Greater China region posted a 10.3 per cent net sales rise to 3.46 billion euros, with all other major markets, except North America, also reporting growth.

Adidas CEO Bjorn Gulden emphasized China's strategic importance to the company's global expansion. — Xinhua



Consumers pass an Adidas store in Changzhou, Jiangsu province, on 2 May 2024. **PHOTO: ZHEN HUAI FOR CHINA DAILY/FILE**

Moldova joins single euro payments area

MOLDOVA has officially joined the Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA), a move that will reduce transaction costs for Moldovan citizens and businesses.

The accession, which comes after Brussels' decision on Thursday, will lower fees on international transfers, benefiting Moldovans working abroad and sending money home, said Moldova's central bank Governor Anca Dragu on the same day.

SEPA membership is expected to save Moldova around 12 million euros (US\$13 million) annually, with potential savings reaching 20 million euros (US\$21.7) in the medium term, according to Dragu.

For businesses, SEPA eliminates extra fees and delays in euro transactions, making Moldovan exports, 60 per cent of which go to the EU, more competitive. — Xinhua

Changing Trade Name For Registered Pesticide

The pesticide manufactured by **Anhui Byter Agriculture Technology Co.,Ltd** and distributed by **Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd** is changing trade Name as follow.

No	Previous Name	New Name	Registration No
1	Strength 250 WP (Diflubenzuron 25% WP)	Byter Strength (Diflubenzuron 25% WP)	P2020-4866

Any Objection regarding to this changing can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.

Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd.

No.125-127, Kha 11st, Myoe Thit (A+B) Quarter, Inn Sein Township, Yangon.

Transferring Registered Pesticides

Registered pesticides distributing by **Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd.** in the territory of Myanmar for the product as following are transferring from **Liuzhou Huinong Chemical Industry Co.,Ltd.** former producer to **Anhui Byter Agriculture Technology Co.,Ltd.** as per mutual consent from both parties. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.

No	Trade Name	Active In-gredient	Registration No.
1	Chlorfensu	Chlorfenapyr 10% SC	P2020-4869

Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd.

No.125-127, Kha 11st, Myoe Thit (A+B) Quarter, Inn Sein Township, Yangon.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (146N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (146N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-3-2025** 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V HOANG PHUONG LUCKY VOY.NO. (02/2025)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HOANG PHUONG LUCKY VOY.NO. (02/2025)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **8-3-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIPL** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S GLOBAL MARS SHIPPING PRIVATE LTD

GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS: FEATURED REPORTS FOR THIS WEEK



In this undated file photo, Indian and Chinese national flags flutter side by side at the Raisina hills in New Delhi, India. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

China, India should be partners that contribute to each other's success: FM

CHINA and India should be partners that contribute to each other's success, which is the only right choice for both sides, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Friday.

As the two largest developing countries, China and India have a shared task to accelerate their own development and revitalization, Wang said at a press conference on the sidelines of the third session of the 14th National People's Congress.

There is every reason for the two countries to support each other rather than undercut each other, and to work with each other rather than guard against each other, Wang said, adding that this is the path that truly serves the fundamental interests of the two

“Wang noted that relations between the two countries have improved over the past year, with strengthened exchanges and practical cooperation yielding positive results.”

countries and peoples.

Noting that China-India relations have made positive strides in the past

year, Wang said exchanges and practical cooperation at all levels between the two sides have been strengthened, yielding a series of positive outcomes.

China and India, two ancient civilizations, have enough wisdom and capability to maintain peace and tranquillity in the border areas pending a fair and reasonable solution, Wang noted.

He stressed that the two sides should never allow bilateral relations to be defined by the boundary question, or let specific differences affect the overall picture of bilateral ties. As important members of the Global South, China and India have the responsibility to take the lead in opposing hegemonism and power politics, Wang said. — Xinhua

Trump agrees to cancel tariffs on Mexico on USMCA Agreement items

US President Donald Trump said that he had a telephonic conversation with President Claudia Sheinbaum of Mexico, after which he agreed that Mexico will not be required to pay Tariffs on anything that falls under the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Agreement.

Trump said that he was working with Sheinbaum for stopping the illegal immigration and fentanyl into the US.

He shared the details of the telephonic conversation on his social media platform Truth Social.

“After speaking with President Claudia Sheinbaum of Mexico, I have agreed that Mexico will not be required to pay Tariffs on anything that falls under the USMCA Agreement. This Agreement is until 2 April. I did this as an accommodation, and out of respect for, President Sheinbaum. Our relationship has been a very good one, and we are working hard, together, on the Border, both in terms of stopping Illegal Aliens from entering the United States and, likewise, stopping Fentanyl. Thank you to President Sheinbaum for your hard work and cooperation!”

The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) entered into force on 1 July 2020. — ANI

Macron's nuclear threats against Russia could turn France into a giant Chernobyl: Here's Why

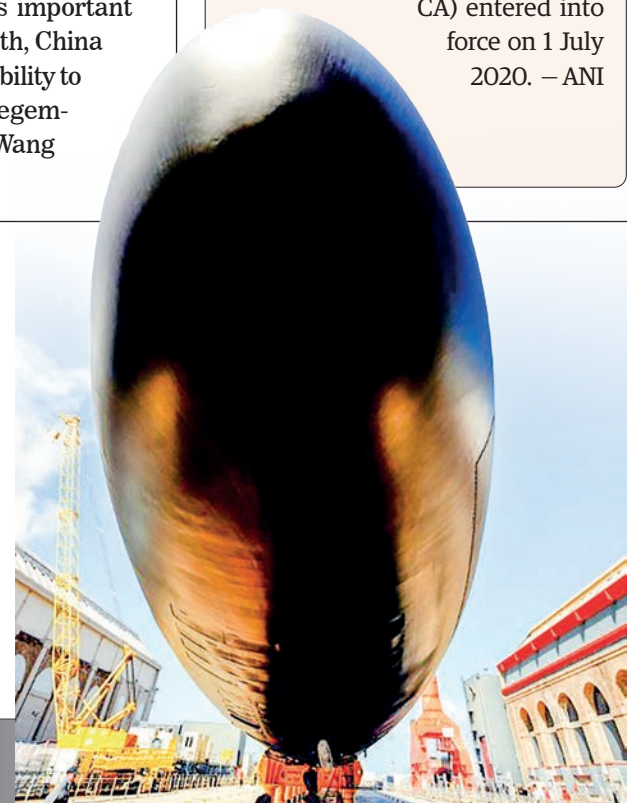
FRANCE'S president has announced plans to discuss extending his country's nuclear umbrella to European allies, and reiterated the possibility of sending European troops to Ukraine. Sputnik reached out to one of Russia's most renowned military observers to learn why engaging in nuclear sabre-rattling with Moscow is a very bad idea.

“If France dares to use nuclear weapons against Russia, the response will be nuclear,” Arsenal Otechestva editor Alexey Leonkov said, commenting on Macron's

belligerent remarks in Wednesday's address to the nation.

“A chain reaction could occur connected, among other things, to nuclear energy,” Leonkov warned, citing France's large-scale network of 56 nuclear reactors. “These reactors are unlikely to be quickly brought to a safe, non-operational state.” — SPUTNIK

France considers nuclear deterrence a keystone of its defence strategy and the ultimate guarantee of its most vital interest. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**



SPORTS

TAKEFUSA Kubo's set-piece delivery helped Real Sociedad secure a 1-1 draw with Manchester United in the opening leg of their Europa League round-of-16 clash on Thursday.

The English Premier League football club had the upper hand for much of the contest and looked in control after Joshua Zirkzee's goal in the 57th minute at the Reale Arena in San Sebastian.

The momentum swung to the hosts when Japan midfielder Kubo's corner kick was judged to have struck Bruno Fernandes in the hand after a review by the video assistant referee, leading to a penalty kick converted by Mikel Oyarza-



Kubo helps Sociedad draw with Man Utd in Europa last 16

bal in the 70th minute.

Sociedad will head to Old Trafford for the second leg in a week's time, where they hope to replicate their 1-0 victory away to Manchester United in the group stage of the 2022-23 tournament.

"In today's match we showed we can repeat what we did (two seasons ago)," Sociedad manager Imanol Alguacil said.

In other Europa League action, AZ Alkmaar right-back Seiya Maikuma played all 90 minutes of the Dutch side's 1-0 win at home to England's Tottenham Hotspur in the opening leg of their last-16 matchup. — Kyodo

Real Sociedad's Takefusa Kubo dribbles the ball in the second half of a UEFA Europa League round of 16 first leg football match against Manchester United on 6 March 2025, in San Sebastian, Spain. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Arsenal's Arteta warns misfiring Man Utd still a threat

MIKEL Arteta said this week's 7-1 hammering of PSV Eindhoven in the Champions League had given the club a huge lift but urged caution ahead of Sunday's trip to misfiring Manchester United.

Second-placed Arsenal, 13 points behind leaders Liverpool, are realistically out of the Premier League title race after recent stumbles.

But they travel to Old Trafford seeking their fifth straight league win over their old rivals in Arteta's 200th Premier League game in charge.



Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta.

PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Arsenal, struggling with injuries in forward areas and goalless in their past two league matches, hit form in the first leg of their last-16 Champions League tie on Tuesday.

"It was a great night for us in an important competition that we have hope in," the Gunners boss said on Friday.

"The manner, the way we did it obviously lifted everybody. That's the past unfortunately so it's about what we do today, the preparation for tomorrow and try to replicate a great performance on Sunday."

United are a lowly 14th in the Premier League, 21 points behind Arsenal, but Arteta said they should not be underestimated.

The Spaniard was asked what he expected from Ruben Amorim's team, who have produced some surprising results this season including a win against Manchester City, a draw against Liverpool and an FA Cup win against Arsenal on penalties.

"That's the history of that football club," he said. "The players that they have and the coach that they have. — AFP

Paris wins Kvitfjell downhill as Odermatt closes in on World Cup titles

MARCO Odermatt closed in on two World Cup globes as he finished second to Dominik Paris in a windblown men's

downhill in Kvitfjell on Friday. Paris took his first victory of the season in one minute 44.67 seconds. It was a record fourth

victory on the Olympiabakken and the 19th downhill win in his career; taking him level with Switzerland's Petter Muller in second place on the all-time World Cup downhill winners list. "I don't know if I am the 'king', but I am feeling well, it's a good hill for me," said the 35-year-old who previously won in the Norwegian resort in 2016, 2019 and 2022.

Paris, with just two top-10 finishes this season and without a victory for 14 months, added: "You have to be very smooth and yeah, I know the key section. That makes it a bit easier." Odermatt was 0.32sec behind the veteran Italian, but increased his lead in the discipline standings as he led a convoy of red-clad Swiss skiers home.

Stefan Rogentin was third at 0.63sec, Franjo Von Allmen placed fourth at 0.83sec after a characteristically wild ride, and Alexis Monney finished fifth at 0.89sec. — AFP



Italy's Dominik Paris took his first World Cup victory of the season. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**



China will definitely take countermeasures in response to arbitrary pressure: FM

During a press conference at the National People's Congress, Wang emphasized that China-US business relations should be based on mutual cooperation and reciprocity, asserting that arbitrary pressure from the US would be met with a response from China.

CHINA will definitely take countermeasures in response to arbitrary pressure, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Friday when commenting on the US move to impose additional tariffs on Chinese goods using the fentanyl issue as a pretext.

"China-US business relations are based on two-way and reciprocal interactions. Cooperation will bring about mutual benefit, and China will definitely take countermeasures in response to arbitrary pressure," Wang said at a press conference on the sidelines of the third session of the 14th National People's Congress.

Citing the Chinese saying "if one's



Overseas purchasers walk past a booth exhibiting solar battery products during the 135th session of the China Import and Export Fair in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong Province, 15 April 2024. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ DENG HUA/XINHUA/FILE**

action fails, look for the reason within oneself," Wang urged the United States to first go over what had happened. He said the United States should rethink

what it has achieved from the tariff and trade wars these years — whether its trade deficit has widened or narrowed, whether its manufacturing has become

more or less competitive, whether its inflation has gone up or down, and whether the lives of its people have become better or worse. — Xinhua

South Korea court approves release of President Yoon from detention

A South Korean court Friday approved the release of President Yoon Suk Yeol from detention, following his arrest and subsequent indictment over his brief



Supporters of arrested and impeached South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol gathered to show their loyalty. **PHOTO: AFP**

imposition of martial law in early December, a decision that could lead to him being allowed to stand criminal trial without physical restriction.

The Seoul Central District Court granted Yoon's request for release, saying his detention since mid-January is unjustified.

Despite the court's approval, one of Yoon's lawyers said the president will not be released immediately as prosecutors can file an appeal against the decision within seven days.

The president was indicted in late January over charges of insurrection relating to his abrupt declaration of martial law on the night of 3 December which lasted only six hours before being rescinded.

The court, which began preparatory hearings for Yoon's criminal trial last month, said the indictment made on 26 January after the president's detention period had expired was illegal. — Kyodo

RESOLVE CONFLICT URGED

Ukrainian, US teams to meet for peace talks next week

UKRAINIAN and the US delegations are expected to meet for peace talks next week in Saudi Arabia, the UNN news agency reported Friday, citing Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky.

"On Monday, I am scheduled to visit Saudi Arabia to meet with the Crown Prince (Mohammed bin Salman). After that, my team will remain in Saudi Arabia to work with our American partners," Zelensky was quoted as saying. He stressed that Kyiv is committed to achieving peace and is working on a solution to the conflict.

"The war must be stopped as soon as possible, and Ukraine is ready to work around the clock with partners in America and Europe for the sake of peace," Zelensky emphasized. One day earlier, US Special Envoy to the Middle East Steve Witkoff told reporters that he is set to meet with a Ukrainian delegation in Saudi Arabia on March 11 to discuss a potential peace agreement. — Xinhua