

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

## SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who endeavours to enhance friendship and cooperation with the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus, gives exclusive interviews to media aboard special aeroplane

**A**T the invitation of Russian Federation President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin and Belarusian President Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko, Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing paid official State visits to the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus from 3 to 9 March.

The Myanmar goodwill delegation led by the Senior General left Tolmachevo Airport of Novosibirsk of the Russian Federation by special aeroplane in the afternoon of 9 March Russian Standard Time and arrived back at Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport in the evening.

On the way back to Myanmar, the Senior General replied to questions raised by the media at the exclusive interview aboard the special aeroplane. The full text of the replies is as follows: -

“Our country is going to implement a multiparty democratic system. It has been 77 years since we gained our independence. We have faced numerous conflicts. We have plenty of natural resources, including human resources. If we can make use of these, our country will become a prosperous one. For this, when we are looking for prospects of cooperation, Russia is one of the countries that we see as having the potential for collaboration. It’s not just Russia; there are many countries. However, I know that Russia is the country that can take action the quickest. Therefore, I went to Russia. We have already made a political decision. We have already decided to move toward a multiparty



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses media queries during flight home.

democratic system as requested by the people. To make this happen, we need to collaborate with the other side. On the other hand, we also need to work for internal peace in our country. That’s why the President of Russia has said that Russia will help Myanmar. However, President Alexander Gregoryevich Lukashenko of Belarus also said that Belarus would assist and cooperate with Myanmar in every way possible. These are strengths for us, and at the same time, they are strengths for our country. Looking at the geographical position of our country, if we consider it, we are at

a key location. We are the westernmost country in Southeast Asia, in the ASEAN region. To the west, we have India, with a population of over 1.4 billion people and we have Bangladesh, with a population of over 160 million people. To the northeast, we have China, with a population of about 1.4 billion people. When you combine these three countries, the total population reaches nearly 4 billion. So, if we look at the direction we are going, if we go south, we will reach the Indian Ocean. If we go north, we will pass through China and reach Russia. If we go west, we will reach In-

dia. If we go southeast, we will reach all the ASEAN countries. Myanmar is in a unique position. Whether we are starting a business or passing through Myanmar for any reason, we can gain access to a large market, as mentioned earlier. We are truly at the best time to cooperate. What I want to say to the EAOs is that they should avoid speaking about what they want to happen. It’s better to speak about what should happen and what is possible. Everyone wants what they desire, and I, too, have many desires. However, what I want might happen, but we should go towards what should happen and what is possible. We said that we provide opportunities for democracy. We provide opportunities for ethnic rights. If you look around the world, you will see that everyone deserves equal opportunities. We cannot give away someone else’s rights. I want to say that ethnic people should also think as well. From our side, we will prioritize the ethnic people and take action. I have decided. No matter what happens, I will prioritize and take action on the remaining ethnic areas. Until now, I have done everything I can. I am not neglecting the agricultural and livestock industries in Myanmar. In the future, I will not neglect science and technology. The industries, based on agriculture and livestock, of these countries are very good. In science and technology, they are also very strong. They are in a position to combine both low and high-level sectors. This is what we need. That’s why I am saying that if we cooperate, this will benefit our country.” — MNA/TTA

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Shan State  
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# NATIONAL

## Residents Urged to Stay Vigilant as Terrorists Use Civilians as Human Shields

TERRORISTS launch attacks while hiding behind public houses in towns and villages.

Residents must exercise caution and awareness to avoid these groups, as they use people as human shields in their temporarily controlled areas to successfully combat terrorism.

*(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 Kayah State government, state-level departmental officials, town elders and locals on 4 September 2024.*

## Objectives of 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armed Forces Day 2025

- (a) 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;
- (b) To steadfastly carry out measures for State development and genuine, eternal peace by ending the armed conflicts under the Constitution (2008) and NCA;
- (c) To protect the State and its citizens from dangers and provide sector-wise assistance for the safety and socioeconomic development of the people;
- (d) 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.



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World Consumer Rights Day 2025



လူနေမှုဘဝအစဉ်တည်တံ့ဖို့မျှတအသွင်ကူးပြောင်းဖို့  
A Just Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles

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## Rising popularity fuels growth of Mogok gemstone art trade



Gemstone paintings on sale in Mandalay.

PAINTING created with natural Mogok gems has gained popularity and the trade has increased.

The gemstone painting business has already developed in Mogok for a long and has recently begun to expand in Mandalay.

“Gemstone painting has drawn much attention over recent years. It is good for giving as a gift. The idea of making portrait paintings with gemstones has been quite popular now; there are two types of painting — art on photo and art on

painting. The gemstone painting has begun popular and the trade has begun fine,” said an official from Shwe gemstone art painting in Mandalay.

The gemstone paintings are now widely used for giving as gifts for housewarming celebrations, shop openings and as souvenirs.

Price varies depending on size and type. Like gemstone art painting, Bagan’s sand painting which also attracted foreign tourists deserves to be conserved as an art. — Thit Taw/ZS

## Statement of Myanmar-India International Business Federation

10 March 2025

THE Myanmar-India International Business Federation expresses its great pride and joy that the high-level Myanmar delegation led by State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing has effectively served the interests of the people and the State during the Official State visits that were organized at the invitation of President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin of the Russian Federation and President Alexander Lukashenko of the Republic of Belarus.

*Myanmar-India International Business Federation*

## Statement of Myanmar India Friendship and Development Association

10 March 2025

THE Myanmar-India Friendship and Development Association expresses its sincere congratulations on the successful results achieved in the meetings between the leaders of the two countries. At the invitation of the presidents of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus, a high-level delegation from Myanmar was on an official visit, headed by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. During the trips, the delegation had the opportunity to sign memorandums of understanding on strengthening bilateral friendship and collaboration in many areas.

*Myanmar India Friendship and Development Association*

### COVID-19 report, 10 March 2024

NEW TESTS

5,433

NEW CASE

NIL

CASUALTIES

NIL

*Myanmar National Centre for Diseases Control  
Department of Public Health*

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

# NATIONAL

## 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)*

## Deputy PM MoFA Union Minister receives Chinese Special Envoy

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Than Swe received Mr Deng Xijun, Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, both sides engaged in discussions aimed at further strengthening the existing Pauk-Phaw relations between Myanmar and China. They emphasized the importance of accelerating mutually beneficial cooperation across various sectors, including the maintenance of peace and stability along the Myan-

mar-China border, the latest developments on peace and the national reconciliation process of Myanmar, and the continued support of the Chinese Government for the sustainable peace and socioeconomic development of the people of Myanmar. The two sides exchanged views on enhancing collaboration between the relevant agencies of the two countries in addressing the growing challenges of online gambling and telecommunication fraud networks in the border areas, reaffirmed their mutual support in regional and multilateral forums, and underscored the importance of cooperation on matters of shared interest. — MNA



Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe receives Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China Mr Deng Xijun yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

## MTB and YUECO forge cooperation agreement

MYANMAR Tourism Bank (MTB) and Yangon University of Economics (YUECO) have signed a University Industry Partnership, the MTB announced on 10 March.

MTB will accept internships for YUECO students, create job opportunities for undergraduate students, award scholarships, participate in job fairs and career fairs and discuss business experiences, among others.

It was signed on 7 March at YUECO on Pyay Road, Yangon, to cooperate on education and employment opportunities, such as providing seminars to students with the work experiences



Myanmar Tourism Bank and Yangon University of Economics signing the agreement.

of industry experts.

At the ceremony, the agreement was signed by U Win Lwin, CEO of the MTB and Dr Tin Tin

Htwe, Rector of the YUECO, and witnessed by U Zaw Thu, CAO and Dr Tin Tin Wai, Pro-rector. — MT/ZN

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

- 1 Office of the State Administration Council  
<https://sacoffice.gov.mm>
2. Ministry of Defence  
<https://www.mod.gov.mm>
3. Ministry of Legal Affairs  
<https://www.mlis.gov.mm>
4. Ministry of Information  
<https://www.moi.gov.mm>
5. Myawady Webportal  
<https://myawady.net.mm>
6. Myanmar National Portal  
<https://myanmar.gov.mm>

# NATIONAL

## Deputy PM, MoFA Union Minister addresses future Myanmar embassy and consulate staff



Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister U Than Swe addresses the meeting with officers and staff who will serve duties at the Myanmar Embassy, permanent representative offices, and consulates in foreign countries yesterday.

DEPUTY Prime Minister Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe delivered speeches at the meeting with officers and staff who will serve duties at the Myanmar Embassy, permanent representative offices, and consulates-general in foreign countries yesterday.

In his speech, the Deputy

Prime Minister highlighted the key requirements of every diplomat for the interests of the country and people: the need to learn the weak points and strengths of other countries and to have communication and negotiation skills.

He then urged them to keep enhancing their capacity for be-

ing diplomats, encourage children's education matters, and make efforts to represent the country.

He finally provided instructions to work in unity and learn the international language and the languages of countries where the diplomat service duties. — MNA/KTZH

## Yangon Zoo hosts four-day children's celebration

CHILDREN'S Party, aiming to create a social gathering for kids during the long summer holiday which begins in March every year, has been scheduled to celebrate at Yangon Zoo for four days from 13 to 16 March.

Kid-friendly entertainment such as kid's talent show, magic show and games, plus a trade fair that includes different kinds of consumer products will be featured.

Yangon Zoo has invited the public to join the event while enjoying a happy moment with family, friends or loved ones or exploring the nature of wild animals. — MT/ZS



This image shows a poster for the Children's Party scheduled to celebrate at Yangon Zoo.

## Notice: PJ passport holders travelling abroad

- The PJ passports or OWIC holders who want to return or go overseas under the arrangements of agencies, or on their own plans, or after the end of leave, must apply online for permission to go and work abroad at the Ministry of Labour with the following documents (not visit in person).
  - Letter of application addressed to the Department of Labour to obtain permission to go and work abroad.
  - Copy of passport (pages containing photo and residence term)
  - Copy of front and back of valid OWIC
  - If the applicants are workers on leave, a copy of a valid work permit and a letter of permission from the employer to return home on leave.
  - Agencies are required to submit to the relevant email of respective countries.
  - In submitting to work abroad on own plans, one must send the documents to [migrantdeparture@gmail.com](mailto:migrantdeparture@gmail.com)
  - Apply at least five days in advance (public holidays not inclusive)

- The ministry will announce the lists of people to work abroad on the Safe Migration Telegram Channel, and the lists will be sent to the relevant airports. The operations will start on 17 March (Monday) 2025.

*Ministry of Labour*

## Notice: Applicants for OWIC cards

- The Ministry of Labour is verifying the lists of people who go abroad for job prospects, maintaining software installed in OWIC card issuing machines, setting the OWIC card issuing centres to be one place, creating one place to make employer and employee contracts, and the OWIC card issuing processes have been suspended temporarily.
- Therefore, starting from 20 March 2025, according to the demand letters (date order) submitted to the Ministry of Labour, OWIC cards will be issued to those who already received permission to work abroad and those who go abroad on their own plans (skilled), and they all are required to purchase air tickets only after receiving the OWIC cards.

*Ministry of Labour*

Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

# NATIONAL

## MoC celebrates World Consumer Rights Day 2025

THE ceremony for World Consumer Rights Day 2025 took place yesterday at the Ministry of Commerce in Nay Pyi Taw.

Chairperson of the Myanmar Consumer Protection Commission Union Minister for Commerce U Tun Ohn, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Kyaw Kyaw, Deputy Ministers for Commerce U Min Min and U Kyaw Shwe Tun, commission members, departmental officials, and invitees attended the ceremony.

The Union minister, deputy ministers and the director-general of the Consumer Affairs Department cut ribbon to inaugurate the event.

In his speech, the Union minister highlighted the theme of World Consumer Rights Day



The ceremony for World Consumer Rights Day 2025 in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

— A Just Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles — and added that the government promotes the MSMEs sector as high production of standard products can lead to a sustainable life-

style through a just transition. Being a member of the ASEAN Committee on Consumer Protection, the government works together with ASEAN countries in implementing the ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for Consumer Protection 2016-2025 and also conducts educating programmes, market surveillance and supervisory on trademarks.

He then urged the attendees to work together to ensure a protective, healthy and fine community for the consumers in line with the theme.

Officials awarded the winners of the articles and cartoon competitions held in commemoration of World Consumer Rights Day at the event.

— MNA/KTZH

## MFSPEA opens fertilizer imports for Q2 under competitive pricing scheme

MYANMAR Fertilizer, Seed and Pesticide Entrepreneurs Association (MFSPEA) called for companies that want to import fertilizer and distribute it under a competitive pricing system for the second quarter from April 2024 to June 2025.

MFSPEA will organize the importation of urea fertilizer and NPK 15-15-15 compound fertilizer of good quality by practising competitive pricing for Q2 under the guidance of the Urea Fertilizer Purchasing and Distribution Steering Committee.

Interested companies can contact MFSPEA by 18 March 2025 through the contact number of MFSPEA at 09 988539360 and email: info@mfspea.com, vicepresident-1@mfspea.com, vicepresident-2@mfspea.com, generalsecretary@mfspea.com, ureacommittee@

gmail.com to import urea fertilizer and compound fertilizer. MFSPEA has instructed member companies to sell fertilizer as per the set reference prices for March.

The reference prices for March 2025 stay the same as the rates registered in January and February. They are set at K95,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Urea fertilizer (large granular), K124,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Rock Phosphate and K135,000 per 50-kilogramme bag of Di Ammonium Phosphate.

The prices may vary a bit depending on transportation charges in other regions and states as the aforementioned prices are set for Yangon Region, MFSPEA stated.

Additionally, reference prices will be further announced

as per rules and regulations. For overcharging, consumers can complain to the committee through contact numbers 067 410032 and 09 988539360. MFSPEA has already asked the member companies to stick to the reference prices. At present, the Fertilizer Committee holds a quarterly meeting to ensure quality fertilizer for growers without facing shortages. Under the approval of the Fertilizer Technology Group, 11,573 fertilizer registrations have been granted after the 41st meeting of the Fertilizer Committee. With individuals' consent, 1,957 registrations were voluntarily cancelled. The department revoked 2,793 registrations for expiration of validity, and 6,823 registrations are still under processing. — NN/KK

## Trade Training Institute launches 9<sup>th</sup> export operations programme in Mar

THE Trade Training Institute, the Trade Department under the Ministry of Commerce, will offer intensive training on how to start an export business from 9 am to 4 pm on 17-21 March.

The Institute is located at 228/240, the corner of Strand Road and Shwebontha Street. The maximum number of trainees is 50. Trainees can regis-

ter at the Institute, presenting an application form, three licensed photos, a bachelor's degree certificate, a matriculation pass certificate, a citizenship scrutiny card and other documents.

Individuals can enquire about details through the contact number of the Institute 901 8250871. — NN/KK

### Gold Market Rate as of 10 March 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,490,000 as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

### Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanmar Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mal, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.

News and Periodicals Enterprise



# NATIONAL

## MRCSS delivers trauma first aid training in Bago, Nay Pyi Taw



A documentary photo with trainers and volunteers at the Opening of Trauma First Aid (Provider) Training.

MYANMAR Red Cross Society opened Epidemic Control for Volunteers, Hygiene Awareness, and Trauma First Aid (Provider) training in early March in Bago Region and Nay Pyi Taw, supported by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

MRCSS's Health Department conducted Epidemic Control for Volunteers and Hygiene Awareness Training on 3-7 March in Nay Pyi Taw. A total of 23 volunteers and trainees of MRCSS's Red Cross branches from Pinyinmana, Toungoo, Taton, Tachilek, Kyaikto, Htant-

abin, Yedashe, Ottwin, Hopong and Yaksawk townships attended the training.

MRCSS's First Aid and Safety Department also offered Trauma First Aid (Provider) Training on 4-7 March with 20 participants from townships in Bago Region. — ASH/KK

## 'Pyoe Ooyin' cast and fans host Meet-and-Greet in Yangon

A fan meeting event for the original series 'Pyoe Ooyin' (Plant Nursery), currently airing on the Mahar application, was held on 9 March at the Time City Indoor Promotion Area in Kamayut Township, Yangon.

The story and script of the series were written by Mei Khine, with script enhancements by Zeya Tu. The series was directed by Nay Thurein (director) and Win Myint Oo (assistant director) for BoBo Film Production.

"There are many young actors and actresses in this series, and they are all working

very hard. The story includes valuable lessons for students and young people, making it a must-watch. I think parents should also watch it. This is a youth-oriented educational drama," said Academy Award-winning actress May Than Nu, who stars in the series.

The cast of 'Pyoe Ooyin' includes Academy Award winners Yan Aung and May Than Nu, and many other artistes.

The series began airing on 3 March and is broadcast at 7 pm every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. — ASH/MKKS



This photo shows actors in the series in school uniforms at a meeting.

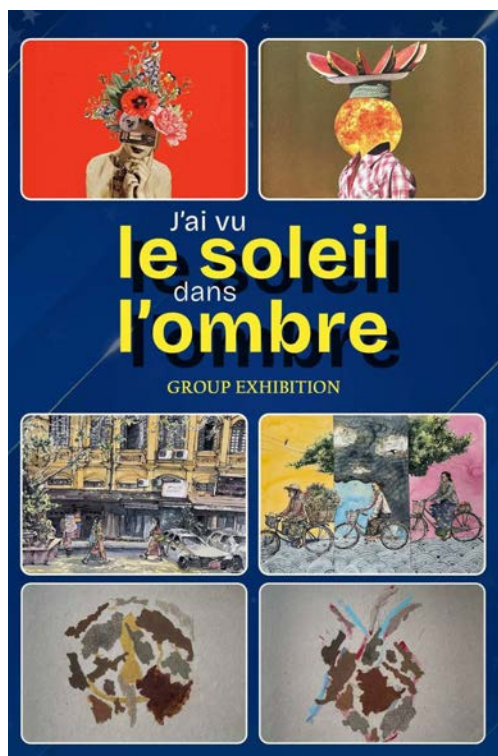
## Yangon to host 3 young artists' exhibition

A group art exhibition titled "J'ai Vu Le Soleil Dans L'ombre" (I Saw the Sun in the Shadows) by three young artists will be held at the Governor's Residence in Dagon Township,

Yangon.

Organized by the Royal Gallery in collaboration with the European Union in Myanmar, the exhibition will take place at the Governor's Residence Hotel on 14 and 15 March. Art enthusiasts are invited to attend and experience the collection, according to a representative from The Royal Gallery.

The exhibition will feature works by Artist May Moe, Artist Hanreality and Artist Sai Thiha Soe. It will be open to the public from 9 am to 5 pm on both days. — ASH/KZL



A glimpse of selected artworks to be showcased at the exhibition.

## Singer to play DJ role in upcoming series 'Aseikthint Wine'



This photo showcases the shooting launch ceremony held for the drama series 'Toxic Wine'.

SINGER Mayla Thanzin will appear as a DJ in the television series 'Aseikthint Wine' (Toxic Wine), which is set to begin filming in Yangon on 15 March.

The script and storyline of the series were written by Lon Ma, while director Htet Kyee will oversee the production.

Mayla Thanzin, who plays the lead role, said, "In this se-

ries, I will play a young woman working as a DJ. The drama also includes some comedic elements. I am personally preparing my fashion and styling to match the character."

The cast of the series includes Kaung Myat San, Bhone Min Nay La, Nay Shine, Lin Thit Aung, Nan Khin Zeya, Mayla Thanzin, Kyaw Kyaw Indra, Yun Phyu Sin Nwe, Nway Nway Chit

Phwe, Chel Chel, Myint Myat Moe, Aye Myat Noe San, Min Thu, Kyaw Zin Htut, Academy Award winner Wah Wah Aung, and many other artistes.

The launch ceremony for the filming of 'Aseikthint Wine', produced by Royal King Film and Video Production, took place on 9 March at Eaindawya pagoda in Dagon Township, Yangon Region. — ASH/MKKS

## Shan State seeks bidders for Inlay Tourism Zone entrance fee collection



This photo showcases an event of Inlay Lake's traditional regatta festival held in the previous year.

THE Shan State government invites interested businesses to join closed tendering for entrance fee collection business in the Inlay Tourism zone in Nyaungshwe Township, Kalaw District, Shan State, for the 2025-2026 Financial Year (from April 2024-March 2025).

Those interested can submit a tender to the Shan State government's office in Taunggyi by 26 March (4 pm).

The opening and evaluation of those bids under competitive pricing will take place at 10 am on 31 March at the Shan State government's office. Individuals can enquire about details via the contact number 081 201920 of the Administrative Department's Office of the Shan State government within office hours. — NN/KK

## Medical Fair India 2025 invites Myanmar businesspeople

MEDICAL Fair India 2025, India's premier trade fair for health centres and hospitals, welcomes the participation of Myanmar businesspeople, according to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

The Medical Fair India is scheduled to take place on 27-29 March at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi City, India.

Mumbai and New Delhi take turns hosting that trade fair featuring medical products, medical technology, healthcare IT, hospital and health centre equipment and products, clinical laboratory and analytical equipment and products, pharmacy and dispensary equipment and furniture, rehabilitation, components, services, and hospital infrastructure. Special shows at Medical Fair India will bring more affordable health solutions to people, explore the latest medical technology and new approaches shaping healthcare and rehabilitation topics and help business owners of clinics, Daycare Centres, and hospitals to manage their business in alignment with market needs and business scenarios.

Over 350 companies from 15 countries are expected to join Medical Fair India 2025. Consequently, it will also act as a platform where connections are made and business relations with international and Indian manufacturers are nurtured.

Interested Myanmar business people can register through the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 408622 and email event.td.myantrade@gmail.com. — NN/KK

## CBM sells US\$24M, THB160M, CNY400,000 in one week

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) injected over \$24 million, 160 million baht and 400,000 yuan into the financial market in the week ending 7 March.

CBM sold \$335,000 and 1.98 million baht on 7 March and over \$130,000 on 6 March.

CBM announced on 5 March that it would sell 50 million baht to importers soon. Later, it sold over eight million baht on that day.

CBM announced the sale of \$23 million and 150 million baht on 3 March for fuel oil importers. It injected that amount of foreign currencies into the fuel oil sector on 4 March. It sold \$550,000, 400,000 yuan and 638,550 baht on 3 March.

CBM pumped over \$88 million, 7.5 million yuan and 161 million baht in February and over \$124 million, 13.8 million baht and over 4.8 million yuan in January. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and the

currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing

laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK



The general view of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) office in Yangon.

## Fisheries Dept to distribute fingerlings at affordable prices

THE Department of Fisheries under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation will sell freshwater fingerling species, which are currently popular with consumers, at affordable prices at 25 fishery camps in various regions and states across the country.

Starting in April, fish farmers will begin introducing healthy, fast-growing fingerlings into their ponds. They will be able to purchase a variety of commercially valuable fish, including rohu, carp, barb, Catla, common carp, river catfish, silver pomfret, and more,

at affordable prices from 25 fishery camps across various regions and states.

Interested buyers can contact the Yezin Fishery Camp in Nay Pyi Taw, the Hlawga Fishery Camp in Yangon, the Laydaunkan Fishery Camp in Yangon, the Bago Fishery Camp, the Thayetgon Fishery Camp in Mandalay, the Thaton Fishery Camp in Thaton, the Pathein Fishery Camp, and the Maubin Fishery Camp.

The Department of Fisheries also conducts water quality tests and identifies fish diseases. — ASH/TH



This photo showcases the workers catching fishes from a fish farm.

# OPINION

## Raise Hepatitis A awareness and prevention advisory

RECENT messages about Hepatitis A have been circulating on social media, prompting the Ministry of Health's Public Health Department to issue a preventive advisory. The public is urged to take necessary precautions to prevent infection.

Hepatitis A is a highly contagious virus that affects the liver and spreads through contaminated food, water, or direct contact with an infected person. It can cause outbreaks and affect people of all ages, particularly children. If left unchecked, it could lead to widespread infections, making prevention a shared responsibility among the government, organizations, and the public.

The virus has an incubation period of two to six weeks, with symptoms appearing around 28 days after infection. Hepatitis A is one of several hepatitis viruses, alongside B, C, and D, all of which impact the liver differently. Symptoms include fever,

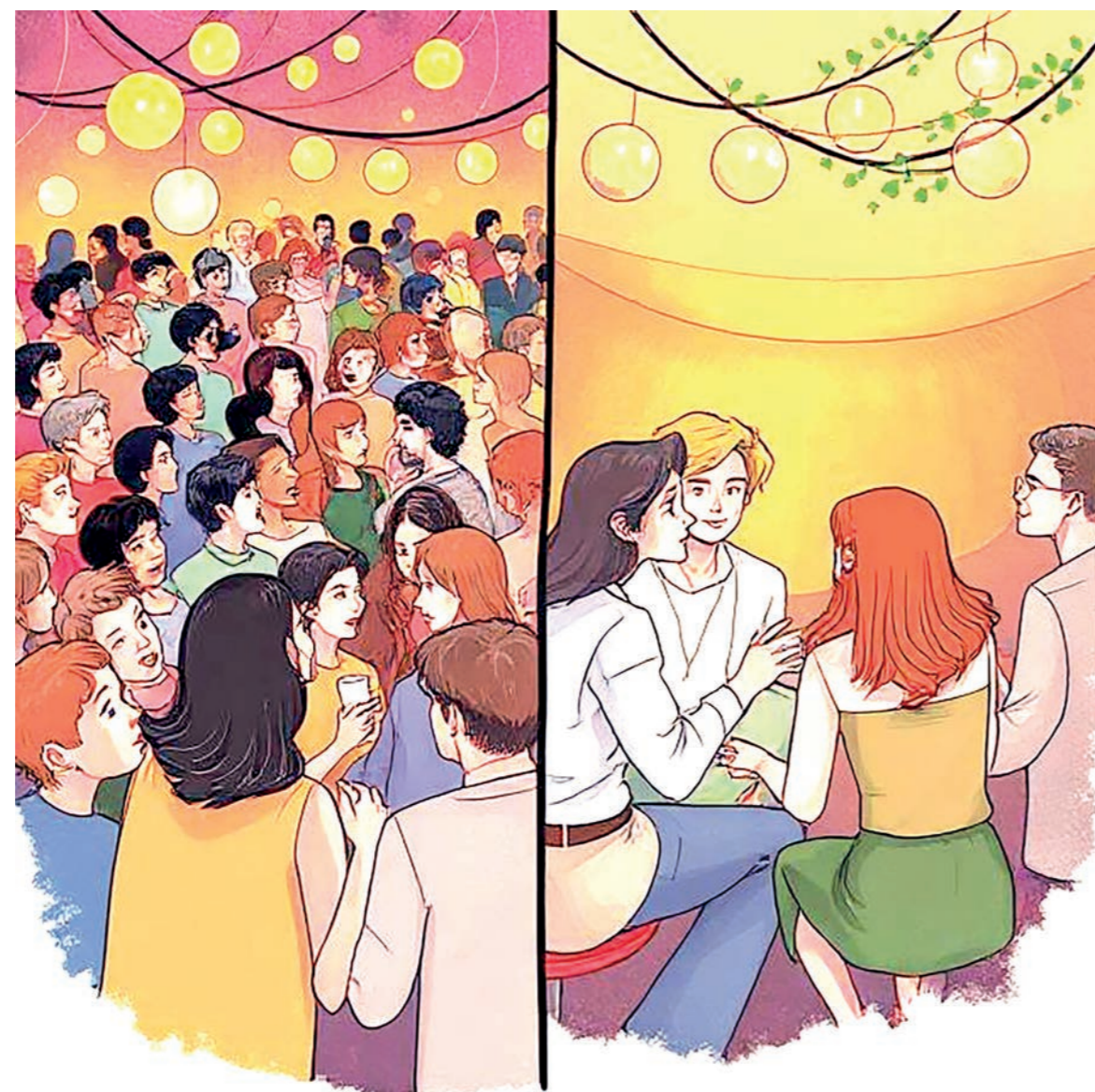
fatigue, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes), dark urine, pale stools, and joint pain. Severe cases may lead to acute liver failure, particularly in individuals with pre-existing conditions like Hepatitis B, C, or HIV. Children often show no symptoms, while younger adults may experience mild or undetectable signs.

Proper waste disposal and sanitation are essential to preventing contamination. Food vendors experiencing symptoms, especially jaundice should stop handling food for at least ten days to prevent spreading the virus. People must also exercise caution when eating outside their homes. As health staff members are ready at relevant clinics and hospitals at different levels, people need to inform them about Hepatitis A in time for whoever suffers from it to get proper medical treatment without fail. If so, they will overcome the challenges of this disease.

Practising good hygiene and adhering to preventive measures are keys to stopping the spread of Hepatitis A and protecting public health. In this regard, careless actions of patients and associates will cause failure to recover from the disease.

Proper waste disposal and sanitation are essential to preventing contamination. Food vendors experiencing symptoms, especially jaundice should stop handling food for at least ten days to prevent spreading the virus. People must also exercise caution when eating outside their homes. As health staff members are ready at relevant clinics and hospitals at different levels, people need to inform them about Hepatitis A in time for whoever suffers from it to get proper medical treatment without fail. If so, they will overcome the challenges of this disease.

## The Quiet Power of the Few



In a world that often equates success with the number of friends and social connections, the true value lies in the depth and quality of our relationships rather than their quantity. ILLUSTRATION: CONCEPT ART

WE often measure the richness of our lives by the number of people who surround us. The more friends, the more companions, the better – or so we're told. A crowded room buzzing with laughter, a phone buzzing with messages, a social circle that stretches wide like a net cast across the sea – it feels like success, doesn't it? We've been taught to see quantity as a badge of honour, a sign that we're likeable, valuable, and worthy. But what if the real treasure lies not in the many, but in the few? What if the quiet, unassuming strength of a handful of true allies outweighs the clamour of a hundred shallow voices?

Among all the friends and companions we have, how many do we think would protect us when someone speaks ill of us behind our backs? Only if we have a lot of friends and companions like that can we say we're successful in relationships. But if we have many friends and companions,

yet they're all just people who would speak ill of us together, wouldn't it be better to have just a few friends instead? It's a question that lingers, cutting through the noise of our busy lives like a whisper we can't ignore. We might not want to face it, but the truth has a way of settling in, doesn't it? It's not about how many people know our name – it's about how many would stand by it when the room empties out.

We live in a world that loves the spotlight. Crowds cheer for the loudest voices, the biggest gatherings, and the most dazzling displays of connection. We see it everywhere – online, in gatherings, even in the way we talk about our lives. A packed party feels like a triumph; a long list of contacts feels like a victory. But there's a paradox here, one we don't always notice until it's too late. The louder the crowd, the harder it is to hear the quiet ones – the ones who matter. We get swept up in the swell of numbers,

mistaking motion for meaning, and all the while, the few who truly see us might be standing just out of sight, waiting for us to turn around.

Think about it. We've all felt the sting of betrayal, that cold realization that someone we trusted didn't have our back. Maybe it was a casual comment overheard, a confidence broken, or a silence when we needed someone to speak up. It doesn't take much – just a moment – and suddenly, we're left wondering who's really with us. The crowd thins out fast when the stakes get high, doesn't it? And that's when we start to see the difference between the many and the few. The many might clap for us when the sun's shining, but the few are the ones who'll stand in the rain.

It's not that we don't need people. We're human, after all – wired to connect, to seek out others, to feel the warmth of belonging. But there's a distinction we often miss: not every connec-

tion is a bond. We can fill our days with chatter and our nights with company, but that doesn't mean we're building something real. A room full of people can still leave us lonely if none of them truly know us – or care to. We've all been there, haven't we? Smiling through a conversation, nodding along, while somewhere deep down we're wondering if anyone in the circle would notice if we slipped away.

The quiet power of the few isn't loud or flashy. It doesn't demand attention or parade itself around. It's subtle, and steady, like the roots of a tree that hold it firm through a storm. We might not see it every day, but we feel it when it counts. It's in the friend who defends us when we're not there to defend ourselves. It's in the companion who listens when we've got nothing left to say. It's in the handful of people who don't just show up for the good times but stay through the mess, the doubt, the silence. We don't need a hundred of them – just a few will do.

And yet, we chase the many. Why is that? Maybe it's because the few are harder to find. They don't announce themselves with fanfare or flood our lives with noise. They're not always the ones we notice first. We're drawn to the bright lights, the big personalities, the ones who make us feel important in the moment. But importance fades fast when it's built on sand. The few who stick around – they're the ones who build something solid, something we can lean on when the winds pick up. We might not see their value right away, but over time, it becomes impossible to miss.

There's a strange comfort in numbers, isn't there? We tell ourselves that if we have enough people around us, we'll never be alone. It's a kind of insurance policy – a buffer against the quiet moments that we're afraid to face. But numbers can trick us. We've all seen it: a circle of friends that looks tight from the outside but crumbles under pressure. Gossip spreads like wildfire, loyalties shift, and suddenly, we're left counting the ones who didn't turn

away. It's a humbling thing, realizing that the crowd we thought we had wasn't ours. And it's at that moment that we start to appreciate the few who never wavered.

We don't talk about this enough – the way quality sneaks up on us, outshining quantity when we least expect it. We're so busy collecting people, adding to our tally, that we forget to ask what it's all for. Are we gathering friends like trophies, or are we nurturing bonds that can weather the storms? It's easy to get caught up in the game of it all, isn't it? We see someone with a wide circle and think they've got it figured out. But what we don't see is what happens when the lights go off – when the party ends and the real tests begin. That's when the few step forward, and the many fade back.

There's something astonishing about this if we stop to think about it. In a world that's louder than ever – where every voice competes to be heard, where the connection is just a click away – we're still drawn to the quiet strength of the few. It's almost counterintuitive. We have more ways to reach people than ever before, yet the ones who truly matter remain rare. Maybe it's because true loyalty and true understanding can't be mass-produced. We can't force it, fake it, or scale it up. It's a slow, deliberate thing, built over time, tested by life, and proven in the shadows.

We've all had moments where a few have surprised us. A kind word when we didn't expect it. A hand reaching out when we thought we were alone. A defence we didn't have to ask for. These are the things that stick with us, aren't they? Not the applause of a crowd, but the steady presence of someone who chooses us when it's not easy.

It's not that the many are worthless. We need them too – the casual acquaintances, the friendly faces, the ones who fill our days with light conversation and small joys. They have their place. But they're not the foundation. We can't build a life on them alone. The few are the ones who hold us up when everything else falls

away. They're the ones who see us – not the version we show the world, but the one we hide when the curtains close. And that's a power we can't overestimate.

So why do we keep chasing the crowd? Maybe it's a habit. Maybe it's fear. Maybe it's just easier to count heads than to weigh hearts. But deep down, we know the truth. We feel it in the moments that matter – the ones that strip away the excess and leave us with what's real. The quiet power of the few isn't just a nice idea; it's a fact of life. We don't need everyone to love us, to know us, to stand by us. We just need the right ones. And when we find them, we've got something stronger than any crowd could ever offer.

Let's be honest with ourselves. We've all wondered how many of our friends would have our backs if push came to shove. It's not a comfortable question, but it's a necessary one. Because at the end of the day, success in relationships isn't about how many people we can gather – it's about how many would stay. And if we're surrounded by a sea of voices that would turn on us in a heartbeat, wouldn't we rather trade it all for a few who wouldn't? The answer's obvious when we strip it down. We don't need a chorus – we need a harmony. And that comes from the few, not the many.

There's a beauty in this simplicity, a quiet astonishment that sneaks up on us when we least expect it. We spend so much time chasing more – more friends, more likes, more validation – when the real power's been there all along, tucked away in the handful of people who choose us every day. They don't shout it from the rooftops. They don't need to. Their strength is in their stillness, their constancy, and their choice to stay when others walk away. And when we realize that, we see it for what it is: a gift we didn't earn but one we can't live without.

So here we are, standing in a world that loves the loud and the large, and yet we're pulled back to the quiet power of the few. It's not about having less – it's about having what matters. We don't need a thousand hands to lift us up; we just need the right ones. And when we find them, we've found something extraordinary – not in the noise, but in the silence that says more than words ever could.

## Scientists use AI to better understand nanoparticles: Study

*The AI method effectively removes noise from high-speed electron microscopy data, enabling clearer visualization of atomic-level changes.*

A group of scientists has created a way to illuminate the dynamic behaviour of nanoparticles, which are essential components in the production of pharmaceuticals, electronics, and industrial and energy-conversion materials.

The breakthrough combines artificial intelligence and electron microscopy to produce images of how these tiny pieces of matter react to stimuli. "Nanoparticle-based catalytic systems have a tremendous impact on society," explains Carlos Fernandez-Granda, director of New York University (NYU)'s Centre for Data Science and a professor of mathematics and data science, one of the paper's authors.

"It is estimated that 90 per cent of all manufactured products involve catalytic processes somewhere in their production chain. We have developed an artificial-intelligence method that opens a new window for the exploration of atomic-level structural dynamics in materials."

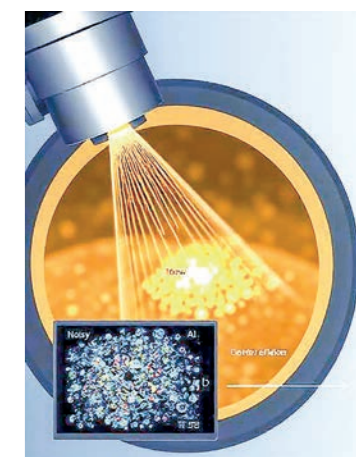
The work, which also included researchers from Arizona State University, Cornell University, and the University of Iowa, blends electron microscopy with AI to enable scientists to see the structures and movements of molecules that are one-billionth of a meter in size at an unprecedented time resolution.

"Electron microscopy can capture images at a high spatial resolution, but because of the velocity at which the atomic structure of nanoparticles changes during chemical reactions, we need to gather data at a very high speed to

understand their functionality," explains Peter A. Crozier, a professor of materials science and engineering at Arizona State University and one of the paper's authors. "This results in extremely noisy measurements. We have developed an artificial-intelligence method that learns how to remove this noise—automatically—enabling the visualization of key atomic-level dynamics."

Observing the movement of atoms on a nanoparticle is crucial to understanding functionality in industrial applications. The problem is that the atoms are barely visible in the data, so scientists cannot be sure how they are behaving—the equivalent of tracking objects in a video taken at night with an old camera. To address this challenge, the paper's authors trained a deep neural network, AI's computational engine, that is able to "light up" the electron microscope images, revealing the underlying atoms and their dynamic behavior.

SOURCE: ANI



The nature of changes in the particle is exceptionally diverse. ILLUSTRATION: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ CONCEPT ART



# NATIONAL

## Authority uncovers fake medical degree from NUG's university used for Dubai studies

TERRORIST groups CRPH, NUG and their subordinate organizations and people intentionally attempted to affect the education system of the government. The NUG's subordinate, the unofficial University of Medicine (Mandalay), created temporary medical degree certificates (counterfeit) and offered incentives to study in foreign universities. The students who believed them and applied to study in foreign countries are facing difficulties in attending as the universities do not accept their applications as their documents and degree certificates are illegal.

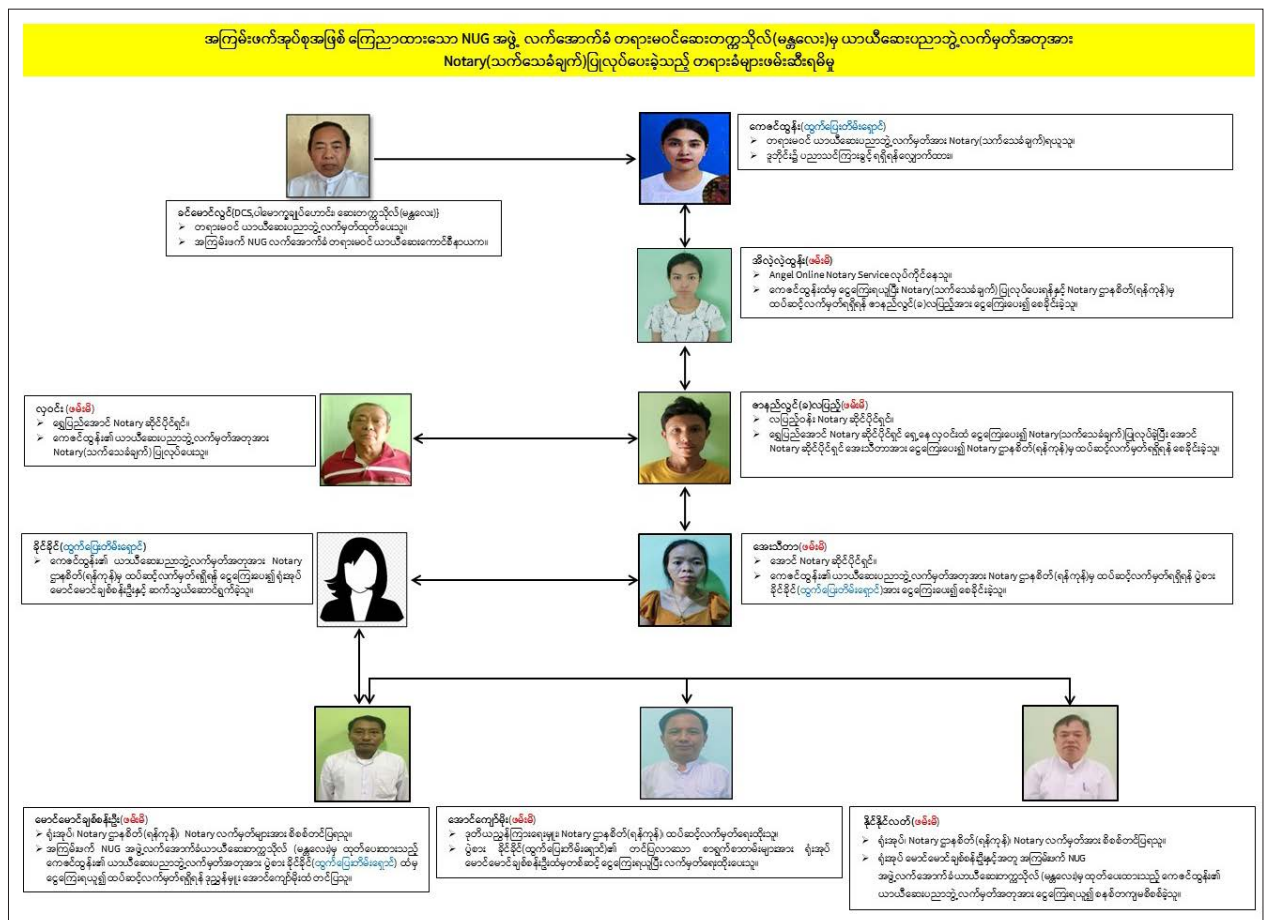
Kay Zin Tun studied at the University of Medicine (Mandalay) from 2011 to 2019 and served as an intern doctor at the Children's Hospital (Mandalay) and Mandalay Central Women's Hospital. In 2020, she received a degree certificate from the University of Medicine (Mandalay), performed duty and went abroad illegally. In November 2024, she applied for further studies in Dubai with a fake temporary medical certificate issued by the NUG's subordinate, the unlawful University of Medicine's (Mandalay) acting university council patron Disloyal Civil Servant (DCS) Khin Maung

Lwin (dismissed from the post of Rector of University of Medicine Mandalay).

On 4 March 2025, the Data Flow Group Company in Dubai contacted the University of Medicine (Mandalay) to verify the temporary medical degree certificate of Kay Zin Tun. When the officials verified the certificate, it was a fake temporary medical degree certificate (counterfeit) issued by NUG's subordinate unlawful University of Medicine (Mandalay). It was reported to the Ministry of Health.

Regarding the case of Kay Zin Tun, on 5 March 2025, lawyer Hla Win, owner of Shwe Pyi Aung Notary Shop and Zarni Lwin (aka) owner of La Pyae Wun Notary Shop from Kyauktada township of Yangon Region, deputy director Aung Kyaw Moe of Notary Section (Yangon), Consular and Legal Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were detained. On 6 March, the heads of the Notary Section (Yangon), Naing Naing Latt and Maung Maung Chit San Oo, Aye Thida, owner of Aung Notary shop in Kyauktada and Ei Lae Lae Tun, owner of Angel Online Notary Service in Seikkyi-Khanaungto, were also detained.

According to the investigation, Kay Zin Tun



Network of offenders forging medical degrees from NUG's unofficial Mandalay Medicine University.

contacted Ei Lae Lae Tun (Angel Online Notary Service) in November 2024 to make a Notary for the temporary medical degree certificate (counterfeit). Ei Lae Lae Tun then contacted Zarni Lwin (aka) La Pyae, La Pyae Wun Notary shop owner) to make a Notary get approval from the Notary Section (Yangon). Zarni Lwin (aka) La Pyae sent the Notary (fake) to lawyer Hla Win (Shwe Pyi Aung Notary shop owner)

to sign and contacted Aye Thida (Aung Notary shop owner) to get approval from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Aye Thida contacted broker Khine Khine (still at large) to get a sign from the Notary Section (Yangon) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Broker Khine Khine (still at large) contacted heads of Notary Section (Yangon) Maung Maung Chit San Oo and Naing Naing Latt, to get certificates.

The two heads submitted the Notary (fake) to deputy director Aung Zaw Moe. The deputy director took money and signed the Notary (fake). Therefore, Kay Zin Tun who applied to study in Dubai of UAE with an illegal medical degree certificate issued by the NUG unlawfully established University of Medicine (Mandalay) will be put on the blacklist and taken action seriously under the

law. Moreover, the eight offenders (one still at large) will also be taken action. The people are urged to send their children to the government's universities and not to join the schools and universities established by the terrorist group NUG. The information regarding such unlawful universities, schools and online education systems can be reported to authorities covertly. — MNA/KTZH

## Sweet potatoes thrive in market with diverse varieties

SWEET potatoes are selling well, with many varieties available, according to the Mandalay market. There are many sweet potatoes available, and among three main types of sweet potatoes – Shwe Wah, Kha Kyet, and Nga Cheik – Kha Kyet varieties are already in abundance. “Nga Cheik sweet potatoes are not available yet, but Kha Kyet ones are available now. Other areas also

produce it. Orders are coming from Yangon and Thayet. Now Thayet is also producing. The yield is very good. Sales are brisk,” said an official from the Mandalay Aye Setana Warehouse. The price of highly consumed sweet potatoes decreased slightly in August last year, and sweet potatoes from Kyaukme are being supplied via Mandalay to Yangon, Mawlamyine,

Thaton, Hsipaw, Myitkyina, Toungoo and other townships which make orders. Moreover, sweet potato powder has been used as a substitute for curry powder and sweeteners, according to the market. — Thit Taw/ZN



This image shows sweet potato bags in the Mandalay market.

# NATIONAL

## 283 foreign nationals deported for online gambling and fraud; 357 held for investigation

THE government, in collaboration with international organizations, including neighbouring countries, has been actively investigating and eradicating telecom fraud and other criminal activities. Foreign nationals involved in such activities have been systematically repatriated to their respective countries. In Kayin State, specifically in the areas of Myawady-Shwekokko, Maetawthalay, and KK Park, 283 foreign nationals who were involved in online gambling and online fraud have been repatriated to their home countries. Additionally, 357 other foreign nationals have been further investigated and detained.

Minister for Security and Border Affairs of the Kayin State government Colonel Min Thu Kyaw, and relevant officials, have been closely monitoring and inspecting the repatriation process to ensure that it is systematic and smooth. They also coordinate and implement necessary measures to ensure the operation runs efficiently.

Kayin State Security and Border Affairs Minister Colonel



Myanmar Immigration and officials processing undocumented foreign entrants.

Min Thu Kyaw, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Armed Forces General Ukrit Buntanon and officials, Ambassador of the Indian Embassy to Thailand Mr Pranav Ganesh and officials, officials from Thailand's Immigration Department in Tak Province, and other authorities had a meeting. During the meeting, discussions were held on intensifying joint efforts between

Myanmar, Thailand, and China to combat online scams and online gambling. The focus was on ensuring systematic procedures for repatriation processes between the countries of origin, transit, and destination, and the formation of a Task Force to develop an Action Plan for further collaboration. Plans were made to expedite the repatriation of third-country nationals through Thailand

to their respective countries.

Furthermore, concerning the matters of repatriation, the officials from Myanmar systematically transferred the relevant documentation to the authorities from the respective countries.

Similarly, today, 357 foreign nationals who had entered Myanmar through illegal routes in the Myawady-Maetawthalay area have been further in-

vestigated, identified, and detained. Efforts are being made to expedite their repatriation to the relevant countries, with the necessary personal details and records being collected by the relevant departmental joint teams.

From 30 January 2025 to 10 March 2025, a total of 5,199 foreign nationals who had entered Myanmar illegally were investigated, identified, and detained. Of these, 2,472 individuals were systematically repatriated to their respective countries through Thailand under legal procedures. The remaining 2,727 foreign nationals are now ready to be transferred to their respective countries, and they are being well-managed and cared for in the meantime.

A total of 5,199 foreign nationals who were detained include citizens from China, Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Pakistan, India, Uganda, Ethiopia, Nepal, Thailand, Rwanda, Kenya, Kazakhstan, Cambodia, Ghana, Bangladesh, Japan, and Chinese Taipei. The majority of these individuals are Chinese nationals. — MNA/MKKS

### Counter-argument to false information

#### Subversive media allege security forces bombed Kyaukkyi, Mu residents

FALSE reports spread, claiming that three civilians were killed and two wounded, and houses were destroyed due to bombing attacks of airstrike by security forces on 6 March in Kyaukkyi Township and Mu Township, Bago Region.

Regarding this information, a security official said that based on information provided by a responsible citizen, PDF terrorists gathered near the mentioned townships to commit terror activities. As a result, the necessary security operations were conducted. During these operations, some terrorists sustained injuries. However, it has been reported that malicious media outlets are spreading false and misleading information to deceive the public by fabricating and distorting the facts. — MNA/TTA

## Weather

### Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Monday 10 March 2025)

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

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 11 MARCH 2025:** Light rain are likely to be isolated in Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions. Degree of certainty is 60 per cent. Weather will be partly cloudy in Bago and Upper Sagaing Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Mon and (southern and eastern) Shan 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 isolated rain in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin and Mon States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 MARCH 2025:** Generally fair weather.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 MARCH 2025:** Partly cloudy.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11 MARCH 2025:** Generally fair weather.

— DMH

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## Vingroup aims to start \$9 bln tourism project near mangrove forest

VIETNAM'S biggest conglomerate Vingroup said Monday it is seeking permission to begin work next month on a \$9 billion real estate project in a southern coastal area home to a UNESCO-listed mangrove forest.

The project in Can Gio — on the outskirts of Ho Chi Minh City — attracted rare criticism when it was approved in 2020 from academics and environmental experts, who worried about its proximity to the area's biosphere reserve.

Scheduled for completion in 2030, the Can Gio Sea Reclamation Urban Development project envisions itself as a coastal tourism hub that features hotels, a smart city and residential areas across an area of 2,870 hectares (7,090 acres).

It should be able to accommodate 230,000 residents and attract nine million tourists annually once completed, according to state media.

Vingroup told AFP Monday



This photo taken on 21 April 2022 shows oyster farmers riding their boat past a mangrove forest at a coastal area in Ho Chi Minh City's Can Gio district. **PHOTO: AFP**

it would “aim to commence construction on 30 April this year”, adding that the “thoughtfully planned” project demonstrated its “commitment to sustainable development by ensuring environmental protection and creat-

ing a comfortable, nature-friendly living environment”.

State media says the development area is located some 18 kilometres (11 miles) from the Can Gio Mangrove Biosphere Reserve, regarded as the “green

lungs” of vast metropolis Ho Chi Minh City.

The mangroves absorb carbon dioxide and other polluting agents on a daily basis and contain a high diversity of plant and animal species, according

to UNESCO.

In an online petition launched in 2020 and addressed to the then-most powerful leaders in Vietnam — a one-party communist state — 23 prominent academics, environmentalists and researchers urged authorities to conduct a review and an independent assessment of the plans.

“The project poses a serious threat on the Can Gio mangrove forest, hampering its function as a protection forest, which may lead to a series of harm to the (nearby) urban regions,” they wrote.

The signatories, who include GreenID, one of Vietnam's most prominent environmental organizations, also said that pursuing a “gargantuan” land reclamation project in Can Gio is “extremely dangerous in the context of worsening climate change”, posing risks related to erosion, flooding and water stagnation. — AFP

## Thailand aims for growth beyond 3% in 2025 with more economic stimulus

THAILAND'S government plans to implement additional fiscal stimulus measures to boost the Southeast Asian country's economic growth beyond three per cent this year, Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra said on Monday.

Building on the positive momentum over the past year, primarily fuelled by exports and tourism, the government will focus on proposing and refining economic stimulus projects while striving to surpass the growth target and address structural challenges in the long run, Paetongtarn said in a statement.

She chaired a meeting of the economic stimulus policy committee, where the participants reviewed the progress of 46 stimulus projects, covering key drivers in four areas, including private consumption, private investment, government spending, and exports of goods



Tourists ride a cruise in the Chao Praya river, in Bangkok on 19 December 2024. **PHOTO: AFP**

and services.

The committee also approved the principles of distributing 10,000 baht (about US\$295) each to approximately 2.7 million Thai citizens aged 16 to 20 through a “digital wallet” application as part of the government's flagship handout scheme.

According to financial officials, this third phase of the

program is expected to launch between the late second and early third quarters of 2025, pending further evaluation of its efficiency and long-term economic impact.

The Thai economy grew 2.5 per cent in 2024, accelerating from two per cent in the previous year but below the government target of 2.7 per cent. — Xinhua

## Japan's real wages fall 1.8% in January, first drop in 3 months

JAPAN'S real wages fell 1.8 per cent in January from a year earlier, the first drop in three months, due to higher food and gasoline prices, government data showed Monday.

Nominal wages, or the average total monthly cash earnings per worker including base and overtime pay, increased 2.8 per cent to 295,505 yen (\$2,000) at workplaces with five or more employees, rising for the 37<sup>th</sup> straight month, according to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

But the rise in nominal wages was outpaced by a 4.7 per cent increase in consumer prices used for the salary data, according to the labour ministry.

Reduced government subsidies to curb gas prices, and high prices of rice and fresh vegetables contributed to increased

inflation.

A ministry official said real wage growth is expected to remain in negative territory “unless price rises cool,” noting that the results of the country's spring wage negotiations between management and labour unions will only be reflected in the statistics from April.

Real wages, or inflation-adjusted wages, a barometer of consumer purchasing power, dropped for 26<sup>th</sup> straight months through May 2024. Later in 2024, it increased year-on-year only when bonuses were paid in June, July, November and December.

At workplaces with 30 or more employees, real wages dropped 0.7 per cent in January from a year earlier, down for the first time in five months, the provisional data showed. — Kyodo

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BEYPORE SULTAN VOY.NO. (25008)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BEYPORE SULTAN VOY.NO. (25008)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-3-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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 CONNEXT SHIPPING PTE LTD**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2503S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2503S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-3-2025** 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 4 VOY.NO. (13N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 4 VOY.NO. (13N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-3-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMT** 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 MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED**

## Cambodia's intl trade hit US\$9.44 bln in Jan-Feb period

CAMBODIA'S foreign trade volume reached US\$9.44 billion in the first two months of 2025, up 16 per cent from \$8.12 billion over the same period of 2024, said an official report released on Monday.

The kingdom's total export amounted to \$4.46 billion during the January-February period this year, up 11.9 per cent compared to the same

period in 2024, and total import hit \$4.98 billion, up 20.6 per cent, according to the General Department of Customs and Excise's report.

China remained the Southeast Asian country's largest trading partner, followed by the United States, Vietnam, Thailand, and Japan, the report said.

Cambodia exported

mainly garment, footwear and travel goods products, bicycles, car tires, solar panels, dry rubber, milled rice, bananas, cashew nuts, mangoes, and longans, as it imported raw materials for garment, footwear and travel goods, petroleum, construction materials, automobiles and motorcycles, and consuming goods, among others. — Xinhua

## Nissan to keep 5 Japan plants as it hashes out restructuring plan

NISSAN Motor Co is set to maintain all five assembly plants in Japan as the struggling automaker hashes out restructuring measures to turn its business around, sources familiar with the matter said Monday.

The automaker is crafting the details of its streamlining plan, which centres on slashing 9,000 jobs and cutting its global output capacity by 20 per cent as it faces faltering sales in the United States and China.

The five factories, including those of Nissan units, are located in Tochigi, Kanagawa and Fukuoka prefectures.

The automaker decided against closing factories as it would have a significant negative impact on domestic employment and plans to consolidate its production lines instead.

The detailed restructuring measures will be discussed, along with its new management structure, at a board meeting on Tuesday, the sources said. — Kyodo

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We, **Shanghai Forever Chemical Co.,Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from **Myanmar Golden Sun Crop Science Co.,Ltd** to **Myanmar Gold Medal Crop Science Co.,Ltd**. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next (2) weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Golden Bomber 480 SL	Glyphosate 480g/l SL	Full Registration	F2021-3334

Myanmar Golden Sun Crop Science Co.,Ltd  
Tel: 09-784772103

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC SHUNDE VOY.NO. (2504S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC SHUNDE VOY.NO. (2504S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-3-2025** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINES CO., LTD**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (931N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CAPE FELTON VOY.NO. (931N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-3-2025** 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**

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# ROLLING UPDATES

## WORLD

### Canada's next PM Mark Carney vows to 'win' US trade war

CANADA'S incoming prime minister Mark Carney struck a defiant note as the former central banker vowed to win US President Donald Trump's trade war, saying his country will "never" be part of the United States.

Carney lost no time standing up for "the Canadian way of life" after the Liberal Party overwhelmingly elected him on Sunday to succeed Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

"We didn't ask for this fight. But Canadians are always ready when someone else drops the gloves," Carney told party supporters in Ottawa.

"So the Americans, they should make no mistake, in trade as in hockey, Canada will win," he said.

"Canada never ever will be part of America in any way, shape or form," said the 59-year-

old, who will take over from Trudeau in the coming days.

Carney may not have the job for long.

Canada must hold elections by October but could well see a snap poll within weeks. Current opinion polls had the opposition Conservatives as slight favourites.

#### 'Existential challenge'

Carney warned in his victory speech that the United States under Trump was seeking to seize control of Canada.

"The Americans want our resources, our water, our land, our country," he said, adding "these were dark days brought on by a country we can no longer trust."

"We're all being called to stand up for... the Canadian way of life."

Carney previously led both the Bank of Canada and the



Canada's Liberal Leader and Prime Minister-elect Mark Carney speaks after being elected as the new Liberal Party leader, in Ottawa on 9 March 2025. PHOTO: AFP

Bank of England. He soundly defeated his main challenger, Trudeau's former deputy prime minister Chrystia Freeland, who held senior cabinet positions in the Liberal government first elected in 2015.

Carney won 85.9 per cent of the nearly 152,000 votes cast. Freeland took just eight per cent of the vote.

Carney campaigned on a promise to stand up to Trump. Trump has repeatedly spo-

ken about annexing Canada and thrown bilateral trade, the lifeblood of the Canadian economy, into chaos with dizzying tariff actions that have veered in various directions since he took office.

Trudeau said "Canadians face from our neighbour an existential challenge".

#### Contending with Trump

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer congratulated Carney, saying: "I look forward to working closely with him on shared international priorities."

China, which has a turbulent relationship with Canada, also congratulated Carney but said it hoped the country could "pursue a positive and pragmatic policy towards China".

Celebrating the outcome in Ottawa, party loyalist Cory Stevenson said "the Liberal party has the wind in its sails". — AFP

### North Korea fires missiles as South begins drills with US



People watch a television screen showing a news broadcast with file footage of a North Korean missile test, at a train station in Seoul on 10 March 2025. PHOTO: AFP

NORTH Korea fired "multiple unidentified ballistic missiles" on Monday, South Korea's military said, the same day Seoul and Washington began a major annual joint military drill known as Freedom Shield.

"Our military has detected at around 13:50 (0450 GMT) multiple unidentified ballistic missiles fired from Hwanghae province into the West Sea," the Joint Chiefs of Staff said,

referring to the body of water also known as the Yellow Sea.

"Our military will bolster surveillance and maintain a full readiness posture under close cooperation with the United States," the JCS added.

The United States stations tens of thousands of US soldiers in South Korea, and the allies regularly stage joint drills, which they describe as

defensive in nature.

But such exercises infuriate Pyongyang, which regards them as rehearsals for invasion and routinely responds with weapons tests of its own.

Earlier Monday, the nuclear-armed North slammed the drills as a "provocative act", warning of the danger of sparking war with "an accidental single shot". — AFP

### News in brief

#### All Tohoku Shinkansen services halted after person hit by train

ALL bullet train services on the Tohoku Shinkansen Line in northeast Japan were halted for around two hours on Monday after a person entered the tracks and was hit by a train, the operator said, days after the decoupling of cars on a train led to a disruption of services that still continues.

JR East said a person intruded onto the tracks in the morning, with police suspecting that the individual climbed over a fence to commit suicide. While local train services in Japan are sometimes affected by suicides, shinkansen services are rarely halted. — Kyodo

#### Air India Mumbai-New York flight returns after bomb threat

A New York-bound Air India flight from Mumbai returned four hours after take-off following a mid-air bomb threat on Monday morning, multiple local media reports said.

The Boeing 777 aircraft with 322 people, including 19 crew members, on board was flying over Azerbaijan when it changed course and returned to Mumbai.

Following its landing, bomb-detection procedures were carried out and the flight was subject to mandatory checks by the security agencies.

"A potential security threat was detected mid-flight on AI 119 operating Mumbai-New York (JFK) today, 10 March 2025. After following the necessary protocols, the flight air-returned to Mumbai, in the interest of the safety and security of all on board. The flight landed safely back in Mumbai at 1025 Hrs (local time)," Air India in a statement to media said.

Reports said a bomb threat note was discovered inside one of the plane's lavatories, prompting immediate action from the flight crew. Following it, the pilots swiftly coordinated with air traffic control and authorities to ensure a safe landing back in Mumbai. — Xinhua

# SPORTS



## Qualifiers held for MFF U19 Youth Futsal League

THE Futsal and Beach Football Committee of the Myanmar Football Federation organized the qualifiers for the U19 Youth Futsal League at the MFF Futsal Court of Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon yesterday.

On the earlier agenda, the MFF U19 Futsal League will be held with the participation of 12 clubs. But, a total of 13 clubs submitted nominations to take part in the league. So, the committee held the qualifiers for youth clubs

from League 2 and five more clubs which were late to be listed. In this regard, four clubs of them will be qualified for the U-19 League.

In the qualifiers, SGF trounced Shwepyitha United 6-2, whereas Pacific Sun Far beat Maya 3-2. Moreover, two losed clubs, Shwepyitha United met Maya, but Shwepyitha United crushed its opponent with a 4-1 win and qualified.

In facing Gold Dream for the last position of the qualifier, Maya secured a 2-1 victory over its opponent. So, SGF, Pacific Sun Far, Shwepyitha United and Maya were qualified for the league.

MFF will draw the fixtures of the MFF U19 Youth League on 11 March. — Ko Nyi Lay/TTA

Players of Shwepyitha United and Maya are in action at the qualifiers. **PHOTO: MFF**

## Myanmar unveils 42-man squad for Asian Cup qualifiers' third round

THE Myanmar National Football Team has announced a preliminary squad of 42 players for the upcoming third round of 2027 Asian Cup qualifiers that will take place this month.

Players from foreign clubs and Shan United, which is competing in the quarterfinals of the AFC Challenge League, will join the team in the third week of March. Before the third round of Asian Cup qualifiers, the team will only play domestic tune-up

matches and will have more than 20 days to prepare. The remaining 18 players have been in training camp since 3 March, gearing up for the 2027 Asian Cup qualifiers against Syria, Afghanistan and Pakistan. Myanmar will face Afghanistan in their first group match on 25 March at home.

The squad comprising local and foreign-based players includes five goalkeepers, 14 defenders, 17 midfielders and six forwards. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

## Ahead of Bayern clash, Leverkusen's Alonso rediscovers his fighting spirits

A healthier look seemed to return to Xabi Alonso's face over the weekend, suggesting he has left behind his darkest hours as Leverkusen's head coach.

The 43-year-old Spaniard's fighting spirit appears to have resurfaced, guiding him into a tunnel-like focus before the delicate second leg of the UEFA Champions League last-16 tie against Bayern Munich.

He chose not to talk much, a habit of the two-time Champions League winner, but his body language looked more competitive.

Eyewitnesses at the 2024 German champions' headquarters noted a visible lift in Alonso's demeanor, indicating the former LFC, Real, and Bayern midfield-

er hasn't abandoned hope of turning things around in Tuesday's clash with the Bavarians.

Alonso still believes in what he previously called a "miracle", despite the 3-0 loss in the first leg against Bayern.

Before this, suffering two consecutive defeats — his first such run since May 2023 — took its toll on the 114-time capped international. On Saturday evening, immediately after the league setback against Bremen, which followed the 3-0 UEFA Champions League defeat in Munich, a pale and visibly frustrated Alonso lamented his team's failures and admitted he had likely chosen a misleading lineup by rotating seven positions. — Xinhua

## Man Utd holds Arsenal to extend Liverpool's lead in Premier League



Manchester United's Portuguese midfielder (08) Bruno Fernandes (2R) celebrates with teammates after scoring the opening goal during the English Premier League football match between Manchester United and Arsenal at Old Trafford in Manchester, north west England, on 9 March 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

LIVERPOOLS lead at the top of the Premier League stretched to 15 points over Arsenal this weekend after the team won 3-1 at home to Southampton on Saturday, while Arsenal was held to a 1-1 draw away to Manchester United on Sunday.

Arsenal was aware Liverpool had won its game, but it fell behind to a free kick by Bruno Fernandes right on the stroke of halftime at Old Trafford.

Fernandes appeared to have plenty of space to curl his shot over the Arsenal goal and into the net from just outside the penalty area.

Arsenal enjoyed 69 per cent possession away to Unit-

ed, but it wasn't until the 74<sup>th</sup> minute that Declan Rice netted the equalizer with a smart finish. However, the side's realistic target now may be to secure second place.

Marc Cucurella scored the only goal of the game in the 60<sup>th</sup> minute as Chelsea beat Leicester City 1-0 at Stamford Bridge, sinking Leicester deeper into the relegation mire while lifting Chelsea above Manchester City and into the top four.

It was far from a classic game, with Chelsea controlling most of the possession and creating the best chances, including a penalty Cole Palmer had saved, confirming his poor run

of form.

Cucurella reinforced his cult-hero status at Chelsea in the 60<sup>th</sup> minute, when his powerful shot from distance flew into the back of the net to give his side three vital points.

Bournemouth was left frustrated by a 2-2 draw with Tottenham after leading 2-0 in the 65<sup>th</sup> minute.

The impressive Marcus Tavernier put Bournemouth ahead in the 42<sup>nd</sup> minute with a controlled volley at the far post, and the points looked to be heading to the south coast when Justin Kluivert set up Evanilson to double the lead in the 65<sup>th</sup>. — Xinhua

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# WORLD



Researchers and experts pose for photos near the one-eighth vacuum chamber and overall installation system, one of the key subsystems of the Comprehensive Research Facility for Fusion Technology (CRAFT), in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province, 9 March 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

## Key system of China's next-generation "artificial sun" passes acceptance process

CHINA has hit another milestone in the development of its next-generation "artificial sun", with one of its key systems passing expert review and acceptance procedures on Sunday, achieving an internationally advanced development and operational capability standard.

The one-eighth vacuum chamber and overall installation system was developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Institute of Plasma Physics (ASIPP). It is one of the 19 key subsystems of the Comprehensive Research Facility for Fusion Technology (CRAFT), a platform on which engineers develop and test the key components of fusion

energy reactors.

Resembling an orange slice, the newly approved system features a D-shaped cross-section with a double-layer shell and stands 20 metres tall. The vacuum chamber shell, made of ultra-low-carbon stainless steel, weighs 295 tonnes. In the future, eight of these "orange slices" will form a complete structure, housing plasma at temperatures exceeding 100 million degrees Celsius.

Liu Zhihong, a researcher at ASIPP and the system's lead scientist, explained that the vacuum chamber serves as the closest nuclear safety barrier to a reactor core, requiring extreme precision in

terms of welding, structural integrity and magnetic permeability.

The research team spent a decade overcoming technical challenges in their development of the system, securing more than 40 invention patents along the way.

"By completing the one-eighth vacuum chamber, we have fully mastered the critical technologies needed for a complete toroidal vacuum chamber for future fusion reactors," Liu said, noting that the system's technology has also been applied to particle accelerators, precision machinery and electronics. — Xinhua

## 'Too soon' to discuss pope's return home, says Vatican source

POPE Francis, in hospital with pneumonia, is showing slight signs of improvement but it is too early to discuss his return home, a Vatican source said Monday.

The 88-year-old leader of the world's Catholics was admitted to Rome's Gemelli hospital on 14 February and suffered a series of breathing crises, the last of which was seven days ago.

Since then, doctors have described his clinical situation as "stable" and at the weekend said there were "slight improvements... in a complex overall picture".

But "it is too soon to talk about his return to Santa Marta", the guest house within the tiny city state where the pope lives, a Vatican source said Monday.

Francis spent a quiet night in his suite on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the Gemelli and was spending the day doing physical and respiratory therapy, according to the Vatican.

As on previous mornings, he also switched from the oxygen mask he uses nightly to a cannula — a plastic tube tucking into the nostrils — which delivers high-flow oxygen, it said. — AFP



A woman lays a candle at the statue of John Paul II outside the Gemelli University Hospital where Pope Francis is hospitalized with pneumonia, in Rome on 10 March 2025. PHOTO: AFP

## Spanish PM Sanchez urges greater European self-reliance in defence

SPANISH Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez on Sunday reiterated the need for European to enhance its self-reliance in defence, emphasizing the continent's security interest amid shifting geopolitical dynamics.

Speaking at a Socialist Party meeting in Santiago de Compostela, north-west Spain,

Sanchez underscored the urgency for Europe to take greater responsibility for its own security in light of strained relations with the United States following Donald Trump's return to the US presidency.

"From what we have seen, it's better that we depend a bit more on ourselves and a bit less

on others," Sanchez stated.

His remarks came days after announcing plans to accelerate the country's commitment to spending two per cent of its gross domestic product on defence.

Regarding Spain's security role, Sanchez noted that while the country's threats differ from those faced by Eastern Europe,

where more traditional military buildups are needed, Spain should play a role in countering other threats, including terrorism and the impacts of climate change.

Over the past week, heavy rains and floods have attacked several parts of eastern Spain, including Valencia, where dev-

astating floods have left over 200 people dead. The recent weather alerts led to the closures of schools and other services.

Reaffirming Spain's commitment to European stability, Sanchez stressed the importance of securing a "long and durable peace" in Ukraine. — Xinhua