

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

# SAC Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing set to depart for Thailand to attend Sixth BIMSTEC Summit

**C**HAIRMAN of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing will leave for Thailand on 3 April to attend the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit on 3 and 4 April. During the trip, the Senior General will hold talks with Heads of Government who attend the summit about situations caused by the earthquake disaster in Myanmar, and the potential for cooperation with the international community to carry out rescue and rehabilitation measures effectively. — MNA/TTA

# Nippon Foundation commits US\$3M aid for Myanmar quake relief



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar and Chairman of the Nippon Foundation yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

**S**AC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing held talks with the Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar and the Nippon Foundation Chairman. Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar and Chairman of the Nippon Foundation called on Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the Tatmadaw Guesthouse in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon and donated rescue and relief

equipment for the earthquake-affected areas. The Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar and Chairman of Nippon Foundation donated 50 backpacks comprising 14 relief items, 60 rescue helmets and one carton of gloves to be used in rescue and relief operations at the quake-affected areas of Myanmar. The Senior General accepted the donations. At the meeting, they cordially discussed the loss and damage caused by the earthquake in Myanmar; the sending of rescue teams by the international community, the provision of rescue and relief supplies, endeavours of international rescue squads together with rescue teams and volunteers of Myanmar in carrying out rescue operations, special thanks to the Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar and Chairman of the Nippon Foundation for personally donating rescue materials to be used in rescue operations in Myanmar; and plans of the Nippon Foundation to donate foods and other necessary supplies worth US\$3 million to the quake-affected people. — MNA/TTA

Article

The Unexpected Retribution of the Earth

By Yin Nwe Ko

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Local rescue teams equipped with cutting-edge gear from international allies

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Govt welcomes all organizations to join quake relief - follow official protocols

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MoC Union Minister assesses quake damage, reviews rehabilitation plans



NATIONAL

Nation's Development Relies on Contributions  
from Intellectuals and Experts

IN line with the saying, "The strength of the nation lies within," the country's development efforts depend on the contributions of intellectuals and experts in the arts and sciences.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the ceremony of presenting awards to outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination 2024 with distinctions in all subjects on 22 July 2024)

Announcement for local and foreign well-wishers  
to donate cash to earthquake victims

1. An announcement has been issued that well-wishers at home and abroad can donate cash and kind to victims affected by a powerful earthquake which centred near Mandalay on 28 March 2025.

2. If well-wishers wish to donate cash through mobile payment, they can scan QR codes of KBZ Pay, CB Pay, AYA Pay, OK\$ and Wave Money or contact QR Code number of KBZ Pay 70157401001. If they wish to donate cash through Wave Money, they can pay cash to telephone numbers 09 255001542 and 09 255001543 directly. A single QR Scan can be used to pay KBZpay MMQR through any digital wallets or banking mobile application allowed by CBM.

3. If they donate cash through banking services, they pay cash in Myanmar kyat to the Account Number OA-011834 of Myanma Economic Bank in Nay Pyi Taw through the following ways: -

(a) They can donate cash at Nay Pyi Taw Branch of MEB or other MEB branches or all private bank branches.

(b) They can donate cash through the account transfer opened at State-owned or private-owned banks.

4. Moreover, those wishing to donate foreign currencies can pay cash to Foreign Account Number EDN-600018 opened at MEB in Nay Pyi Taw through the following ways: -

(a) They can donate dollar, euro and Singapore dollar in cash to the MEB directly.

(b) They can make donations through the Account Transfer from their foreign accounts.

(c) Well-wishers at home and abroad wishing to donate foreign currencies to -

SWIFT CODE/BICMFTBMMMY

Beneficiary NameNatural Disaster Management Fund

Beneficiary A/C NoEDN-600018
5. Well-wishers can inquire about and donate cash and kind to following persons: -
- | Nay Pyi Taw   | Yangon   | Mandalay   |
|---|--|--|
| Daw Lei Lei Aye<br>Director-General<br>Disaster Management<br>Department<br>0673404050, 092021491     | U Than Soe<br>Director<br>Disaster Management<br>Department<br>Yangon Region Office<br>09250123885               | U Aye Min Thu<br>Director<br>Disaster Management<br>Department<br>Mandalay Region Office<br>09420708827            |
| U Win Shwe<br>Deputy Director-General<br>Disaster Management<br>Department<br>0673404048, 09254170011 | Daw Than Than Win<br>Deputy Director<br>Disaster Management<br>Department<br>Yangon Region Office<br>09420740160 | Daw Thet Thet Aye<br>Deputy Director<br>Disaster Management<br>Department<br>Mandalay Region Office<br>09400502056 |
| Daw Phyu Phyu Win<br>Director<br>Disaster Management<br>Department<br>0673404316, 0943054844          |  |  |
6. Donations can be sent to the following addresses: -

(a) Relevant Region or State Governments

(b) Office No 23, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Nay Pyi Taw

(c) Central Store Depot (Yangon), Disaster Management Department, Ward 3, Kyaikwaing Pagoda Road, Yangon

(d) Central Store Depot (Mandalay), Disaster Management Department, 65<sup>th</sup> Street between 34<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> streets, Pyigy Myetshin Ward, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay
- National Disaster Management Committee
- Weather
- Untimely Rainfall Warning  
No 8
- Issued at 7 pm MST on 2 April 2025
- ACCORDING to the observations at 6:30 pm MST today, due to the convergence of warm air from the
- Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal and cold air from the China high pressure system and the eastern disturbances, rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered to Fairly Widespread in Taninthayi Region and Kayin, and Mon States during today evening to 5 April 2025. Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated to scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, and Ay-
- eyawady Regions, Kayah, Chin, Rakhine and Shan States and fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region, Kachin, Kayin and Mon States during 6 April 2025 to 11 April 2025.
- Advice
- People should be awared of untimely rainfall accompanied with strong wind, thunder, lightning and hails. — DMH



NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

Local rescue teams equipped with cutting-edge gear from international allies

Geologists, seismologists, and Engineering Council experts must assess the site to ensure its suitability for construction.

THE National Disaster Management Committee held its meeting at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win.

Speaking at the meeting, the Vice-Senior General delivered an address, saying that, thanks to the invitation of the Prime Minister to the international community, local rescue teams have access to the latest international rescue equipment used by foreign rescue teams, allowing for hands-on experience with advanced technology and high-tech equipment capabilities.

He noted that collaboration with international rescue teams has not only helped save the lives of affected citizens but has also allowed domestic rescue teams to share and gain access to valuable technologies and modern equipment expertise.

As of yesterday, the Vice-Senior General stressed that a total of 49 international relief flights arrived, bringing 1,915 rescue personnel and over 714 tonnes of relief and support materials. These supplies are being swiftly transported and distributed efficiently.

He recounted that the Prime Minister has also instructed that all international relief



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy PM Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses the meeting of the National Disaster Management Committee yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

and support materials should be delivered directly to earthquake victims without being stockpiled unnecessarily, ensuring they reach those in need as quickly as possible.

He mentioned that as local and foreign well-wishers and ministries donated K126.4881 billion to be spent on rescue and rehabilitation measures in the affected areas, it is necessary to systematically manage the spending of the fund.

The Vice-Senior General

emphasized that reconstruction efforts must be carried out for the damaged and destroyed staff housing, office buildings, and other structures affected by the earthquake. Arrangements must be made to ensure that staff members and their families have sufficient food and temporary shelter. It is crucial to align these arrangements with the rainy season and ensure that weather-resistant temporary or permanent structures are completed before the rainy season

sets in.

He underscored that geologists, seismologists, and experts from the Engineering Council must conduct assessments to determine whether construction at the current location is appropriate. If the location is deemed unsuitable, alternative suitable land must be identified for construction.

He underlined that one of the weaknesses of the current staff housing system is that accommodations are not arranged

separately for each ministry. This has led to certain limitations in coordination and communication. Therefore, during the reconstruction and relocation process, it is essential to allocate housing in a way that groups employees by ministry.

As a result, he urged attendees to effectively discuss various matters, including committee-specific tasks, ongoing activities, encountered challenges, plans, temporary

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NATIONAL

Global leaders extend condolences to Myanmar’s PM over deadly quake

LEADERS and heads of international community and heads of religious organizations sent messages of condolences to State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing for the extensive damage, loss of lives and injuries in the powerful earthquake which struck on 28 March 2025.

President of the Russian Federation Mr Vladimir Putin, President of the Republic of Belarus Aleksandr Lukashenko, Prime Minister of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic Mr Sonexay Siphandone, President of Turkmenistan Mr Serdar

Berdimuhamedov, President of the Republic of Seychelles Mr Wavel Ramkalawan, Chairman of the Asian Peace and Reconciliation Council Prof Dr Surakiart Sathirathai, Deputy Chairman of the Security Council of the Russian Federation Mr Dmitry Medvedev, Governor of Novosibirsk Oblast, the Russian Federation, Mr AA Travnikov, Head of the Republic of Buryatia, the Russian Federation, Mr Alexey Tsydenov, Honorary Advisor of the Japan-Myanmar Culture and Industry Promotion Association, Japan Mr Hiromichi Watanabe and Southeast Asian Patriarchal Exarchate Sergiy sent messages

of condolences regarding the devastating impact of the earthquake to Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, due to the severe damage, fatalities, and injuries caused by the powerful earthquake.

The messages express deep sorrow over the devastating earthquake that struck Myanmar, causing significant loss of lives, homes, and property. They convey heartfelt condolences for the tragic incidents that followed and acknowledge the shared grief between the Russian and Myanmar people. Sympathy is

extended to the families who lost their loved ones, and prayers are offered for the swift recovery of all those affected by the natural disaster. On behalf of the government and people of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, condolences are extended to the Myanmar government and its people, especially to the bereaved families. The messages also mention deep regret over the severe earthquake in central Myanmar, which resulted in numerous casualties and extensive damage. They are deeply saddened to hear the news of the devastating earthquake that struck on 28 March 2025, causing

significant loss of lives, homes, and wealth for the people of Myanmar. They hope for the swift recovery and rebuilding of their lives. The news of such a powerful earthquake in Myanmar has shocked and saddened them greatly. In this time of terrifying disaster, they extend their deepest condolences to all the people of Myanmar who have lost their loved ones such as family members and friends. On behalf of himself and the Patriarchal Exarchate of the Orthodox Church in Southeast Asia, they send their prayers and heartfelt sympathies to all the people of Myanmar and their relatives. — MNA/TTA

**Honourable Mr Prime Minister**

Please, accept my deep condolences on the tragic consequences of the earthquake in Sagaing and Mandalay administrative regions.

Russia shares the grief of the friendly people of Myanmar. Please, convey words of sincere sympathy and support to those who have suffered the loss of their loved ones, as well as wishes for a speedy recovery to all those affected by this natural calamity.

With compliments,

V Putin  
Moscow, Kremlin  
28 March 2025

**Honourable Mister Min Aung Hlaing,**

I am deeply saddened to learn of the significant earthquake that occurred in the Sagaing and Mandalay regions of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, resulting in loss of life and extensive damage.

I sincerely extend my sympathy to the families and loved ones of the victims and my wish for a speedy recovery to all the injured.

DA Medvedev  
Deputy Chairman of the Security Council  
Russian Federation  
Moscow, Russia  
29 March 2025

Your Excellency,  
Dear Mr Prime Minister,

I have been deeply shocked by the news of the dreadful earthquake that occurred in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. My sincere condolences go out to the people who have lost their relatives and friends in the devastating calamity. On my behalf and on behalf of the clergy of the Patriarchal of South-East Asia, I offer our deep commiseration to you and all the people of Myanmar.

I pray that the injured make a speedy recovery and those who are working to overcome the aftermaths of the natural disaster find strength and fortitude.

With heartfelt condolences,

Patriarchal Exarch  
Of South-East Asia,  
Metropolitan of Singapore  
And South-East Asia  
SERGIY  
28 March 2025

**His Excellency  
Senior General Min Aung Hlaing  
Chairman of the State Administration Council and  
Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

Your Excellency,

Accept my deepest condolences over the great loss of life and injuries caused by the earthquake that struck the centre of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

In this time of hardship, on behalf of the people and the Government of Turkmenistan, as well as on my own behalf, I kindly ask you to extend our deepest sympathy and words of support to the bereaved families and relatives, as well as wishes for a quick recovery to the injured.

With my highest consideration,

Sedar Berdimuhamedov  
President of Turkmenistan  
30 March 2025

**HE Senior General Min Aung Hlaing  
Chairman of the State Administration Council,  
Prime Minister,  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Nay Pyi Taw**

Honourable Mister Min Aung Hlaing,

On behalf of myself and the people of the Republic of Buryatia, I express my sincere and deep condolences in connection with the tragic events that occurred as a result of the earthquake in the Sagaing and Mandalay regions on 28 March 2025.

The long-standing relations between the Republic of Buryatia and the regions of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar are based on mutual understanding and respect. We highly appreciate the openness and constructive atmosphere that has developed in our interaction.

May the bright memory of those who passed away become a source of strength, courage and unity among the peoples of Russia and Myanmar. Please, accept the assurances of solidarity and support. We stand with You in this difficult hour.

Regards,

AS Tsydenov  
Head of the Republic of Buryatia  
Ulan-Ude  
29 March 2025

**Senior General Min Aung Hlaing  
Chairman of the State Administration Council and  
Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Nay Pyi Taw**

Excellency,

I have learned with profound sadness over the earthquake that struck the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 28 March 2025, causing loss of lives and properties to the people of Myanmar.

On behalf of the Government and people of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and my own behalf, I would like to convey my deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathies to Your Excellency, the Government and People of Myanmar, particularly to the bereaved families of the victims.

I am confident that under intensive effort by Your Excellency and the Government, the people of Myanmar will be able to overcome this difficult time and restore the affected areas to normalcy.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sonexay Siphandone  
Prime Minister  
of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic  
Vientiane  
29 March 2025

NATIONAL

FROM PAGE 4

**His Excellency Senior General Min Aung Hlaing  
Prime Minister, Chairman of the State Administration  
Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar**  
Your Excellency,  
We would like to express our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to you for the earthquake that occurred in your country on 28 March 2025, which caused extensive damage in many parts of the country.  
We have also requested the Japanese government to promptly express its sympathy and humanitarian assistance.  
We hope for the earliest possible recovery and restoration of people's lives.  
Yours Sincerely,  
Hiromichi Watanabe, Honorary Adviser  
Fumio Usui, Chairman  
Naohiko Takaku, Representative Director  
Japan Myanmar Culture Industry  
Promotion Association  
1 April 2025

**Excellency Senior General Min Aung Hlaing  
Prime Minister and Chairman of the State  
Administration Council  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Nay Pyi Taw,**  
I wish to express my deepest concern and heartfelt condolences over the severe devastation and the heavy loss of life and injuries caused by the powerful earthquake that struck many regions in Myanmar. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Myanmar, especially the bereaved families, in these trying times. We stand by our Myanmar friends and hope that international assistance can be rapidly mobilized and delivered to meet the urgent humanitarian and rehabilitation needs in the wake of this tragic event.  
Yours sincerely,  
Professor Dr Surakiart Sathirathai  
Chairman of the Asian Peace and  
Reconciliation Council (APRC)  
Former Deputy Prime Minister and  
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand  
28 March 2025

**Senior General Min Aung Hlaing  
Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister**  
Esteemed Mr Prime Minister!  
I learned with deep sorrow about the devastating earthquake that has affected your country. At this difficult time, I wish to express my sincere condolences to you and the friendly people of Myanmar! May the memory of those who lost their lives be blessed and the people affected find support and comfort. We stand in solidarity with you and are ready to assist in the recovery and overcoming the consequences of this tragedy.  
AA Travnikov  
The Governor of Novosibirsk Oblast  
31 March 2025

**Senior General Min Aung Hlaing  
Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister**  
Your Excellency,  
I am deeply saddened to learn of the devastating earthquake which struck Myanmar on 28 March 2025, leading to the loss of lives as well as the destruction of homes and livelihoods.  
On behalf of the government and the people of the Republic of Seychelles and my own behalf, I would like to extend our deepest condolences to the government and people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, to the grieving families and all those affected by the tragedy.  
Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Myanmar during these difficult times.  
Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.  
Wavel Ramkalawan  
President of the Republic of Seychelles

**His Excellency,  
Senior General Min Aung Hlaing  
Chairman of the State Administration Council  
Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Nay Pyi Taw**  
Your Excellency,  
The news of the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, which resulted in human casualties and widespread destruction, was received with heavy heart in Belarus.  
On behalf of my compatriots and myself, I express words of deep sympathy to Your Excellency, the families of the victims, and survivors of the disaster.  
Our thoughts are the leadership and all the people of Myanmar at this difficult moment.  
I wish a speedy recovery to the injured people and stabilization of the situation.  
Aleksandr Lukashenko  
President of the Republic of Belarus  
28 March 2025

Transport & Communications Ministry restores quake-hit roads, communications



SAC Member Deputy PM MoTC Union Minister General Mya Tun Oo inspects the damaged office and housing buildings.

DUE to a powerful earthquake that occurred on 28 March, two major airports — Nay Pyi Taw International Airport and

Mandalay International Airport, roads, railway sections, and the Sagaing Bridge (Inwa) on the old Mandalay-Sagaing road

section suffered collapse and damages, and the transportation and communication services were affected to a certain extent.  
On the 386-mile-long Yangon-Mandalay railway, a major railway section, damages occurred at 60 rail tracks and 11 railway bridges. Moreover, due to the impact of the earthquake, railway tracks were twisted and damaged in the yards of Pyinmana, Pyawbwe and Thazi railway stations, and in some sections of the railway. Moreover, the control office building for train operations was damaged, and the station buildings of Thazi and Nyaunglunt railway stations collapsed. Therefore, the train services were temporarily suspended. Myanma Railways conducted maintenance works in a timely manner, and the Yangon-Bago-Toungoo-Nay Pyi Taw railway section will be reopened on 5 April, while efforts are made to reopen Nay Pyi Taw-Thazi route on 4 April and Thazi-Mandalay route on 5 April.  
In the aviation sector, the control

tower and aviation communication system infrastructure at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport collapsed and some parts of the passenger lounge were also affected. Therefore, the flight operations were temporarily suspended, and urgent repair and restoration efforts are currently underway.  
As the runway remains undamaged, rescue flights were allowed to resume operations starting from 29 May. Moreover, efforts are underway for the earliest resumption of domestic flights by 5 April. Similarly, minor damage occurred on the runway of Mandalay International Airport, and repair and maintenance work were carried out immediately. As of 2 April, a 10,000-foot section of the runway was restored, allowing rescue flights. Efforts are made to ensure the earliest possible resumption of domestic flights by 4 April.  
In the waterway transport sector, the six arch bridge beams of Sagaing Bridge (Inwa) on the old Mandalay-Sagaing road

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NATIONAL

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services  
Statement on Temporary Ceasefire

5<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Tagu, 1368 ME  
2 April 2025

1. Tatmadaw has issued statements for ceasefire 22 times from 21 December 2018 to 31 December 2023 to ensure the restoration of durable peace nationwide and further promote the peace process. On 26 September 2024, the State Administration Council gave an offer to resolve the political problem through political means.
2. At present, due to the powerful earthquake that occurred on 28 March and subsequent aftershocks, roads, bridges, and buildings in the affected areas have been damaged, resulting in casualties and injuries among the public. In response to these damage and losses, the State is actively carrying out rescue, relief, and rehabilitation efforts.
3. With empathy and understanding towards the people across the country who are suffering due to the impact of the earthquake, and intending to carry out rescue and recovery operations effectively and efficiently, as well as to restore stability and peace, Tatmadaw has declared a temporary ceasefire period from 2 to 22 April 2025.
4. During the declared period of the temporary ceasefire, ethnic armed organizations and other armed groups are urged not to disrupt or attack communication routes used by the general public, cause harm or destruction to the lives and property of the people, attack and disrupt security personnel and their camps, disrupt military headquarters, recruit or mobilize forces that could undermine peace, engage in preparations or territorial expansion. It is also announced that if such actions are carried out, Tatmadaw will take necessary response measures as part of protecting the public.

Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

Alert: Terror Threats  
Amid Quake Relief  
Efforts

ON 28 March 2025, a powerful earthquake hit Myanmar causing severe damage to the public and loss of life and property. The members of Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force, Fire Brigade, social welfare organizations and private rescuers participated in rescue works for the victims regardless of religion, friends or enemies by collaborating with the international rescue teams daily. Meanwhile, the PDF terrorists and armed insurgents launched the attack in a sub-power station with the use of excessive power, also on a security outpost where there were only a few numbers of security forces, a convoy of rescue vehicles and members of the Myanmar Police Force, and the security measures were weak, and so Tatmadaw curbed the attack.

Moreover, it is also found that the terrorist group NUG, online media outlets that oppose the government and foreign media outlets spread one-sided information without knowing the actual ground situation claiming that Tatmadaw launched an airstrike while the country faced an earthquake.

The government and people strongly condemn the NUG, PDF terrorists and armed insurgents for launching terrorist attacks focusing solely on political gain while the people face difficulties due to the earthquake.

Local and foreign organizations should watch the terror actions of NUG, PDF terrorists and armed insurgents and avoid expression that encourages their inhumane actions. Tatmadaw always opens the way to peace. There is no need to make an effort for political gain using the peace as a stepping stone and all should avoid rootless accusation and release.

Information Team  
State Administration Council

Deputy PM MoFA Union Minister  
receives Sri Lankan Deputy FM

U Than Swe, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, who is in Bangkok, Thailand, to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> BIMSTEC Summit and related meetings, received Mr Arun Hemachandra, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment, and Tourism of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, yesterday.

The Deputy Prime Minister and the Union Minister for Foreign Affairs explained the rescue and relief efforts of the Myanmar Government following the devastating earthquake on 28 March 2025. He appreciated international humanitarian assistance and was grateful to Sri Lanka and other countries for sending medical and rescue teams to Myanmar. Both sides discussed further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between Myanmar and Sri Lanka. — MNA



Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe meets Sri Lankan Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment, and Tourism Mr Arun Hemachandra in Bangkok, Thailand, yesterday.

Transport & Communications Ministry  
restores quake-hit roads, ...

FROM PAGE 5

collapsed, and the rail and road connections were cut off. The department-owned ferries are providing free transport services for passengers and vehicles between Mandalay and Sagaing river ports daily. Currently, the waterway between Nos 5 and 6, where the bridge beams have not been damaged, is open for navigation. Efforts are ongoing to remove the collapsed bridge beams from the water through survey operations to ensure the waterway is cleared. In the communication sector,

6,730 communication stations out of 26,277 in quake-affected areas were destroyed and the communication failed. The skilled staff from Myanma Posts and Telecommunications made efforts using reserve machinery and 3,300 out of destroyed stations are now in good condition. Similarly, efforts are also being made to resume operations of two e-learning centres, the National Cybersecurity Centre and the E-government Data Centre at Nay Pyi Taw Ministry Office, and the information and cybersecurity service will be resumed as usual

soon. Therefore, the Union ministers, deputy ministers and relevant officials conducted field studies on the transport networks and communication networks such as railway tracks, airports and river transport promptly, and coordinated the matters in accord with the priorities. The transport and communications to quake-affected regions and vicinity areas will be operated as usual soon.

Ministry of Transport and  
Communications



NATIONAL

Govt welcomes all organizations to join quake relief – follow official protocols

THE government accepts the aid from international organizations to conduct rescue work in powerful quake-hit areas, carries out the rescue operations and accepts the assistance daily.

These operations are conducted through official channels, including embassies and military attaché offices of the respective countries. Regarding the news spreading on social networks about the attack on the Chinese Red Cross convoy, they did not contact their respective embassies and office of the Military Attache.

The case occurred near Ohmati village of Nawnghkio township, and the people can see that the clash between Tatmadaw and TNLA is occurring in that place on news pages. At 9 pm on 1 April, nine vehicles left from Nawnghkio Township, and Tat-



SAC Information Team Leader Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun.

madaw stopped them about 200 metres ahead to conduct security measures near Ohmati village. But the vehicles did not stop, and the security forces opened fire three times into the air when they reached about 100 metres. Then, the convoy retreated to Nawnghkio.

Before these cases, the Blue-Sky rescue team entered Myanmar via land and it is a team that conducts rescue work in interna-

tional countries. The Blue-Sky rescue team from China left on 31 March and reached the Watwun gate at 10:30 pm and the 16<sup>th</sup>-mile gate at 11 pm, and to Mandalay before 1 am on 1 April. The Myanmar Police Force escorted the team along the road and they arrived at Mandalay safely and are now conducting rescue work.

In conducting international rescue work, it is required to inform and report, and the country

is now making concerted efforts in rescue measures and considering the best time amid the danger of armed insurgents as the armed groups attempt for political gain.

Regarding the attack on a convoy, the officials in addition to Tatmadaw conducted the investigation. Some media claimed that the trucks being shot were from the Chinese Red Cross despite the number of palates in Myanmar characters.

The government appreciates the organizations and countries for participating in rescue operations and sympathizing with and supporting our country. They are requested to inform in advance and ask for security measures. Currently, 53 flights and 1,519 rescuers from 15 countries such as China, Russia, India, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Vietnam, UAE, Laos, Be-

larus, Indonesia, Bhutan, the Philippines, Japan and China (Hong Kong) arrived in Myanmar to conduct rescue works and the country received over 345 tonnes of supplies and over 495 tonnes of relief items.

The people should have special awareness regarding the rumours spread by malicious media and organizations that want political gain.

The government will always welcome any organization that wants to participate in relief efforts, as long as they submit a report according to the procedures.

The government, people and social organizations will work together to ensure the best possible recovery from the natural disaster with international assistance.

Information Team  
State Administration  
Council

Global rescue teams land in Nay Pyi Taw for quake relief



Tatmadaw members carry humanitarian aid from China and the Philippines at the Tatmadaw Airport in Nay Pyi Taw.



THE government is swiftly assessing the damage in earthquake-affected areas and carrying out relief and rescue operations in a timely manner.

At the same time, humanitarian aid from the international community continues to arrive in Myanmar, including rescue teams, medical personnel, relief supplies, and medicines from various countries.

Yesterday, assistance arrived at Tatmadaw Airport in Nay Pyi Taw from the Philippines, Nepal, Singapore, and Japan's Nippon Foundation, as well as from Kunming, Yunnan Province,

China. The aid included search and rescue teams, medical personnel, relief supplies, and medicines.

Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement welcomed the newly arrived rescue and medical teams at the airport. These teams will be deployed to the earthquake-affected areas to carry out search and rescue operations and provide medical treatment to the affected communities without delay. – MNA/MKKS



Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement welcome the newly arrived rescue and medical teams from Nepal at the Tatmadaw Airport in Nay Pyi Taw.



# Set national mourning period as sympathy for fatalities

A SEVERE earthquake with a magnitude of 7.7 on the Richter scale struck central Myanmar at 12:51:02 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 28 March 2025, causing significant tremors. As a result, local residents suffered injuries and fatalities, and numerous homes and buildings were destroyed. In recognition of these losses and with deep sympathy, the Chairman of the State Administration Council has officially declared a national mourning.

On 1 April at 12:51:02 pm, a moment of silence for one minute was observed as a mark of respect and mourning at locations where the national flag was flown at half-mast, in front of flagpoles, or at appropriate venues and ceremonies. Those in motion paused for one minute in silence and bowed their heads in reverence. Sirens were sounded as a tribute to mourning. Media outlets temporarily suspended broadcasts and displayed mourning logos. Prayers and

The State Administration Council expresses its deep gratitude for the support and assistance provided in response to the earthquake disaster in Myanmar. This includes expressions of sympathy, the deployment of emergency rescue teams, the provision of relief supplies and aid, messages of condolence, words of encouragement, and solidarity actions. The council also appreciates active participation in rescue and relief efforts. It firmly believes and expects continuous cooperation until Myanmar's recovery and reconstruction efforts are completed.

unteers, are actively carrying out rescue operations, successfully saving trapped individuals alive. Similarly, Myanmar's rescue teams, military personnel, police officers, volunteers, organizations, and responsible ethnic communities are also participating in rescue efforts under the leadership of the national government. With unity and collective strength, they are facing the ongoing natural disaster with resilience and confidence, working hand in hand to overcome difficulties and challenges.

The State Administration Council expresses its deep gratitude for the support and assistance provided in response to the earthquake disaster in Myanmar. This includes expressions of sympathy, the deployment of emergency rescue teams, the provision of relief supplies and aid, messages of condolence, words of encouragement, and solidarity actions. The council also appreciates active participation in rescue and relief efforts. It firmly believes and expects continuous cooperation until Myanmar's recovery and reconstruction efforts are completed.

well-wishes were offered at relevant religious sites, along with the recitation and distribution of protective scriptures and prayers.

With deep sympathy and understanding for the loss of lives and destruction caused by the devastating earthquake, a national mourning period has been designated from 31 March to 4 April 2025, as a time of national remembrance. All citizens of Myanmar are expected to participate with solemn respect and sympathy. Since the occurrence of this tragic event in Myanmar, international organizations, leaders, and individuals have continuously expressed their condolences through messages of sympathy, letters of mourning, and by providing financial aid, essential supplies, and advanced rescue and relief teams to support the affected communities.

International rescue teams, together with rescue teams from Myanmar and vol-

ON 28 March 2025, just past noon, I had finished my lunch and was sitting on a small stool, looking at my phone alone. On usual days, after about 20 minutes of scrolling, I'd start feeling sleepy and often doze off. Today, though, I was waiting to see if I'd feel drowsy, but even after a while, the urge to sleep didn't come, so I kept scrolling. Then, suddenly, I felt dizzy. Almost instinctively, I grabbed the table beside me with my hand and glanced ahead at the fluorescent light in the distance. I noticed it was swaying. It was an earthquake.

My little house is an old wooden one, so unlike high-rise buildings, there wasn't much to worry about structurally. Still, I felt quite anxious because from where I was sitting, I could see the brick water tank in front of the house. The water inside was sloshing violently and spilling over the edges, which made me realize this was a pretty strong earthquake. What made it worse was that in my over 70 years of life, I'd never experienced an earthquake that lasted this long and kept shaking like this. I thought it might stop, but it didn't – it just kept going. My head was spinning, and I couldn't even stand up from the stool to sit on the floor yet. I worried that if the dizziness got worse, I'd be in real trouble. The sounds of people shouting and screaming from the neighbourhood around the house were also growing louder.

I managed to yell to my family to sit on the floor wherever they were. I live in a small town in the Ayeyawady Region, and the shaking lasted nearly four minutes, which felt tough to endure. In my mind, I couldn't help but think, "If it's this bad in my area, how much worse must it be near the earthquake's epicentre?"

Earthquakes are indeed a tough natural phenomenon. While we humans can predict things like wind, rain, storms, or volcanic

# The Unexpected Retribution of the Earth

By Yin Nwe Ko



PHOTO: GOOGLE

eruptions based on weather data, earthquakes are something we simply cannot forecast in advance. Because of this, there's no time to prepare, and the losses tend to be significant. I started recalling what I learned about earthquakes as a kid – about what happens to the Earth when they strike. From what I remember and can share, it's said that our Earth is made up of three massive layers: 1) the extremely hot core at the centre, 2) the mantle, and 3) the crust. The Earth's crust, in particular, is formed of sharp, rocky materials. These rocky layers aren't one continuous piece but are broken into separate sections.

These fragmented rock layers, or tectonic plates, aren't static – they're constantly moving.

They don't all move in the same direction or at the same speed, either. Because of this, when these massive plates meet, they push against each other, and that's what causes earthquakes – at least in a rough sense. When these enormous plates collide, they can also get locked together in some places. Even when parts of them get stuck, the sections that aren't locked keep moving in their original directions. The locked areas end up being pulled in opposite directions, like a tug-of-war; until, at some point, they suddenly break free. This release causes vibrations that ripple out as waves in all directions, resulting in an earthquake. That's why the longer these plates remain locked, the more intense the earthquake

waves become when they finally break free.

According to studies, about 90 per cent of all earthquakes that have occurred on Earth have taken place along the tectonic fault lines surrounding the Pacific Ocean, in what's known as the Ring of Fire. The remaining roughly 10 per cent typically occur along a fault line that stretches from southern Europe through the Mediterranean Sea, across the Himalayan mountain range, through central Myanmar, and down to the Indonesian archipelago. The most powerful earthquake ever recorded in history happened on 22 May 1960, near Valdivia, Chile, in South America. It registered a magnitude of 9.5 on the Richter scale and was so

intense that, according to records,

it resulted in over 5,200 deaths and missing persons.

On 28 March 2025, at around noon, a powerful earthquake with a magnitude of 7.7 on the Richter scale struck central Myanmar, sending shockwaves through the region and beyond. The epicentre was located near Mandalay, a major cultural and economic hub, at a shallow depth of about 10 kilometres, intensifying the destructive force of the quake. This seismic event was caused by movement along the Sagaing Fault, a significant tectonic feature where the India Plate and the Sunda Plate slide past each other, making central Myanmar a known earthquake-prone area.

The impact in Myanmar was immediate and devastating. In-

itial reports from the country's government indicated at least 144 fatalities and over 732 injuries across cities such as Mandalay, Sagaing, Kyaukse, and Nay Pyi Taw, though these numbers were preliminary and expected to rise as more data came in from heavily affected areas. In Mandalay, numerous buildings, including homes, a mosque, and a monastery, collapsed, trapping people under the debris. Roads cracked, and critical infrastructure like bridges and power lines were severely damaged, disrupting transportation and communication. In rural Sagaing, a 90-year-old bridge crumbled, isolating communities already reeling from years of civil conflict. Nay Pyi Taw, the capital, saw damage to government offices and religious sites, while hospitals in the region struggled to cope with the influx of injured survivors.

The earthquake's reach extended well beyond Myanmar. In Thailand, particularly in Bangkok – over 600 miles away – the shaking was strong enough to cause a 30-storey skyscraper under construction in the Chatuchak district to collapse, killing at least eight workers and leaving dozens trapped. Thai authorities declared a state of emergency in the capital, halting metro and rail services as residents evacuated tall buildings amid falling debris and swaying structures. Tremors were also felt in China's Yunnan province, Vietnam, Cambodia, Bangladesh, and parts of India, including Delhi-NCR, though the damage outside Myanmar and Thailand was relatively minor.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) described the quake as a "high-impact" event due to its magnitude, shallow depth, and proximity to populat-

ed areas. Early estimates suggest the death toll could reach into the thousands, with economic losses potentially surpassing Myanmar's GDP. Myanmar's government, facing an ongoing civil conflict, issued an unusual call for international aid and declared a state of emergency across six regions. Humanitarian groups like the Red Cross and the UN began coordinating relief efforts, though access was hampered by damaged infrastructure and conflict zones. In Thailand, Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra returned to oversee rescue operations in Bangkok.

This was the most significant earthquake to hit Myanmar since the 1912 Maymyo quake of magnitude 7.9. The combination of outdated building standards, dense urban populations, and the country's internal strife magnified the disaster's toll. Aftershocks, including a notable 6.4-magnitude tremor shortly after the main event, heightened fears among survivors. As rescue teams work tirelessly, the full scope of the destruction is still emerging, leaving millions in Myanmar and Thailand facing a long and difficult recovery.

Here, I'd like to share some knowledge related to Buddhism regarding the causes of earthquakes, as it feels relevant to the discussion. In the "Bhūmika Sutta," the Buddha is said to have preached eight reasons why earthquakes occur. These reasons may or may not align with the scientific explanations I've presented earlier, but readers are free to interpret and reflect on them as they see fit. The eight causes are as follows:

1. Earthquakes occur due to strong winds disturbing the water beneath the Earth's surface.
2. Earthquakes occur because

individuals with supernatural powers (Iddhi) cause the Earth to shake.

3. Earthquakes occur when a Bodhisatta (future Buddha) takes conception.
4. Earthquakes occur when a Bodhisatta is born.
5. Earthquakes occur when a Bodhisatta attains enlightenment and becomes a Buddha.
6. Earthquakes occur when the Buddha delivers the first sermon, the Dhammacakkappa-vattana Sutta (the Wheel of Dhamma).
7. Earthquakes occur when the Buddha relinquishes the will to live (āyusankhāra).
8. Earthquakes occur when the Buddha enters Parinibbāna (final passing away).

In the present era, since there is no living Buddha, Buddhist teachings suggest that earthquakes happen only due to the first or second reasons – either natural disturbances caused by winds and water beneath the Earth or the actions of beings with extraordinary powers.

As a final note, I'd like to share my personal perspective. In truth, I see the Earth as a noble being who patiently endures everything we do to it. It accepts all the filth and waste we discard without disgust or hesitation. It takes in all the garbage we throw away without a single complaint. And when we die, it's the Earth that graciously provides a resting place for our remains. It allows us to extract whatever we desire from its core – its treasures like gemstones, iron, oil, and natural gas – permitting us to use them freely. But do we, as humans, truly recognize its kindness? Do we even know we should be grateful? So, I believe that perhaps once every century or so, the Earth shakes itself maybe as a kind of retribution to humanity or a reminder of its presence – by trembling its body. That's how I see it, at least.

## Study links long-term antidepressant use to increased risk of sudden cardiac death

A NEW study presented at the European Society of Cardiology's EHRA 2025 congress reveals a concerning link between the use of antidepressants (AD) and an increased risk of sudden cardiac death (SCD), particularly for those with prolonged use of the medication.

Sudden cardiac death, defined as an unexpected fatality due to a heart-related issue, typically occurs

within one hour of the onset of symptoms or within 24 hours in cases that are unwitnessed.

For individuals under 39, the primary causes are often thickening of the heart muscle or electrical problems with the heart, while in older individuals, it is more likely linked to narrowed blood vessels.

Previous studies have shown that individuals with psychiatric disorders face higher risks of both

overall mortality and sudden cardiac death. However, the specific impact of antidepressant medications on SCD risk has remained unclear until now.

The latest research, conducted by scientists in Denmark, examined deaths among residents aged 18 to 90 years in 2010, reviewing death certificates and autopsy reports.

The study found that individuals exposed to

antidepressant medications had a significantly higher incidence of sudden cardiac death compared to those not using such medications.

The cohort of 643,999 individuals who had been prescribed antidepressants was compared with the general population, which had 4.3 million residents.

Source: ANI



A new study presented at the EHRA 2025 congress indicates a significant association between the use of antidepressants and an increased risk of sudden cardiac death (SCD), especially with prolonged use. **ILLUSTRATION: CONCEPT ART**



# NATIONAL

## MoC Union Minister assesses quake damage, reviews rehabilitation plans



A coordination meeting on inspection and reconstruction processes of buildings damaged by the earthquake in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

A coordination meeting on inspection and reconstruction processes of buildings damaged by the earthquake, with the participation of expert inspection teams, was held yesterday at the Ministry of Construction in Nay Pyi Taw.

Speaking at the meeting, Union Minister U Myo Thant said the engineers should discuss their experiences, events, processes and proper ways at the meeting to solve the important challenges for the engineering sector.

The technical assessment support teams will be formed regionally for the issues related to the buildings and infrastructure damaged by the earthquake. These teams will utilize mod-

ern equipment to inspect the conditions of structures to be repaired in normal conditions, heavy maintenance and the hazardous condition to be demolished.

He continued that the quake-affected buildings would be repaired and the detailed structure inspection should be conducted after the systematic inspection per the procedures under the guidance of the Head of the State.

Moreover, the damages due to the earthquake will be examined, recorded, and coordinated to be repaired and future plans will be explored for repair.

The inspection teams include the experts from Myanmar Engineering Council,

Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies, Myanmar Architect Council, Committee on Quality Control of High-Rise Building Construction Projects, Myanmar Earthquake Committee, special task force committee, and they will examine the quake-affected areas in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Sagaing together with the skilled engineers from the Ministry of Construction.

He added that the additional stipulations in MNBC-2025 to be released by the ministry soon will be supportive material in constructing the buildings.

Then, the attendees coordinated the discussion and the Union minister made proper instructions. — MNA/KTZH

## MoE aids earthquake-affected staff

THE Ministry of Energy (MoE) held a financial assistance ceremony yesterday morning at its headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw to support staff and their families affected by the recent earthquake.

Union Minister U Ko Lwin delivered an opening speech, emphasizing that while the ministry continues its core duties without disruption, it is also committed to supporting affected employees and their families both emotionally and physically. To facilitate this, the ministry has established six

committees, including those overseeing water distribution, temporary shelters and the maintenance of damaged buildings. The Ministry is also prioritizing the relocation of affected families in an organized manner. Employees have been informed of emergency contact numbers to ensure coordinated response efforts.

The Union minister gave financial assistance of K100,000 per affected staff members, distributing a total of K160.9 million to 1,609 employees and their families. — MNA/KZL

## Nippon Foundation rushes US\$3M in food, meds to quake-hit Myanmar



Tatmadaw members unload the humanitarian aid from the Nippon Foundation.

THE Nippon Foundation wishes to extend sincere condolences to everyone affected by the major earthquake that struck Myanmar and surrounding areas on 28 March 2025.

The Foundation has also decided to provide the equivalent of US\$3 million (roughly 450 million yen) of emergency assistance including food and medical supplies to areas damaged by the earthquake that struck with an epicentre in Myanmar. The Foundation intends to deliver the items quickly, in line with on-site needs, with coordination of what goods are to be delivered where being carried out primarily by the Nippon Foundation Myanmar Liaison Office in Yangon.

Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of the Nippon Foundation and Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar commented: "I would like to extend my deepest condolences to everyone who

has been affected by the earthquake that struck Myanmar and surrounding areas. Beginning with projects to eliminate leprosy in the country, the Nippon Foundation has been working in Myanmar for roughly 50 years, providing assistance in various fields including human resource development, health and sanitation, education, personnel exchanges, and support for people with disabilities. As Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar, I have been working to achieve peace in the country since 2013. I plan to go to Myanmar on 2 April to assess the situation and to ensure that assistance can be distributed to areas that are engaged in conflict with the State Administration Council. We will use the network that we have built through providing humanitarian assistance in the country to date to provide optimal support." — GNLM

## Japan's JICA deploys medical team, aid to Myanmar



JICA's medical team arrives at the Yangon International Airport yesterday.

THE flight carrying JICA doctors, nurses, humanitarian aid and medicines arrived at Yangon International Airport yesterday.

The relief items included medicines, commodities, tents and hospital equipment weighing 11,229.1 kilogrammes. Colonel Than Naing Tun from the Yangon Command, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and other relevant officials received the relief items at the airport and coordinated the distribution of the items to quake-hit areas. — MNA/KTZH



NATIONAL

Local rescue teams equipped with cutting-edge gear ...

**FROM PAGE 3**  
relocation arrangements, and permanent settlement plans.  
First Vice-Chair Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and Second Vice-Chair Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win reported on ongoing rescue and relief operations, taking security measures in the necessary areas, arrival of relief aid, international rescue teams and medical teams, systematic deployment of rescue teams and aid, repair of roads and bridges not to interrupt communication routes, distribution of basic food items to victims, collection of data on loss and damage, and acceptance of cash and supplies from AHA Centre, international and internal well-wishers.

Committee member Union ministers and the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman discussed the arrival of rescue planes and aid, loss and damage of religious buildings, houses and staff housings, loss of lives of members of the Sangha, civilians, staff members and families, conducting emergency rescue operations, food, accommodation and security of affected staff members from ministries, offers of international community to conduct rescue and rehabilitation, damage of cultivable lands and dams, spreading of information about current situations in the international landscape, opening of temporary hospitals and clinics, readiness of aircraft and



Vice-Senior General Soe Win looks into the relief materials donated by the international community.

helicopters of Tatmadaw (Air), and further plans for rescue and rehabilitation measures.  
In his response to discussions, the Vice-Senior General gave instructions on the soonest opening of temporary hospitals, arrangements for meals for members of the Sangha with temporary monasteries, plans to provide shelter to affected people and staff within two months before monsoon, systematic arrangements to hand over property to relevant families in demolishing buildings or removing debris, smooth process for international aid, systematic sending rescue vehicles with sig-

nificant marks to have smooth security measures as terrorists disturb the work process, issuance of compensation for dead persons and injured people as quickly as possible, provision of foods, safe water and electricity to those people, management for personal aid of well-wishers to relevant areas, informing the people about natural disasters in time, and collection of data about donated items.  
After the meeting, the Vice-Senior General viewed the display of tents, emergency electronic products, personal goods, foodstuffs and medicines donated by the international commu-

nity.  
Up to 6 pm on 2 April, the powerful earthquake left 3,003 people dead and 4,515 injured with 351 people missing in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, regions and states, in addition to damage and loss of 21,783 public houses, 805 office buildings, 115 staff housing buildings, 1,041 schools, 921 monasteries and nunneries, 1,690 pagodas, 312 religious buildings, 48 hospitals and clinics and 45 acres of crops.  
The rescue work committee cooperated with 37 rescue members from China (Yunnan) to save one survivor and two dead bodies, with 89 rescue members

from Singapore to save one survivor and four dead bodies, with 50 Thai rescue members in searching for three dead bodies, with 106 Vietnamese rescue members in searching seven dead bodies and with eight rescue members from Türkiye in saving two survivors, totalling four survivors and 16 dead bodies.  
Similarly, in Mandalay Region, a total of 167 members from Russia collaborated in the rescue efforts, resulting in the discovery of one survivor and six deceased individuals. Moreover, 84 members from China (Beijing), 116 members from China's Blue Sky Rescue Team, and 51 members from China (Hong Kong) worked together, locating two survivors and 14 deceased individuals. Furthermore, 80 members from India participated in the process, leading to the discovery of 11 deceased individuals. In total, three survivors and 31 deceased individuals were found during the operations.  
Likewise, in Sagaing Region, 50 members from Malaysia assisted in the search, locating six deceased individuals. According to reports, the rescue committee, in collaboration with 12 rescue teams from seven different countries, conducted search and rescue operations across Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, Mandalay Region, and Sagaing Region. As a result, they were able to rescue seven survivors and recover 53 deceased individuals. — MNA/TTA

Hotel Aye Chan Tha staff rescued alive after earthquake



Photos capture rescuers from the Myanmar Fire Services Department, the Special Search and Rescue Team, and teams from Türkiye and Vietnam as they rescue a 26-year-old man from the debris in Nay Pyi Taw.

A powerful earthquake caused the collapse of Hotel Aye Chan Tha in Pobbathiri Township on 28 March. A hotel maintenance staff member named Htet Maung Maung aged 26 was trapped inside the debris.  
A coordinated rescue effort involving the Fire Services Department, the Special Search and Rescue Team and rescue teams from Türkiye and Vietnam began operations at 3 pm on 1 April. After extensive search efforts, they successfully rescued him alive at 1:55 pm on 2 April. He was immediately transported to the Township General Hospital for medical treatment. — MNA/KZL



# NATIONAL

## Search and rescue efforts continue for earthquake victims



Laotian medical team provides critical care to earthquake survivors in Kyaukse.



Belarusian medics ready earthquake relief efforts at a Mandalay field clinic.

THE earthquake has resulted in 3,003 deaths, 4,515 injuries and 351 missing persons in the six affected states and regions as of yesterday.  
Fire Services Department

with local and international search and rescue teams continues operations in the affected areas. Thus, they have rescued 653 survivors and recovered 582 deceased individuals trapped under collapsed structures.

Donors from home and abroad are providing financial and material assistance to the victims. A total of six aircraft from five countries arrived at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport yesterday, carrying 55 emergency response personnel and 35.505 tonnes of search and rescue equipment and relief supplies. Authorities are working to swiftly distribute the relief supplies to those in need. — MNA/KZL

## China Red Cross grants RMB1.5M for earthquake aid



Minister Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission Ms Cao Jing hands over the donation of the China Red Cross Society to President of the Myanmar Red Cross Society Professor Dr Myo Nyunt in Yangon on 1 April.

THE Red Cross Society of China, through the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, held a donation ceremony yesterday morning at its Yangon office to support the Myanmar Red Cross Society's earthquake response efforts.

During the ceremony, Ms Cao Jing, Minister Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission at the Chinese Embassy provided details about the donation and presented RMB1,500,000 to Professor Dr Myo Nyunt, President of the Myanmar Red Cross Society. He accepted the donation and presented a certificate of appreciation in return.

The event was attended by Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Tin Lay, executive members, deputy general secretaries, assistant general secretaries, and other officials from the Myanmar Red Cross Society. Also present were Chinese Embassy Attachés Ms Zhang Rui, Ms Wu Shuyu, and Ms Lu Shuying. — MRCS/MKKS

## Families of deceased football academy staff receive support

MYANMAR Football Federation (MFF) President U Zaw Zaw and officials from the Ayeyawady Foundation visited the Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) on 2 April to inspect the damage caused by the earthquake and gave support to the families of the deceased staff members.

The earthquake on 28 March resulted in the death of a staff member's family member and injuries to a child. The MFF president met the affected families, offered words of comfort and provided financial assistance.

Following this, the MFF president and officials inspected the damaged academy buildings and met the staff families to offer further financial aid.

Since it is the summer holiday, no students were present at the Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) during the earthquake, preventing further casualties. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



MFF President U Zaw Zaw leads and oversees rescue and relief efforts. PHOTO: MFF



Vietnam slashes duties on range of imports to head off US tariffs

VIETNAM said it cut import duties on a range of goods including cars, liquefied gas and some agricultural products in what appeared to be pre-emptive action to blunt US President Donald Trump's planned sweeping tariffs. The announcement came after Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh said last month that Hanoi was reviewing levies in order to encourage increased imports from the United States. Washington's trade deficit with Vietnam is the third highest of any country, after China and Mexico, and there are increasing fears it could be a key target of the White House's tariff drive, which has sent shockwaves through global markets. — AFP

Japanese bento chain slammed for “no more rice” April Fool’s joke

A Japanese franchise known for its “bento” boxed lunches has apologized after it posted an April Fool’s joke saying it would no longer sell rice at its chains across the country. Hokka Hokka Tei quickly faced backlash for causing confusion about whether its statement on X, formerly known as Twitter, was actually a joke, as rice prices have jumped to record highs due to supply chain disruptions in the country. In the early hours of Tuesday, the company posted on its account on X, “We will stop selling rice at all of our Hokka Hokka Tei stores across the country in view of the surging price of rice.” — Kyodo



**PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING**

We, **Jiangxi Zhengbang Crop Protection Co.,Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from **Myanmar Shwe Thein Trading Co.,Ltd** to **Gold & Super 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.	ZB-Academay	Emamectin Benzoate 5.7% EW	Provisional	P2023-6159
2.	ZB-Defeat 30 SC	Chlorfenapyr 18%+Indoxacarb 12% SC	Provisional	P2024-5303

Gold & Super Co.,Ltd  
Tel: 09-799664665

**PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING**

We, **Guangxi Baikal Biochemical Products Co.,Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from **Myanmar Shwe Thein Trading Co.,Ltd** to **Gold & Super 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.	ZB-Combined Strength 70% WG	Cymoxanil 20% + Dimethomorph 50% WG	Provisional	P2022-4795

Gold & Super Co.,Ltd  
Tel: 09-799664665

**Transferring Registered Pesticides**

Registered pesticides distributing by **Myanmar Kete Co.,Ltd**. in the territory of Myanmar for the product as following are transferring from **Hefei Spr Chemistry Technology 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 Ingredient	Registration No.
1	SPR Grass	Quizalofop-P- ethyl 8.8% EC	P2020-4937
2	SPR Benti	Bensulfuron-methyl 4% + Pretilachlor 36% WP	P2020-4936
3	SPR MAC	MCPA 53% AS	P2020-4938

Myanmar Kete Co.,Ltd.  
No.125-127, Kha 11<sup>st</sup>, 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 **Shandong Newpower Biotech 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 Ingredient	Registration No.
1	Power-Myat	Haloxifyop-P-methyl 108g/l EC	P2020-4949
2	Power-Grass	Quizalofop-P-ethyl 10% EC	P2020-4948

Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd.  
No.125-127, Kha 11<sup>st</sup>, Myoe Thit (A+B) Quarter, Inn Sein Township, Yangon.

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**  
M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2502S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL BLESSING VOY.NO. (2502S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-4-2025** 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 BANGKOK VOY.NO. (208N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BANGKOK VOY.NO. (208N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-4-2025** 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE**



ROLLING UPDATES  
WORLD

Trump set to unleash  
‘Liberation Day’ tariffs

Trump has consistently advocated for tariffs as a solution to America’s trade imbalances, despite opposition from economic experts who question their effectiveness.



US President Donald Trump has announced sweeping tariffs on automobile imports, taking effect 3 April 2025. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

US President Donald Trump is poised to unveil sweeping new “Liberation Day” tariffs on Wednesday, but kept the world guessing until the last minute about the scope of an onslaught that could spark a global trade war.

Trump will roll out the measures flanked by cabinet members in the Rose Garden of the White House at 4:00 pm (2000 GMT) — after Wall Street markets close — promising that they will stop America being “ripped off”

and will deliver a new “golden age” of US industry.

But while Trump insisted he had decided on the reciprocal tariffs hitting countries that have targeted the United States, the White House admitted he was still ironing out the details with less than 24 hours to go.

The Republican billionaire has had a long love affair with tariffs, insisting in the face of economic experts that they are a cure-all that will tackle America’s trade

imbalances with friends and foes alike.

Critics say that not only will US consumers bear the brunt as importers pass on the cost, but that they could increase the risk of a damaging recession at home and abroad.

Global markets have been jittery for days ahead of Trump’s announcement, while the countries most likely in the crosshairs have called for talks — even as they ready retaliatory measures. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Afghan interim govt to commence design work of 4 major dams

THE Afghan interim government’s Ministry of Energy and Water has decided to start the survey and design work of four major dams in the year 1404 in the Persian calendar, starting from 21 March, as part of efforts to manage water resources and increase electricity generation in the country.

The proposed dams would be constructed in the northern Takhar, eastern Ghazni, and western Herat and Badghis provinces to develop agricultural fields and increase energy production, the private media outlet Tolonews reported Tuesday.

“The budget for these dams has also been allocated to the Ministry of Energy and Water, and their practical survey and design will begin this year,” Tolonews quoted Matiullah Abid, spokesman for the Ministry of Energy and Water, as saying. — Xinhua

US to send second aircraft carrier to Middle East

THE United States will send a second aircraft carrier to the Middle East, according to the Pentagon.

The Harry S Truman will be joined by the Carl Vinson “to continue promoting regional stability, deter aggression, and protect the free flow of commerce in the region,” Pentagon spokesman Sean Parnell said in a statement on Tuesday.

Tensions between the Houthis and the US military have escalated since Washington launched fresh airstrikes on Yemen on 15 March. — Xinhua

S Korea court to rule Friday on President Yoon’s impeachment case

SOUTH Korea’s Constitutional Court said it will hand down a ruling Friday regarding whether to remove or reinstate impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol in connection with his brief imposition of martial law in early December.

Yoon’s authority has been suspended since the National Assembly passed an impeachment motion in mid-December. The motion, submitted by opposition parties, alleged that he imposed martial law without meeting constitutional requirements, such as signs of war or a comparable national crisis. If the court upholds the motion in the ruling scheduled for 11 am, Yoon will be removed from office immediately with an election to choose a new president held within 60 days. He will be reinstated if the motion is dismissed or rejected. — Kyodo

Nigerian president sacks board of state oil company

PRESIDENT Bola Tinubu dismissed the entire leadership of Nigeria’s state-run oil company Wednesday, naming a former Shell executive to lead the outfit in a sweeping overhaul that one commentator described as “long overdue”.

The National Petroleum Company (NNPC) Limited’s group chief executive, Mele

Kyari, as well as its chairman Pius Akinyelure — a close ally of Tinubu — were among those ousted.

Kyari was immediately replaced by Bayo Ojulari, a former managing director of Shell Nigeria Exploration and Production Company (SNEPCO), a subsidiary of the multinational oil giant.

“The board’s restructuring is crucial for enhancing operational efficiency, restoring investor confidence, boosting local content, driving economic growth and advancing gas commercialisation and diversification,” Tinubu’s media adviser, Bayo Onanuga, said in a statement. — AFP



The oil sector is a key part of Nigeria’s economy — generating massive wealth and government revenues while also being dogged with corruption. **PHOTO: AFP**



# Maresca non-committal over Sancho's future at Chelsea

CHELSEA boss Enzo Maresca on Wednesday admitted Jadon Sancho "could do better" but was non-committal over the forward's future at Stamford Bridge.

Reports last week said Chelsea were willing to sign the winger on a permanent deal from Manchester United despite a £5 million (\$6.5 million) clause that would allow them to cancel the agreement.

Sancho moved to Stamford Bridge on loan in August in a deal that reportedly included an obligation for Chelsea to buy the player for between £20 and £25 million.

But after a promising start to life at the club the 25-year-old's form has dipped and details have emerged of a way out for the London club if they paid a cancellation fee.



Jadon Sancho is on loan at Chelsea from Manchester United. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

With just two goals in all competitions and none since December, Sancho has struggled to hold down a regular place in Maresca's side as they chase qualification for next season's Champions League.

Maresca, whose fourth-placed team host Tottenham on Thursday, was asked at his pre-match press conference whether he wanted to sign Sancho permanently.

"All the players that are with us, I love all of them," he said. "But in this moment, it's the moment to finish well and then it's not the moment to think about next season.

"I'm completely focused about nine games, two months to go. I'm completely focused about that. Then what happens in summer, we'll see".

The Chelsea manager was pressed on what Sancho needed to do to prove himself. — AFP

# Thai fighters to compete in Myanmar Fight Tournament



Young fighters pose for the group photo.

THE Myanmar Fight traditional boxing tournament, organized by the Department of Sports and Physical Education, the Myanmar Traditional Boxing Federation and MMAG Company will take place at 1 pm on 8 April at the Theinbyu Gymnasium in Yangon. Fighters from various clubs will compete in the event.

The tournament will feature 10 bouts of three rounds where Thai fighters will compete against Myanmar opponents.

The event is open to the public free of charge and Skynet TV will broadcast it live. With sponsorship from a Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Public Company Ltd, the Myanmar Traditional Boxing Federation and MMAG Company plan to hold these tournaments regularly every month.

— Arkar Linn/KZL

# Barca never had financial room to register Olmo: La Liga

LA Liga said Wednesday Barcelona did not have the financial capacity to register players Dani Olmo and Pau Victor and still lack it, ahead of a decision by Spain's sports council (CSD) over the duo's eligibility to play.

In January Barcelona announced a deal had been reached to sell VIP boxes at the club's Camp Nou stadium, currently being rebuilt, worth a reported 100 million euros (\$108 million), which gave them the financial fair play room for new licences for the players.

La Liga said Barcelona used an unnamed auditor between 31 December and 3 January which recorded the deal on the club's books, but their current auditor no longer includes it in the club's interim financial statements for the first part of the 2024-25 season.

"No amount from the (VIP box deal) is ultimately recorded in the profit and loss accounts, contrary to what had been certified by the club and the auditor at the time of said transaction," said La Liga in a statement.

La Liga said they were reporting the auditor Barcelona used between 31 December and 3 January to the Accounting and Auditing Institute.

"Barcelona... did not have on 31 December 2024, or on 3 January 2025, nor has it had since that date, nor does it currently have, (the financial fair play capacity) for the registration of the players Dani Olmo and Pau Victor," continued La Liga's statement.

Barcelona president Joan Laporta responded angrily to La Liga's statement ahead of the Copa del Rey semi-final clash against Atletico Madrid later Wednesday. — AFP

# Man Utd 'on right track' despite 13<sup>th</sup> Premier League defeat: Dalot

DIOGO Dalot believes Manchester United are "on the right track" despite suffering their 13<sup>th</sup> loss of a miserable Premier League campaign at Nottingham Forest.

Ruben Amorim's men dominated possession in Tuesday's match at the City ground but the third-placed hosts battled to a 1-0 win, courtesy of a stunning solo goal from United academy graduate Anthony Elanga.

United are a lowly 13<sup>th</sup> in the standings with just eight matches to play.

They are just one defeat away from equalling their record number of Premier League defeats in a single season, which was set under Erik ten Hag in the 2023/24 campaign.

Toothless United had 23 shots against Forest with no reward but defender Dalot sees promising signs as the side adapts to Amorim's approach.

"(Our fighting spirit) shows how much we wanted and shows how much we want to change the situation, to not be in the position that we are, especially in the Premier League," he told MUTV.

"And if we want to be competitive in the future, we have to start behaving like this and we have to perform like this.

— AFP

Manchester United have suffered 13 defeats in the Premier League this season. **PHOTO: AFP**







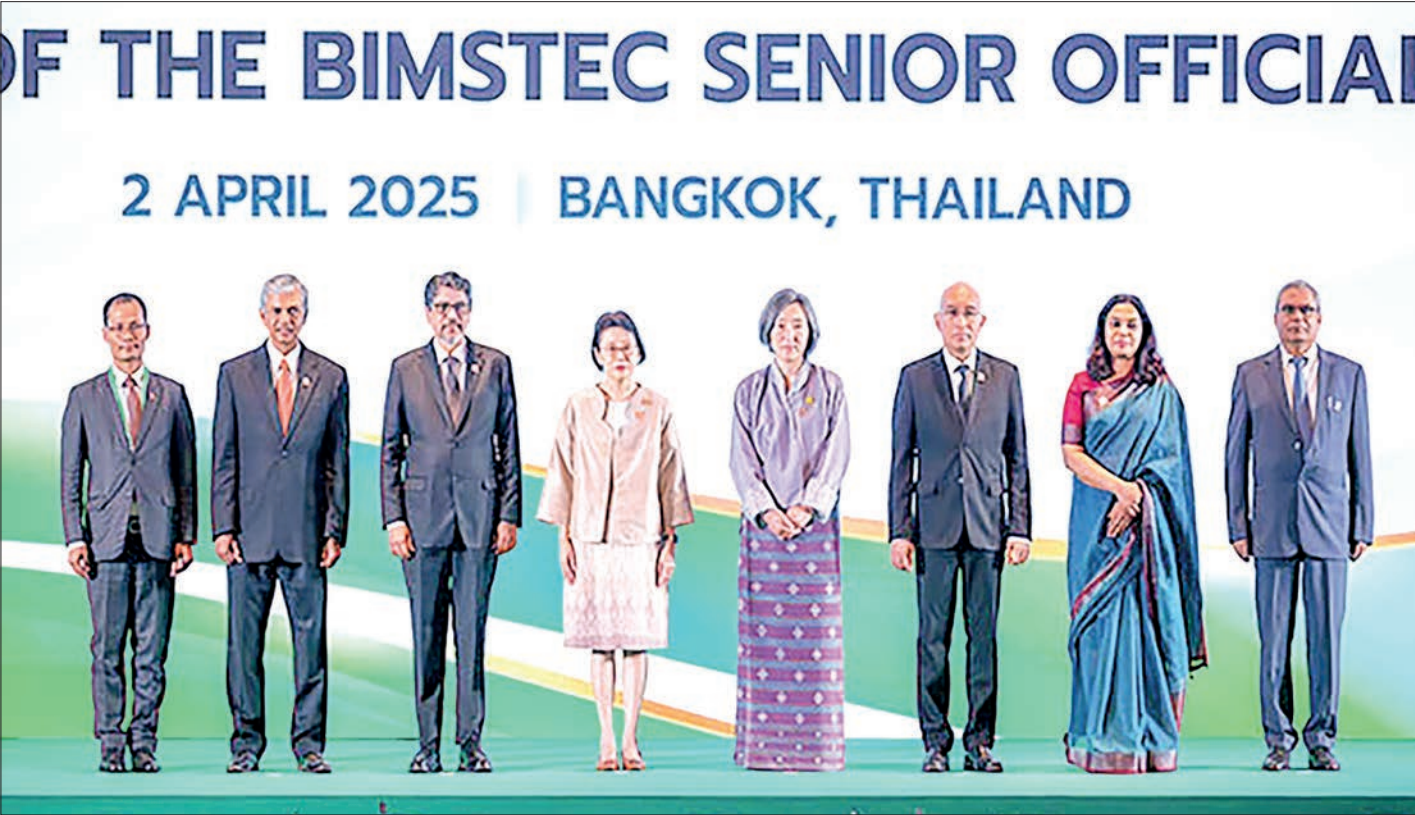
# Bangkok set for 6<sup>th</sup> BIMSTEC Summit as preparations intensify

*The meeting aimed to finalize the agenda for the BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Meeting scheduled for 3 April 2025, and the main Summit on 4 April 2025.*

THE 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Senior Officials of BIMSTEC took place in Bangkok, marking a key step in preparations for the upcoming Sixth BIMSTEC Summit. India's Secretary (East) P Kumaran participated in the discussions, which focused on cooperation across various sectors and finalizing the agenda for the BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 3 April, followed by the main Summit on 4 April.

Randhir Jaiswal, the Official Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), confirmed the developments on X, stating, "The 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Senior Officials of BIMSTEC was held today in Bangkok. Secretary (East) P Kumaran participated in the meeting. The meeting discussed the progress in the identified sectors of cooperation & the preparation of the 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers scheduled on 3 April 2025 & the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit scheduled on 4 April 2025 in Bangkok."

The Thai capital is gearing up to host the summit with full-fledged preparations. Flags of all seven BIMSTEC member states—Bangladesh,



The meeting was a preparatory step for the upcoming Sixth BIMSTEC Summit, focusing on cooperation across various sectors. PHOTO: ANI

Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand—are prominently displayed across the city, alongside billboards and hoardings marking the event. The summit, themed BIMSTEC—Prosperous, Resilient and Open, will focus on enhancing regional cooperation in trade, security, and connectivity. — ANI

# Mass layoffs targeting 10,000 jobs hit US health agencies

MASS layoffs began at the major US health agencies on Tuesday as the Trump administration embarks on a sweeping and scientifically contested restructuring that will cut 10,000 jobs.

US Health Secretary Robert F Kennedy Jr said the layoffs were part of a major reform of his department, aiming to refocus efforts on chronic disease prevention.

Calling it a "difficult moment for all of us", Kennedy said "our hearts go out to those who have lost their jobs".

"But the reality is clear: what we've been doing isn't working," he added, complaining that "Americans are getting sicker every year" despite increasing spending at the federal agencies guiding US health policy.

According to photos and testimonials posted on social media, employees learned of their dismissal early on Tuesday morning by email or by having their access badges not working when they showed up to work in the morning. — AFP



The layoffs affect the Department of Health and Human Services and the federal agencies it oversees, such as those in charge of approving new drugs (FDA), responding to epidemics (CDC) or medical research (NIH). PHOTO: AFP/FILE

VALUABLE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Laos to send more workers to S Korea to boost agricultural skills

LAOS' Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare will send more workers to South Korea for seasonal agricultural work, aiming to support the Lao agricultural sector by helping workers gain valuable skills and knowledge to apply upon their return.

The Lao government is focused on improving agricultural productivity and providing rural workers with access to skills development and modern technology, according to the ministry's report on Wednesday.

Sending Lao workers to South Korea will provide them with valuable skills and experience, which they can apply upon their return to support Laos' agricultural sector and overall socioeconomic development. In return, South Korea will benefit by addressing labour shortages. — Xinhua