

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing seen prior to his departure for Thailand yesterday at Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport.

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing leaves for Thailand to attend 6th BIMSTEC Summit

A Myanmar high-level delegation led by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing left Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport by a special plane at 2 pm yesterday to attend the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit to be held in Thailand.

The Senior General and party were

seen off at the airport by SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win, the Council Secretary, council members, Union ministers, the Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air), senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, Ambassador of Thailand to My-

anmar Mr Suphatra Srimaitrephithak and officials.

The Senior General was accompanied by SAC Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Union Ministers U Than Swe and Admiral Moe Aung, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, deputy ministers, military and civilian officials.

The Myanmar high-level delegation led by the Senior General arrived at Wing 6 of Don Mueang Airport in Thailand at 3.50 pm Thai Standard Time. The delegation was welcomed by Thailand's Minister of Labour Mr Phiphat Ratchakitprakan, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Zaw Zaw Soe and officials.

During the trip, the SAC Chairman and Prime Minister will attend the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit, with a plan to meet the Heads of Government who attend the Summit to talk about the situation of Myanmar in the earthquake disaster and the potential for cooperation with the international community to carry out rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures effectively. — MNA/TTA

OPINION

Follow the ceasefire with sympathy for life of earthquake victims

PAGE 8

NATIONAL

PAGE 10



Global aid, medicines, and rescue teams reach Nay Pyi Taw

NATIONAL

PAGE 12



International medical teams assist in emergency healthcare

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)

SAC Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing talks with Nepali PM

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, currently in Thailand to attend the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit, held a talk with Prime Minister of Nepal Rt Hon Mr K P Sharma Oli at Shangri-La Hotel in Bangkok yesterday evening.

The Prime Minister of Nepal expressed deep condolences, along with the people of Nepal, to the people of Myanmar for the devastating earthquake that struck the country recently. He stated that Nepal has already dispatched rescue and medical teams to Myanmar to assist in relief efforts. He recounted Nepal's own experience with a major earthquake in 2015, which resulted in over 9,000 deaths and more than 23,000 injuries. He mentioned that they made the reconstruction efforts to rebuild damaged infrastructure. He reaffirmed Nepal's strong and friendly ties with Myanmar and emphasized the commitment to further strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation between the two nations.

The Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Nepali Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli in Bangkok yesterday.

Minister expressed his deep gratitude to Nepal for its assistance in response to the severe earthquake that has caused great damage in Myanmar. The two nations have enjoyed a long-standing bond of friendship, and many Gurkhas of Nepalese descent serve in Myanmar Tatmadaw.

Moreover, a significant Nepali community resides in Myanmar, having coexisted harmoniously with the Myanmar people for generations. Despite the geographical distance, the two nations maintain close and friendly relations, and both countries wish to further enhance cooperation

between them. Just as Myanmar Tatmadaw provided timely humanitarian aid during Nepal's 2015 earthquake, he is sincerely grateful for Nepal's swift assistance during this earthquake disaster in Myanmar. Furthermore, as Nepal has experience in post-earthquake reconstruction

efforts, he would appreciate the opportunity to learn from and share that experience with Myanmar's own rebuilding efforts.

Next, they exchanged views on the enhancement of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, the promotion of cooperation in trade, investment, tourism and other sectors, and preparations to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic general election to be held in the coming December, favourable conditions of cooperation between Myanmar and Nepal in the international landscape, and potential for further promotion of cooperation among BIMSTEC member States through the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit.

Also, present at the talk were Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Union Ministers U Than Swe and Admiral Moe Aung, and senior officers. The Nepali Prime Minister was accompanied by the Deputy Prime Minister and officials from the Nepali government.

After the talk, the Senior General and the Nepali Prime Minister exchanged gifts and cordially greeted their entourages. — MNA/TTA

Mobile services restored after earthquake disruptions

FOLLOWING the earthquake on 28 March, which impacted Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region and 11 other states and regions, over 26,000 mobile communication stations were affected with more than 6,730 experiencing service interruptions.

Telecom operators did necessary repairs and as of 3 April, over 4,500 mobile communication stations were

functioning properly. Efforts are ongoing to restore the remaining 2,300 affected stations. These repairs are led by Chief Technical Officers (CTOs) from each operator.

Temporary mobile communication towers, known as Cell on Wheels (COW) are also deployed in key areas of Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay Region to ensure quicker restoration of communication services.

As part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), telecom operators have also provided free calling and messaging services between mobile phone users in earthquake-affected areas. This service began on 29 March and will continue until 10 April, allowing residents to communicate more easily during this difficult time. — MNA/KZL

NATIONAL

SAC Chair PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing joins BIMSTEC welcome dinner hosted by Thai PM

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended a welcome dinner hosted by BIMSTEC's Rotating Chair Thai Prime Minister Ms Paetongtarn Shinawatra in honour of Heads of State from BIMSTEC Member States who arrived in Thailand to attend the 6th BIMSTEC Summit.

The Rotating Chair of the BIMSTEC Thai Prime Minister welcomed the SAC Chairman Prime Minister and Prime Ministers from BIMSTEC Member States.

The Senior General had the welcome dinner together with the BIMSTEC Rotating Chair Thai Prime Minister and Prime Ministers from BIMSTEC Member States.

The welcome dinner was



The welcome dinner hosted by the BIMSTEC's Chair Thai Prime Minister in progress yesterday, attended by SAC Chair Premier Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in Bangkok, Thailand.

also attended by Bangladesh's Chief Advisor Dr Muhammad Yunus, Bhutan's Prime Min-

ister Mr Tshering Tobgay, India's Prime Minister Mr Shri Narendra Modi, Nepal's Prime

Minister Mr KP Sharma Oli, Sri Lanka's Prime Minister Dr Harini Amarasuriya and dele-

gation members of BIMSTEC member countries. — MNA/TTA

Deputy PM MoFA Union Minister attends 20th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting

U THAN SWE, Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs attended the 20th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting, which was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on the morning of 3 April 2025.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Maris Sangiampongsa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand. The Foreign Ministers of other BIMSTEC Member States, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, and the Secretary-General of the BIMSTEC also attended the meeting.

Before the meeting, the ministers and representatives observed a one-minute silence for the victims of the recent earthquake in Myanmar and Thailand. The foreign ministers from BIM-



The commemorative group photo of the 20th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting held in Thailand yesterday.

STEC Member States expressed their condolences for the damage and loss of life caused by the earthquake in Myanmar and expressed their continued support and assistance to Myanmar:

In his statement, the Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs expressed deep gratitude to the BIMSTEC Member States for despatching rescue teams and assisting My-

anmar in the aftermath of the earthquake that struck Myanmar on 28 March 2025. He noted with satisfaction that the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit will adopt the BIMSTEC Bangkok Vision (2030) and the Rules of Procedures for BIMSTEC mechanisms. He informed the meeting that Myanmar, as the Lead Country for the BIMSTEC Agriculture and Food Security Sector, hosted the First BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and related meetings. He underlined that Myanmar will continue to work with BIMSTEC member countries to implement the BIMSTEC Master Plan for Transport Connectivity and to achieve further progress in the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway Project. In

conclusion, he reaffirmed Myanmar's unwavering commitment to collaboration with all Member States to achieve the goals set in the BIMSTEC Charter and to build a "Prosperous, Resilient and Open BIMSTEC".

The Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs signed the Agreement on Maritime Transport Cooperation, which was held ahead of the Twentieth BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting.

Thailand is also hosting the BIMSTEC Young Gen Forum on 2 and 3 April 2025 in conjunction with the Sixth BIMSTEC Summit, and a young entrepreneur from the private sector is participating in the forum, representing Myanmar. — MNA

Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

www.gnlm.com.mm



CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.
gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.

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

Global leaders send messages of condolences to SAC Chairman Prime Minister

PRESIDENTS, Prime Ministers, and Heads of Government from around the world continue to send condolence letters to State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing for widespread damages, loss of life, and injuries in the powerful earthquake which struck on 28 March 2025.

Due to the powerful earthquake, which caused extensive damage, loss of life, and numerous injuries, President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa of Mongolia, Premier of the Cabinet Pak Thae Song of the

Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim of Malaysia have each sent condolence letters to Chairman of the National Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, expressing their deep sympathy.

The letters express that, due to the earthquake that struck central Myanmar and caused significant damage and losses, the situation is deeply regrettable. They are ready to work with the rescue personnel who are currently conducting

search and rescue operations to save lives. They also assure that they are prepared to offer all possible assistance in emergency rescue and long-term rebuilding efforts, either bilaterally or through ASEAN, to provide support to Myanmar. The message expresses deep sympathy and support for the people of Myanmar who have lost their lives and family members due to the earthquake. It emphasizes the belief that the people of Myanmar will overcome this difficult time and rebuild their social lives. It also expresses hope for

Myanmar to recover as quickly as possible to a normal state after the earthquake and for stability and peace to return to the affected regions. The message conveys condolences and prayers for those who have suffered. Moreover, it reassures that ASEAN will remain a trusted friend and ally for the people of Myanmar during this time of natural disaster. It further emphasizes that the collective efforts of all organizations will focus on saving lives, alleviating suffering, and rebuilding affected communities. — MNA/TTA

The People of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar,

I am deeply saddened by the loss of many precious lives and the immense destruction caused by the recent earthquake in central Myanmar.

On behalf of the people of Mongolia, I extend my heartfelt condolences to the families and relatives of the victims.

During this difficult time, the people of Mongolia stand in solidarity with the friendly people of Myanmar and share in their sorrow.

I do not doubt that the resilient people of Myanmar will overcome this tragedy and rebuild their lives soon.

Sincerely,

Khurelsukh Ukhnaa
President of Mongolia
Ulaanbaatar
29 March 2025

HE Senior General Min Aung Hlaing Prime Minister Republic of the Union of Myanmar Nay Pyi Taw

Upon hearing the sad news that the unprecedentedly powerful earthquake has caused heavy casualties and material losses in the northwest and middle parts of your country, I express my deep sympathy and condolence to you and, through you, to the bereaved families and victims.

I sincerely hope that your country recovers from the aftermath of the earthquake as soon as possible and stabilizes the lives of the people in the afflicted areas.

Pak Thae Song
Premier of the Cabinet
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Pyongyang, 31 March 2025

His Excellency Min Aung Hlaing Prime Minister Republic of the Union of Myanmar Nay Pyi Taw

Dear Senior General Min Aung Hlaing,

It is with profound sorrow that I extend, on behalf of Malaysia, our deepest condolences and sympathies to Myanmar for the devastating earthquake that struck the central regions of your country. We are especially saddened by the tragic reports from Mandalay and the surrounding areas.

We grieve with the families who have lost loved ones and pray for the safety of those still missing. Our thoughts are also with the courageous search and rescue personnel working under the most challenging conditions to save lives and bring relief.

Malaysia stands in full solidarity with the people of Myanmar. Please be assured that we will extend all possible support – both bilaterally and through ASEAN – to assist in urgent relief and long-term recovery efforts. In this regard, I have instructed the immediate channelling of humanitarian assistance amounting to RM10 million to the people of Myanmar affected by this tragedy. As a manifestation of Malaysia's responsibility and solidarity as the Chair of ASEAN 2025, I have also directed the Minister of Foreign Affairs to lead the humanitarian mission to Myanmar and undertake all needful actions. Further, I will be consulting with my ASEAN counterparts on a concerted plan of action for immediate humanitarian relief and technical support. I will also be in Bangkok on 17 April to convene a meeting of the Informal Advisory Council for ASEAN 2025 to discuss, among others, the situation in Myanmar.

The people of Myanmar can rest assured that ASEAN will be a dependable friend during this difficult time. In this moment of national tragedy, we hope that every effort can be refocused on saving lives, alleviating suffering and restoring communities.

Anwar Ibrahim
Prime Minister
Malaysia
30 March 2025

29 political parties unite in strong support for SAC and Tatmadaw

A total of 29 political parties including Union Solidarity and Development Party, Myanmar People's Democratic Party and National Unity Party expressed their full support for the State Administration Council and Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services issuing a joint statement on 3 March.

The statement said 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.

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 undertaking rescue, relief, and rehabilitation efforts.

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, and to re-

store stability and peace, Tatmadaw has declared a temporary ceasefire period from 2 to 22 April 2025.

The 29 political parties expressed their full support for the "peace processes" of SAC and the "statement on a temporary ceasefire" issued by the office of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief and strongly believed that such actions can bring durable peace. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

SAC Vice-Chair DPM Vice-Senior General Soe Win inspects damaged buildings and irrigation facilities in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win made an inspection tour of damaged buildings and diversion weirs and dams being maintained by Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday afternoon.

The Vice-Senior General inspected damaged buildings at the Myanmar Development Institute (MDI) office at the corner of Thazin and Myitmakha streets in the diplomatic zone of Dekkhinathiri Township and gave instructions to officials.

He also looked into damaged parts of Yanaungmyin Dam which supplies drinking water to Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. It is an earthen facility which partially contributes to the supply of water to the capital. It is an embankment with 36 feet in height and 4,060 feet in length. Its watershed is 11 square miles. The three-foot-long earthen failure occurred at the embankment due to the impacts of the earthquake. A plan is underway to build a temporary embankment. So, it



State Administration Council Vice-Chair Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win offers solace to patients during his inspection of earthquake-affected Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

is not dangerous to break down the embankment.

The Vice-Senior General also inspected loss and damage at Yayngan Dam which is one of the supporting dams to supply water to Zabuthiri Township. It is an earthen embankment with 30 feet in height and 1,000 feet in length. Its watershed is 1,200 square acres of land. Some cracks appear on the exterior of the dam and some damage emerged at the conduit due to the impacts of the earthquake. So, officials drained out some

four feet high of water from the dam to reduce pressure in the dam and are carrying out repair work as quickly as possible. The dam is not dangerous at all.

At Chaungmagyi Dam in Zabuthiri Township, the Vice-Senior General heard reports on facts about dams and reservoirs in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, strengthening of dams and damage at the embankments by officials. The Vice-Senior General instructed officials to systematically inspect the maintenance of dams, check the floor of dams

with the strength of divers from Tatmadaw (Navy) using underwater cameras, and systematically manage the supply of drinking water to dwellers in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area without breakage of dams.

The Vice-Senior General went to see injured civilians receiving medical treatment healthcare services and recovery of injuries at the temporary hospital (Paunglaung) in Paunglaung Sports Ground in Pyinmana and individually comforted the patients.

The temporary hospital (Paunglaung) is providing medical treatment for victims of the earthquake and other patients, with assistance from the Tatmadaw and the Ministry of Health. The hospital is staffed by specialists in surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, orthopaedics, ophthalmology, ENT, neurology, psychiatry, pathology, pharmacy, and public health, as well as doctors, nurses, and medical officers. It is equipped with mobile surgical and X-ray vehicles and necessary medical instruments, providing round-the-clock care to those injured and others in need of healthcare services. Up to now, 36 critical patients and 60 outpatients have received the necessary healthcare services. Moreover, a team of 40 medical personnel from Bhutan, sent by the King of Bhutan, is also collaborating to providing essential medical treatment and supplies at the temporary hospital (Paunglaung). This Bhutanese medical team is establishing a separate temporary hospital and will continue to provide necessary healthcare services to the victims of the earthquake with compassion and support. — MNA/TTA

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Statement 4/2025

1. On Friday, 28 March 2025, a powerful earthquake and its subsequent aftershocks struck Myanmar, causing significant loss of lives and properties, as well as numerous injuries. The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission deeply sympathizes and shares in the grief of the people over the destruction of lives and homes, as well as the profound sorrow experienced by the entire nation.
2. In the areas affected by the earthquake, residential buildings, houses, government offices, universities, schools, pagodas, religious structures, cultural heritage buildings, roads, bridges, wells, and ponds were damaged or destroyed. Since the earthquake occurred, the Government, the National Disaster Management Committee, local and international rescue teams, military personnel, police forces, firefighters, Red Cross members, volunteer organizations, and the public have been actively engaged in emergency response efforts. Generous donors and volunteers have also provided financial aid, medical supplies, and other essential resources, while international aid has provided crucial support to the victims. These efforts have strengthened the resilience of those affected and helped them rebuild their lives. The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission is also collaborating with relief organizations and conducting its part to support earthquake victims within its capacity.
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
4. 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. The ceasefire contributes to maintaining the rule of law, stability, and human rights protection in the impacted areas. The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission welcomes this announcement, recognizing its significance in supporting humanitarian assistance and ensuring peace and security during this critical period.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
Date: 4 April 2025

NATIONAL

Union Info Minister inspects damage, comforts staff, families at MRTV in Tatkon

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn inspected the damages caused by the earthquake at MRTV in Tatkon of Nay Pyi Taw yesterday and also met the staff and their families.

The Union minister first inspected the damage at Block C of the main building of MRTV, including shattered glass panels, collapsed ceiling, cracks in the walls, and damage to the walls in the Waiting Room.

During the meeting with the staff at the Auditorium Hall, the video clip featuring the record of search and rescue works and rehabilitation processes after the powerful earthquake was played.

The Union minister and staff then bowed their heads for one minute in silence with deep sympathy and understanding for the loss of lives and destruction caused by the devastating earthquake and a siren was sounded as a tribute to mourning as part of the national day of mourning.

Speaking at the meeting, the Union minister talked about his visit to inspect the damages and comfort the staff. It was a relief that only one female staff member sustained minor injuries (not in serious condition) and that no other injuries were reported. The Union minister also acknowledged and appreciated the uninterrupted broadcasting, as there was no disruption



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn presents foodstuffs to the personnel yesterday.

tion to transmission, thanks to the efforts of the staff in maintaining operations. He emphasized the need for timely news reporting, documentation, and updates regarding the affected areas, the incidents, search and rescue efforts, as well as cleanup and reconstruction activities.

Due to the powerful earthquake, as of today, there have been 3,145 deaths, 4,589 injuries, and 221 missing. The ancient pagodas, buildings, railway tracks and roads were seriously destroyed. The country has successfully overcome challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, Cyclone Mocha, and Typhoon Yagi through the collaborative efforts of the government and

the people. Moreover, the country was able to recover swiftly and even surpass previous conditions.

In response to this recent earthquake, lessons will be learned, and with unity and determination, all will overcome this challenge as well. As climate change continues to affect the world, it is crucial for all sectors to work together to protect the planet.

Both the domestic and international organizations are working together, sacrificing their lives to rescue the people. Being affected by the earthquake, MRTV has been able to continue broadcasting news and programmes without interrup-

tion. Efforts must be made to maintain uninterrupted transmissions, ensuring that both the domestic audience and the international community stay informed about the country's critical events.

He then urged the staff to continue their duties with a strong sense of responsibility and commitment.

Afterwards, the Union minister presented foodstuffs worth over K10 million for MRTV staff, members of Tatmadaw and the Police Force, who are carrying out security measures, to Director-General U Ye Naing.

He also offered comfort to local staff at the Block C Lobby and gave them foodstuffs. He

then inspected the damages in the MRTV compound.

He cordially met with 30 staff families who took shelter at MRTV Recreation Centre from staff housing, and he presented foodstuffs and cash assistance to them.

Moreover, he proceeded to staff officer housing No 18 and staff housing No 23 and met the staff and their families. He presented foodstuffs and cash to them.

He also went to water tanks for the staff and instructed officials not to cause water shortages. He presented foodstuffs to Tatmadaw members, the Myanmar Police Force and security staff who serve security measures at MRTV.

The powerful earthquake that struck on 28 March caused no damage to the transmission tower, satellite communication systems, air-conditioning systems, or studios at MRTV in Nay Pyi Taw-Tatkon. However, the main building, the Diamond Jubilee Museum, and staff housing sustained damages such as shattered glass panels, collapsed ceilings, and cracked walls. Moreover, TVs, computers, and equipment in the broadcasting control room and other related materials were damaged. Despite this, broadcasting operations have continued uninterrupted, thanks to repairs and replacements. — MNA/KTZH

Free river transport offered amid bridge damage in Mandalay and Sagaing

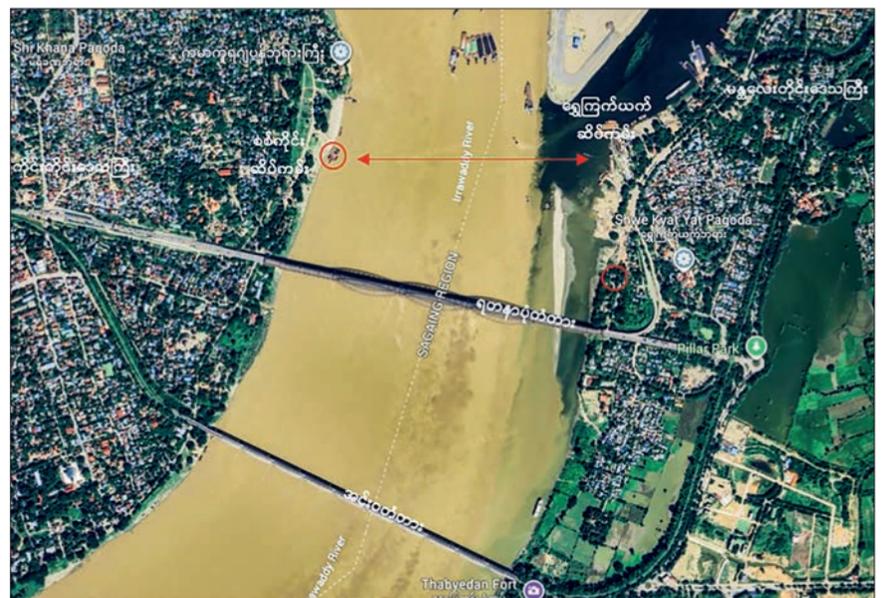
DUE to the severe earthquake on 28 March, six arches of the Sagaing (Inwa) bridge, which crosses the Ayeyawady River and connects Mandalay and Sagaing, were damaged and collapsed into the river. Similarly, the new Sagaing bridge also sustained some damage to its deck and approach roads, leading to traffic restrictions, and resulting in considerable difficulties for the movement of people and vehicles.

To address these difficulties as swiftly as possible, the Ministry of Transport and Communications, from the morning of 31 March, commenced providing free passenger ferry services between Mandalay (Shwe Kyet Yet) jetty and Sagaing jetty using the Inland Water

Transport's vessels — "Padashin" and "Pyithu". Under the management of the Directorate of Marine Administration, private freight tugs — "Hey Day", "Shwe Wah Hlaing" and "Thurein Kyaw Soe Win" — are also providing a free daily river crossing service for heavy trucks and rescue equipment and machinery.

From 31 March to 2 April over three days, a total of 794 passengers, 353 heavy trucks and machinery units, 138 light vehicles, and 12 motorcycles were transported. This free river crossing service will continue to be provided as long as the need persists.

Ministry of Transport and Communications



An aerial view showcasing the two iconic bridges spanning the Ayeyawady River — the historic Sagaing (Inwa) Bridge and the modern Yadanabon Bridge.

OPINION

Follow the ceasefire with sympathy for life of earthquake victims

AT PRESENT, due to the powerful earthquake that occurred on March 28 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 damages and losses, the state is making relentless efforts in rescue, relief, and reconstruction operations.

On the other day, the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services issued a statement on the temporary ceasefire period which was set from 2 to 22 April 2025 focusing on peace and stability, with sympathy and understanding for all the people across the country affected by the earthquake, as well as with the aim of carrying out relief and reconstruction efforts swiftly and effectively.

Attacks, destructive acts, and other disturbances against people in affected areas, as well as against local and international rescue teams and authorities, should be considered acts of destruction against the entire nation. Moreover, all parties in any engagement of fighting involved must cultivate broad-mindedness, recognizing the plight of earthquake victims and those suffering from its indirect effects nationwide.

lives and recover the deceased. These efforts are crucial during this time. Moreover, the teams and volunteers are doing their best to provide comfort and alleviate the concerns of those affected.

Attacks, destructive acts, and other disturbances against people in affected areas, as well as against local and international rescue teams and authorities, should be considered acts of destruction against the entire nation. Moreover, all parties in any engagement of fighting involved must cultivate broad-mindedness, recognizing the plight of earthquake victims and those suffering from its indirect effects nationwide.

Peace is an inspiration for the people. Any form of peace can benefit society and bring happiness and prosperity to the people. Therefore, everyone, including the earthquake victims in all affected areas, will wholeheartedly welcome the restoration of peace. Thus, as now is an opportune time, everyone should take part in the restoration of both short-term and lasting peace across the nation.

The statement mentioned that during the declared period of the temporary ceasefire, ethnic armed organizations and other armed groups should not 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. If such actions are carried out, Tatmadaw will take necessary response measures as part of protecting the public.

Currently, members of the Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force, firefighters, and other volunteers, along with foreign rescue teams, are working together to conduct rescue and relief operations in earthquake-affected areas. Their primary goal is to save

WE GOT five consecutive holidays in the middle of March. So, we, at the invitation of our eldest sister Dr Kyawt Khin, Rector of the Polytechnic University (Maubin), paid for a day trip to Maubin, a thriving town 46 miles from Yangon. That day, we set out there in a mini-bus around 8 am. Our team consisted of my family members, relatives, and friends, totalling 20.

At 8:20 am, our bus reached the Bayintnaung Bridge that spanned the Hlaing River. We saw the glittering surface of the river in the glow of the rising morning sun. A few motor boats, cargo vessels and sampans were inching along the course of the river. When we were crossing Hlinethaya, we found the FMI City, the Nawade Garden City, tea shops, restaurants, industrial zones, four-storeyed apartments and offices on the sides of the road. We also noticed many people swarming around bus stops, waiting for the buses. Some factory employees in their uniforms were getting off the shuttle buses in front of the industrial zones. Some hawkers were selling their food loudly. The scene was in a commotion. At 8:30 am, we arrived at the toll gate on the outskirts of Hlinethaya.

Then, our bus followed the Yangon-Pathein Highway. We espied some resorts, rice mills, lakes, fields and hamlets on the roadsides. We often saw clumps of green trees and rickety huts in the stubble fields. However, in some fields, paddy plants turned yellow. And, a few farmhands were labouring in the fields. As our bus went further and further, the scene became more and more countrified. As we escaped from the distractions of daily city life, we were refreshed and relaxed. As it was a holiday, there was heavy traffic on the road. But some cars were running in a tearing rush, overtaking ours quickly.

At 9:40 am, we got out of the limits of Yangon Region. Soon, we got to Sarmalauk, a prosperous village in Nyaungdon Township, Ayeyawady Region. We got off the bus for the communal pee for about 15 minutes and continued along the highway. With its economic development, Sarmalauk took on the look of a small town with factories, rice mills, mini stores, company offices, brokerage houses, restaurants and tea shops.

When we got beyond Sarmalauk, we diverted from the Yangon-Pathein highway and took the Yangon-Maubin highway. The landscape on the roadsides changed. The road was lined with tall teak trees and shady rain trees. We, on the left side, caught sight of vast alluvial plains stretching many miles eastwards. On the plains were found many paddy fields, fish-breeding pond-cum-fowl-farms, groves of banana plants and betel-nut palms, and corn, eugenia and green-pea plantations.

On the right side, villages stood adjoining. Rice mills, animal feed factories and rice brokerage houses were witnessed at the edge of some villages. Not long before,

A Day Trip to Maubin

By Maung Maung Aye

we passed the Nyaungdon oil field junction. It was a place busy with mini stores, restaurants, petrol stations and other modern amenities and facilities. We proceeded along and soon saw the Mahadhammapala monastery on the right side. At about 11 am, we arrived at the Maubin Bridge which crossed the Toe River, a tributary of the Ayeyawady River. It was over 2,500 feet in length and was built in 1998 during the time of the State Peace and Development Council. A few green vegetable plantations were seen on a big sandbank which emerged near the northern shore.

A few minutes later, we saw the signboard reading 'Welcome to Maubin'. It is learnt that Maubin obtained its name because it was built on a site where Mau trees (*Sarcocephalus Cordatus*) grew densely. It was built by the British Government in 1872. But it developed into a big town in a few years due to its thriving economy bolstered by agriculture and fishery. So it was designated as a district-level city in 1902 and put under the charge of a Deputy Commissioner.

When our bus came into Maubin, we, on the left, observed the Maubin Polytechnic University (Faculty of Computing) standing in a wide precinct with a petrol station beside it. When we reached downtown, we found a statue of Bogyoke Aung San erected at a junction of four roads. The traffic of Maubin was much lighter than that of Yangon. We turned right and pursued west. Within ten minutes, we got right in front of the Polytechnic University (Maubin), which was located on the outskirts of the town. There was a grove of shady trees near the university gate. Our team was ushered in by our eldest sister and then led inside the university estate. The main building was a very large, square-shaped, two-storeyed building, at the centre of which was a lotus pond with sprinkling water fountains. The campus was clustered with many buildings such as workshops, laboratories, canteens, student hostels and staff quarters. A big three-storeyed building and a sports stadium were under construction. I noticed that as the university was fully provided with academic facilities and operated well under the close supervision of the thoughtful,



The Uyin-wa Pawdawmu Pagoda, more commonly known as Phar Phaya, is located just a half-hour drive from Maubin.

experienced rector, it had today become a centre for all the young people who took a great interest in engineering subjects from the neighbouring areas of Maubin. So it was upgraded to the Polytechnic University (Maubin) in November 2024, having combined it with the Maubin Computer University.

At about noon, our group trooped to a food stall near a clock tower next to the bank of the Toe River. As we all were overcome by hunger, we wolfed down on the lunch. The waiters and waitresses had got their hands full, as they had to satisfy the demanding customers like us. However, we saw them very pleased with catering to our group. When we went out after lunch, we espied the shimmering gilded Shwebon Myint Pagoda in some distance. It was the most renowned pagoda in Maubin. It is said that it was 73 cubits in height and that it was built in 1890 with the deposition of bodily relics of an Arahant and small Buddha

images yielded from a dilapidated ancient stupa. Although we were at first to visit that pagoda, my eldest sister suggested that we should visit the Uyin-wa Pawdawmu Pagoda, which was better known as Phar Phaya, a half-an-hour drive from Maubin. So we changed our plan and agreed to her suggestion.

On the way to the Phar Phaya, we saw Maubin University ensconced in a large compound sheltered by leafy big trees outside the town. There were wide stubble fields and villages on the sides of the road. We were charmed by the countrified scene. As it was a well-paved tarred one, we reached the arched gateway of the Phar Phaya within half an hour. It was situated in a vast precinct at the confluence of the Toe River, the Pyapon River and the Uyin Creek in Kyaiklat Township. Pagodas and many religious buildings such as monasteries, an ordination hall, shrine rooms, rest houses and pavilions surmounted by

a tiered roof were scattered all over the precincts. It is said that a six-inch-high seated Buddha image was discovered about 50 years ago from the place where the Phaya is today situated, that it was a very powerful, wish-fulfilled Buddha image, that it was housed by Baungdaw Gyoke Sayadaw U Nanda in a shrine room to receive public veneration, that in subsequent years, it attracted many pilgrims from the neighbouring areas, that Sayadaw, therefore, constructed the building with a frog-shaped roof and other religious buildings in the precinct and that it was later called the Phar Phaya (Frog-like Stupa) after the building roofed with a big frog statue. When we got off the bus, we saw many pilgrims from different walks of life inside the precinct. Some were paying homage to the Buddha images in the shrine halls and the pagoda. Some were having themselves photographed and selfied. Some were sitting on benches under the shady trees by the banks of the rivers, breathing in fresh air. We espied some boats and sampans fully loaded with local products moving slowly along the rivers. We offered flowers, paid homage to the Buddha images and took documentary photographs. We had a relaxing moment due to the peace and happiness offered by the pagoda precinct and the nearby riverine scene.

At about 3 pm, we started our return so that we could arrive back home before dark. Half on the way back, all the people on the bus, oppressed by tiredness and the heat of the scorching sun, dozed off. All of a sudden, our sleepy eyes were wide open due to a magnified sound emanating from the front part of the bus. Alas! The ones sitting beside the driver whom we addressed intimately as Saya Thet, Saya Tun, Saya Kyaw, Saya Saw and Dr Win were singing Karaoke. The songs sung by them were those of Sai Htee Seng, Hlwan Moe, Khin Maung Toe, Soe Lwin Lwin and Min Aung who were in vogue during their younger days. While singing, they jeered at one another, comparing the theme of the songs with the memories of their past unsuccessful romantic affairs. Saya Thet and Saya Tun who had more memories of romantic affairs were the objects of ridicule. All in the bus became animated with the jokes cracked by them. Thus time passed unnoticed. At 5:30 pm, we stopped briefly at the Mann Myo Taw tea shop and had tea, coffee and dumplings. We arrived back home safe and sound at about 7 pm.

In conclusion, although we were tired from the trip, we were compensated by the beautiful scenery on the way. So we felt relaxed and refreshed. Moreover, the trip also gave us some knowledge of the socioeconomy, education, religion and environment of Maubin Township. So it is thought that this trip was beneficial and rewarding for us.

To Myesteemed Editor-in-Chief,

I am writing this letter with my downhearted mind...



Once, Myanmar hummed with a quiet rhythm - pagodas glinting gold under the sun, the Ayeyawady River whispering tales of old, and Mandalay's bustling streets alive with vendors' calls. That was before 28 March 2025, when at 12:50 pm, a magnitude 7.7 earthquake tore through the heart of our land, its epicentre a mere breath from Sagaing, too close to Mandalay's vibrant pulse. I remember the Myanmar of before, and now, as the dust settles on 1 April 2025, with over 3,600 souls lost, I ache for what we can never reclaim.

There was a time when the Mandalay Hill stood as a sentinel of peace, its slopes dotted with pilgrims offering prayers. Now, I see it in my mind's eye, scarred by landslides that swallowed monks mid-chant, their saffron robes buried beneath the earth that once cradled their steps. The palace, with its teak walls echoing royal whispers, lies splintered - a memory of grandeur drowned by the river's swollen rage. I recall Ko Zaw's laughter as he hawked mangoes by the roadside; today, he huddles under a tarp, his children's eyes wide with a fear I cannot unsee. Those streets, once a tapestry of life, are silent now, a graveyard of shacks and dreams.

Sagaing, too, haunts me - its monasteries perched like fragile birds along the fault line, now crumbled nests of wood and sorrow. I think of Ma Aye, her voice once bright as she sang to her sons, now muted by the collapse of a pagoda that took them from her. The Ava Bridge, that weathered span of iron and time, once carried us to Mandalay's embrace; it rests in the river's depths, a broken thread of connection. Even Nay Pyi Taw, the Government's polished dream, falters in my memory - its sterile order cracked, Daw Hnin fleeing as water claimed her home. These were places of permanence, or so we thought.

Yet amid this longing, there flickers a bittersweet glow. I see Htet Min Oo clawing through the rubble, hands bleeding for love of kin, and a man in Nay Pyi Taw cradling his mother's hand, his prayers a fragile bridge to her spirit. In Sagaing's villages, hands shared rice, voices offered comfort - a unity I yearn to hold forever. Bangkok's tremors, too, ripple in my mind, its people stepping into the light with a grace we mirrored in our darkest hour. These are the echoes I cling to, proof that even as the earth betrayed us, our hearts did not.

Oh, Myanmar, how I miss your unbroken face - the mornings of mist, the evenings of song and I cannot stand to continue writing this miserable letter. The earthquake stole so much, yet left us with this: a nostalgia for resilience, a yearning to rebuild not just walls, but the soul of a nation. In the rubble, I see shadows of what was and whispers of what might still be.

With a sense of melancholy,
Min Zan

NATIONAL

Global aid, medicines, and rescue teams reach Nay Pyi Taw



Images capture the arrival of international aid, medicines, and medical teams at Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport.

THE relief and rescue operations are being carried out promptly in earthquake-affected areas, and the international humanitarian aid, medicines and medical rescue teams arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport yesterday.

The humanitarian aid supplies and medicines from China and Laos and the humanitarian aid supplies and medicines, relief items, transport vehicles, rescue teams, doctors and nurses from Indonesia arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport yesterday.

The teams will conduct search and rescue operations, medical services and rehabilitation processes in quake-hit areas.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Kyi and relevant officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs welcomed the rescue and medical teams at the airport. — MNA/KTZH

WHO humanitarian assistance arrives for earthquake survivors

A cargo flight from Moalem Aviation, carrying humanitarian aid and medical supplies donated by the World Health Organization (WHO) for the earthquake-affected people of Myanmar, arrived at Yangon International Airport from Kolkata Airport, India, yesterday evening.

The WHO has donated 148 packages of health supplies and medicines, weighing 34,588 kg, to earthquake-affected areas in Myanmar. Upon arrival in Yangon, the items were received by Deputy Director-General Dr Nanda Win of the Yangon Region

Public Health and Medical Services Department, U Than Soe, Director of the Disaster Management Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, officials from the Transfer Control Team (Airport), and Dr Hyon Chon Pak, Administrative Officer of the WHO Office in Yangon.

The government is swiftly investigating the damage in earthquake-affected areas and carrying out timely relief efforts. Additionally, it has opened the way for humanitarian assistance from abroad. — MNA/TH



Humanitarian aid and medical supplies from WHO are being unloaded at Yangon International Airport.

UNICEF relief supplies arrive in Myanmar



Arrival of the relief supplies from UNICEF at Yangon International Airport.

A Rom Cargo Airline plane carrying UNICEF Myanmar relief supplies for earthquake-affected people arrived at Yangon International Airport yesterday morning.

It arrived at Yangon Airport from Al Maktoum International Airport in Dubai, the UAE, carrying 484 boxes (78,736 kilogrammes) of medicines, consumer goods, and relief materials to be distributed by UNICEF Myanmar for use in relief efforts in earthquake-affected

areas of Myanmar. Upon arrival at Yangon Airport, UNICEF Myanmar officials accepted the cargo and transported it to the Air Cargo Terminal, where it will be distributed to earthquake-affected areas in Myanmar.

The government is swiftly investigating the damage in earthquake-affected areas and carrying out timely relief efforts. Additionally, it has opened the way for humanitarian assistance from abroad. — MNA/TH

NATIONAL

Ongoing rescue, rehabilitation, and healthcare efforts in Nay Pyi Taw

A powerful earthquake and several aftershocks hit Myanmar on 28 March, causing damage to roads, bridges and buildings in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, and also resulting in casualties and injuries. The international rescue teams and local teams jointly conducted rescue work, healthcare services and rehabilitation in respective townships promptly yesterday.

The rescue teams, doctors and nurses from international countries, foreign fire brigade, Tatmadaw and combined corps, staff from the Ministry of Health and Directorate of Medical Services and social welfare organizations proceeded to quake-hit areas in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area and conducted rescue work yesterday.

The rescue team from Turkiye conducted educational programmes and demonstrations focusing on natural disasters for the members of the Fire Services Department and families and people in Bala Theikdhi Ward, Zabuthiri Township. The doctors and nurses are conducting search and rescue operations in the earthquake-affected staff housing areas using search and rescue dogs, support vehicles, and specialized equipment to aid in their efforts. The teams are also transferring the bodies of victims to the respective township hospitals, providing



Educational programmes and demonstrations on natural disaster underway in Nay Pyi Taw's townships.

medical care to those injured, and offering both physical and psychological support to ensure the well-being of the affected individuals.

Regarding the rescue and relief operations, Ali Onur Ginsel, leader of GEA Search and Rescue said, "We felt sorry for the recent earthquake in Myanmar, which has caused loss of life and injuries among the people. We are a humanitarian organization, and our primary focus in Myanmar is search and rescue operations. Since our team includes engineers, we will also provide necessary support wherever needed. On the day we arrived in Myanmar, we were able to rescue

two people who were trapped inside a collapsed building. Today, we are assessing and inspecting the structural condition of earthquake-damaged buildings. We sincerely wish for the safety and well-being of all the people of Myanmar and hope they can find secure shelter."

Moreover, local rescue teams, altruistic teams, medics and combined teams also went to quake-affected areas and conducted search and rescue operations using special equipment to assist the affected residents. They are also providing necessary medical care to the injured using mobile medical units and ensur-

ing their swift transfer to the nearest hospitals and clinics. The elderly were also moved to safe and secure locations.

Similarly, the roads and bridges in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area were also destroyed due to the earthquake, and the officials launched repair work on them to facilitate transport flow.

Due to the earthquake, lamp-posts and power lines in various townships and wards within the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area were damaged and collapsed, leading to power outages. The staff from the Ministry of Electric Power have been working tirelessly, day and night, to restore electricity.

As of 2 April, approximately 74 per cent of the restoration work has been completed.

The well-wishers and organizations donated foodstuffs, water bottles, cash, clothes and medicines, and the government also arranged temporary tents, mobile water tankers, and temporary water tanks, and mobile trucks selling groceries at cheap prices for quake-hit locals and staff in Nay Pyi Taw.

Similarly, the artistes and well-wishers together with Bo Bo Entertainment Co Ltd met with the quake-affected staff of the Ministry of Information and Information and Public Relations Department and their families yesterday, comforted them and presented foodstuffs.

The rescue teams, medics and nurses from international countries arrived in Myanmar with humanitarian assistance and medicines for rescue work, and as of 3 April, the rescue teams from China, India, Russia, Singapore, AHA Centre, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, the United Arab Emirates, Laos, Belarus, Turkiye, Bhutan, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Nepal, Japan's Nippon Foundation and Indonesia arrived in Myanmar. They actively participate in search and health services by cooperating with local rescue teams. — MNA/KTZH

Pakistani aid arrives for quake victims and affected areas

IN the aftermath of the devastating earthquake that struck Myanmar on 28 March 2025, Pakistan under the direction of Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif has sent humanitarian assistance for the earthquake victims.

The first flight carrying relief materials was received on 2 April 2025 at Yangon International Airport. It carried 35 tonnes of essential supplies including tents, tarpaulin sheets,

blankets, meals ready to eat, medicines and water modules. Another flight carrying 35 tonnes of relief supplies will arrive in the next 48 hours.

Pakistani Ambassador Mr Imran Haider received the relief goods and handed them over to Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein. The mayor of Yangon and other senior officials were also present.

Earlier, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif spoke with

State Administration Council Chairman and Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 31 March and extended heartfelt condolences on the tragic loss of lives and widespread destruction in Myanmar. Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif also offered support to Myanmar in relief efforts.

Pakistan stands in solidarity with the people of Myanmar in this difficult time. — GNLM



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein receives the relief materials from Pakistan through Pakistani Ambassador Mr Imran Haider on 2 April 2025.

NATIONAL

International medical teams assist in emergency healthcare

THE Ministry of Health continues emergency healthcare in earthquake-affected regions, including Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, Mandalay Region and Sagaing Region.

General hospitals are providing immediate and intensive care to critically injured patients, while those with less severe conditions are being transferred to treatment centres for further treatment. Preventative measures against potential outbreaks of diarrhoea and infectious diseases are implemented.

International medical teams are actively collaborating in these efforts. A Bhutanese medical team provided treatment at Paunglaung Sports Ground in Pynmana on 2 April, while an emergency team from Bangladesh operated at Nay Pyi Taw Children's Hospital. Indonesia's emergency team worked at Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1,000-bed), and the Philippine PEMAT team was stationed at Lewe Township Hospital.

A Russian medical team provided care at Thiri Mandala Sports Ground in



An injured woman receives treatment from international medical teams in the earthquake-hit areas.

Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay on 2 and 3 April, while an Indian medical team operated at the old airport site. A Lao medical team assisted at Kyaukse

Hospital on 2 and 3 April.

Likewise, Malaysian rescue teams and healthcare workers successfully rescued an earthquake survivor trapped for

five days and transferred the individual to Sagaing General Hospital on 2 April. On 3 April, the AHA Centre's Asian Emergency Response and Assessment Team (Asian-ERAT) also assisted at Sagaing General Hospital.

The Public Health Department of the Ministry of Health, in collaboration with China-CDC Yunnan, conducted water and sanitation inspections near Government Staff Housing No 4351 and Basic Education High School No 9 in Nay Pyi Taw on 2 April. On 3 April, Thailand's emergency team worked in Myauk Myike Village, Tatkon Township and distributed water purification tablets, and hand sanitizers and conducted hygiene promotion activities.

As of 3 April, eight international medical teams from China, Thailand, Japan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Philippines, Indonesia and Russia are operating in Nay Pyi Taw. Five teams from India, Russia, Laos, Nepal and Singapore are also helping in Mandalay Region, while three teams from Russia, Malaysia, and the AHA Centre are assisting in Sagaing Region. — MNA/KZL

Ayeyawady Foundation supports earthquake-affected monks

THE Ayeyawady Foundation provided aid to social rescue teams and volunteers working at the heavily damaged U Hla Thein Beikman Examination Hall of Masoeyein Monastery in Mandalay yesterday.

Led by U Zaw Zaw, the foundation offered financial assistance to the Myanmar Social Rescue Organization, Manijala Social Rescue, Helping Hands Association, the Thaka Social

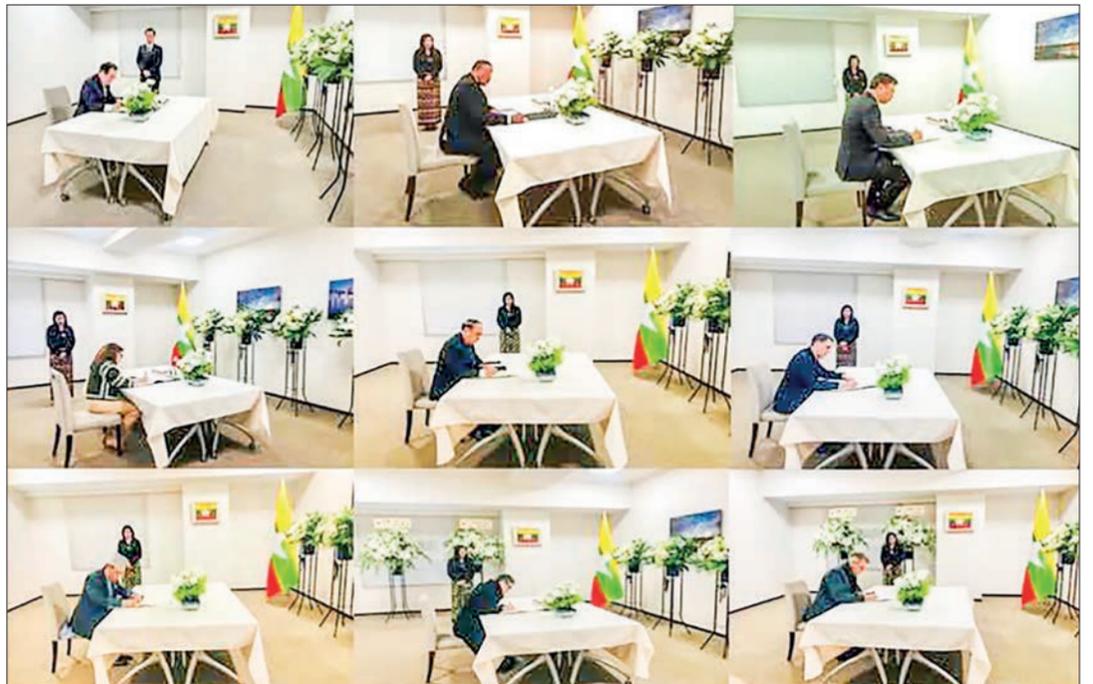
Association from Kachin State and the Thukhakari Social Rescue Team. They also arranged food and fuel supplies for international rescue teams.

The foundation donated to monks who lost limbs due to the earthquake, as well as those undergoing medical treatment. The total contribution amounted to K100 million. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL



Rescue operations of the Ayeyawady Foundation in action yesterday.

ME Tokyo opens condolence book for Myanmar quake victims for one week



Signing the book of condolences at the Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo.

THE Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Tokyo has announced that the condolence book will be opened from 30 March to 4 April.

The Embassy said in a statement that the Ambassador and the staff expressed their condolences and sympathies for the loss of life and property caused by the severe

earthquake that struck Myanmar on 28 March by holding a minute of silence, paying respect and praying.

During the week of national mourning that the embassy announced, ambassadors from embassies based in Tokyo, chargés d'affaires, deputy heads of embassies, members of parliament, the Japanese Red Cross Society,

heads of Japanese business companies, the president and executive directors of the Asia-Pacific Ladies Friendship Association (ALFS), and the vice-president of the Saitama Chapter of Ikebana International Group visited the Myanmar Embassy and signed the book of condolences for those affected by the earthquake. — MT/ZN

NATIONAL

Russian team provides rescue and health aid in Mandalay



Photos show Russian rescue teams in action during search and rescue operations in Mandalay yesterday.

THE international rescue teams participate in rescue and relief operations in Mandalay hit by a powerful quake on 28 March. Here is an interview with the Russian officials of health and rescue teams.

Dr Belinsky Victor, in charge of the health

The surgical units, X-ray units, pediatric units and observation wards for patients have been opened at Mandala Thiri Stadium. Necessary preparations are also made to provide treatment based on the condition

of the patients. Patients will receive medical care for two weeks, while there are 20 to 30 patients per day. The teams also stand with the (Myanmar) people and are ready to provide necessary assistance.

Colonel Mr Dmitry, leader of the Russian Fire Brigade

The teams arrived in Myanmar a few days ago. The Russian rescue team arrived in Myanmar under the instructions of Russian President Mr Vladimir

Vladimirovich Putin and Minister Alexandra Kulakova, and are carrying out the rescue and relief operations in Mandalay currently. Some of the places are prioritized for rescue work with about 260 manpower, and the operations are completed in some places. The condition will be better as the operations are being conducted with the international rescue teams. The people should be patient and never give up while the Russian rescue teams are here to fulfil the hopes of the Myanmar people. All will be fine in the future. — U Zarni Ko Ko (IPRD)/KTZH

Myanmar Fire Brigade and international teams lead tireless quake relief efforts

THE powerful earthquake that struck Myanmar on 28 March 2025 has caused severe damage in six regions and states. As of 2 April, the total death toll has reached 3,003, with 4,515 injured and 351 missing.

Search and rescue teams from Myanmar's Fire Brigade, as well as domestic and international rescuers, have been working tirelessly

in the affected areas. They have managed to rescue 653 survivors who were trapped in collapsed buildings and have recovered the bodies of 582 victims.

Donations from both local and international philanthropists have been received, including financial contributions and relief materials. On 2 April 2025, six aircraft from five different

countries landed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, carrying 55 members of rescue and emergency medical teams, along with rescue equipment and support materials, weighing a total of 35.505 tonnes.

Efforts are underway to distribute these donated supplies to the affected populations as swiftly as possible. — MNA/MKKS



This photo showcases stone inscriptions established by hermit U Khandi within the Candamuni Pagoda compound.

Tripitaka inscriptions at Candamuni and Kuthodaw pagodas unharmed by earthquake

THE stone inscriptions of the Tripitaka canons remained unharmed, even as the recent earthquake in Mandalay damaged the Candamuni and Kuthodaw pagodas.

The earthquake that struck Mandalay Region damaged the Tripitaka canon inscription caves (with the falling of a sacred umbrella), caused the collapse of the Gandakuti at the eastern archway of Candamuni Pagoda, slightly damaged its central part, and also affected several corridors and pavilions.

The Candamuni Pagoda houses 1,774 stone plaques of the Sutta, Vinaya, Abhidhamma, and Atthakatha (commentaries), erected by hermit U Khandi and listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The Kuthodaw Pagoda houses 732 UNESCO World Heritage-listed stone tablets, comprising 410 tablets of the three treatises Suttas, 111 tablets of the five volumes of Vinaya, 208 tablets of the seven volumes of Abhidhamma, and three gratitude letter tablets. — ASH/TH

Earthquake-damaged expressway repairs underway; Small vehicles permitted from Yangon to Nay Pyi Taw starting 5 Apr

REPAIRS are being carried out on roads and bridges along the expressway that were damaged by the earthquake. From 5 April, small vehicles will be allowed to travel from Yangon to Nay Pyi Taw, according to the Expressway Maintenance and Supervisory Committee.

“The bridge entrances at mileposts 145 and 165, particularly the Swa Creek Bridge, were damaged, resulting in the lowering of the road level and the tilting of the bridge. We have carried out repairs and have installed a temporary Bailey bridge at the Swa Creek Bridge site.

Therefore, from 5 April, small vehicles will be allowed to travel the expressway from Yangon to Nay Pyi Taw, while larger vehicles and heavy trucks will be redirected via alternate routes,” said an official from the Expressway Maintenance and Supervisory Committee.

Currently, vehicles of all sizes can travel from Nay Pyi Taw to milepost 352 on the expressway. However, due to the road's structural integrity, the section between mileposts 352 and 365 will be temporarily closed to traffic, as it is not safe for passage. — ASH/MKKS

Sri Lanka appoints committee to study impact of US tariffs

SRI Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake has appointed a committee to conduct an in-depth study on potential issues that may arise due to a new tariff system introduced by US President Donald Trump, the President's Media Division (PMD) said on Thursday.

The committee will submit recommendations to the government, the PMD said in a statement.

The committee includes the secretary to the Ministry of Finance,

the governor of the Central Bank, the chairman of the Board of Investment, the chairman of the Sri Lanka Export Development Board and the director general of economic affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the senior economic advisor to the president, the PMD said.

The United States is an important export market for Sri Lanka, especially apparels. In 2024, Sri Lanka's exports to the US were about US\$3 billion. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 7 January 2025 shows a view of the Colombo International Container Terminals in Colombo, Sri Lanka. **PHOTO: WU YUE/XINHUA**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BEYPORE VOY.NO. (25012)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BEYPORE VOY.NO. (25012)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-4-2025** 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 CONNEXT SHIPPING PTE LTD

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

AS the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 12th April 2025 to 21st April 2025, Thingyan Water Festival (New Year Public Holiday), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

Qingdao sees significant inbound visitor growth from ROK in Q1

BOOSTED by an expanded flight network and China's visa-free policy, over 78,000 visitors from the Republic of Korea (ROK) entered China via the coastal city Qingdao in east China's Shandong Province in the first quarter of 2025, up 45 per cent year on year, the Qingdao Airport said on Wednesday.

As a key gateway hub to Japan and ROK, Qingdao Airport now handles an average of 33 daily round-trip flights to and from ROK, operated by multiple airlines, according to Qingdao International Airport Group.

This includes 29 daily round-trip flights between Qingdao and Seoul, and four daily round-trip flights be-



Aerial photo taken on 11 August 2021 shows the Qingdao Jiaodong International Airport in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province. **PHOTO: LI ZIHENG/XINHUA**

tween Qingdao and Busan. Additionally, there are two weekly round-trip flights between Qingdao and Jeju. Notably, to accommodate the growing demand, Shan-

dong Airlines has increased the frequency of its Qingdao-Seoul route, raising its daily round-trip flights to 14 from 12.

Since November 2023,

China has continuously adjusted and optimized its visa-free transit policy to boost openness and people-to-people exchanges. — Xinhua

Coal-fired power plant project launched in southern Laos

LAO Deputy Prime Minister Saleumxay Kommasith presided over a groundbreaking ceremony on Wednesday for a coal-fired power plant project in southern Laos' Sekong province, which will have a total capacity of 1,800

megawatts across six 300-megawatt plants. The electricity generated will be exported to Cambodia under a power purchase agreement with the state-owned electricity company in Cambodia, the Ministry of Energy and Mines said

on Thursday. The US\$4-billion project was expected to start operation in January 2028. All six plants were planned to be operational by January 2030, with a 30-year concession period from 2030 to 2060.

In addition to the pro-

ject, a 500-kilovolt transmission line spanning 253 kilometres will connect the facility to the Laos-Cambodia border. The project is expected to boost Laos' energy export capacity and strengthen economic ties with Cambodia. — Xinhua

PESTICIDES TRADE NAME CHANGING

We, **Agri Idol Co., Ltd** would like to change the Trade Name of the following products, (registered by **Agro Icon Cropscience Pte., Ltd** to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar), from former **Old Trade Name (Idol Cyhalo)** to **New Trade Name (Idol Sinngoking)**, **Agri Idol Co., Ltd**. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days.

Agri Idol Co., Ltd, 09 - 45 555 7861, 09 - 45 555 7862

Sr.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration No.
1	Idol Cyhalo	Idol Sinngoking	Cyhalofop - butyl 20 % EC	P2024-6420

PESTICIDES TRADE NAME CHANGING

We, **Agri Idol Co., Ltd** would like to change the Trade Name of the following products, (registered by **Agro Icon Cropscience Pte., Ltd** to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar), from former **Old Trade Name (Idol Star)** to **New Trade Name (Shal 5)**, **Agri Idol Co., Ltd**. If any objection or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days.

Agri Idol Co., Ltd, 09 - 45 555 7861, 09 - 45 555 7862

Sr.	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredients	Registration No.
1	Idol Star	Shal 5	Abamectin 5 % EW	P2023-6019

SPORTS

USA sole bidder for 2031 Women's World Cup, UK set to host in 2035 - Infantino



The US is set to host the 2031 women's World Cup and the United Kingdom the 2035 edition said FIFA president Gianni Infantino. PHOTO: AFP

THE United States is the sole bidder for the 2031 Women's World Cup, and the United Kingdom is set to host the 2035 tournament, FIFA president Gianni Infantino announced on Thursday.

"Today I can confirm that we have received one bid for 2031 and one valid bid for 2035," said Infantino on stage at the UEFA Congress in Belgrade.

"2031 is from the USA and potentially some other CONCACAF members together, and '35 is from Europe, from the home nations."

Infantino also said FIFA planned to increase the number of participating teams at the Women's World Cup from 32 teams to 48 in time for the 2031 tournament.

Thursday's announcement comes after the football associations of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland revealed last month that they would submit an expression of interest in staging the tournament.

World football's governing body last month said it would only welcome bids for 2035 from

Europe or Africa, with expressions of interest to be made in the first quarter of this year.

FIFA has said that the identity of the hosts would be confirmed at its congress in the second quarter of 2026.

The United States also confirmed in early March that it would push ahead with a bid for 2031.

South Africa and Morocco had also been in the running with African nations invited to bid too, but Infantino's comments suggest they are now out of contention. — AFP

Italy's skiing champion Brignone air-lifted to hospital after crash

ITALY'S Federica Brignone, winner of the alpine skiing World Cup, was air-lifted to hospital Thursday after falling during the giant slalom of the Italian Championships in Val di Fassa.

The 34-year-old, who was leading after the first leg, hit a gate and lost her balance, tumbling onto the piste, according to a video posted on social networks.

Brignone was evacuated by helicopter from the competition in northeastern Italy, according

to the AGI news agency.

In a brief statement, Italy's winter sports federation (FISD) confirmed she was undergoing checks in hospital in Trento, promising a formal update when there was a clearer picture.

Brignone dominated the 2024-25 season on the women's circuit and is one of Italy's strongest medal chances at the 2026 Olympic Games in Milan Cortina.

The skier from Val d'Aosta has won three Olympic medals but never a gold. — AFP



Women's skiing overall World Cup winner Federica Brignone is being examined in hospital after a heavy fall. PHOTO: AFP

Sinner's former physio to blame for failed dope tests, says ex-physical trainer

TENNIS world number one Jannik Sinner's former physical trainer Umberto Ferrara said on Thursday he was blameless in the case of the three-time Grand Slam champion testing positive twice for a banned substance.

Sinner received a three-month ban agreed with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) in February after "admitting" "partial responsibility" for team mistakes.

Ferrara, in his first public remarks on the scandal, laid the blame squarely at the door of Sinner's former physiotherapist Giacomo Naldi.

Both of them have been laid off by the 23-year-old since the affair came to light.



Jannik Sinner tested positive twice for a banned product. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

WADA came to an agreement with Sinner after accepting he was inadvertently contaminated with the banned substance clostebol by Naldi.

Ferrara told Gazzetta dello Sport that he had used the spray himself for years after it was prescribed by a doctor for an illness. — AFP

Liverpool's Slot happy to let Premier League title bid take its course

ARNE Slot says Liverpool are unconcerned by how soon they can win the Premier League title after going 12 points clear again with victory in Wednesday's Merseyside derby.

A day after second-placed

Arsenal cut the gap to nine points by beating Fulham 2-1 at home, Liverpool responded by defeating Everton 1-0 at Anfield.

Liverpool next face Fulham at Craven Cottage on

Sunday.

Slot, in his first season as Liverpool manager since succeeding Jurgen Klopp, was asked Thursday how close he felt to clinching the title. — AFP



Trump to slap new 24% tariff on Japan, at least 10% on all countries



US President Donald Trump displays a signed executive order imposing tariffs on imported goods at the White House on 2 April 2025, in Washington. **PHOTO: GETTY/KYODO**

The tariffs are designed to target specific countries deemed "worst offenders" in trade relations with the US, particularly many Asian nations.

for certain countries, regarded by his administration as the "worst offenders" in trade relations with the United States.

Those key trading partners, many of which are Asian countries, include Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, South Korea and Vietnam.

Noting that the US trade deficit reached a record \$1.2 trillion last year and the country's manufacturing industry has been hollowed out by cheap imports, Trump said the situation is a "national emergency".

Cambodia will face an additional tariff of 49 per cent, Vietnam 46 per cent, Thailand 36 per cent, China 34 per cent, Chinese Taipei 32 per cent, India 26 per cent, South Korea 25 per cent and the European Union 20 per cent.

A senior White House official blamed Cambodia and Vietnam for becoming locations for Chinese companies to produce their goods and evade US tariffs.

Trump and White House officials accused the nations of not creating a level playing field for American businesses, claiming there are numerous obstacles, including non-tariff barriers, such as regulations, safety standards and subsidies. — Kyodo

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump on Wednesday unveiled his most broad-based tariffs yet in a bid to create more, better-paying American jobs, with all countries facing a baseline duty of 10 per cent and Japan being hit by a higher rate of 24 per cent.

In announcing the mix of universal and coun-

try-specific tariffs, Trump declared "Liberation Day" for the United States, which he claimed has been for decades "looted, pillaged, raped and plundered by nations near and far, both friend and foe alike."

Trump said a baseline tariff of 10 per cent will be imposed on all imports and much higher rates

Naval ships of India, Russia participating in Exercise Indra set sail

THE naval ships of India and Russia participating in the bilateral naval Exercise Indra 2025 set sail, marking the commencement of the sea phase. The navies of the two nations will engage in complex tactical manoeuvres and joint engagement drills on air and surface targets.

In a post on X, the Indian Navy spokesperson stated, "The Russian Navy and Indian Navy ships participating in INDRA 2025 set sail, marking the commencement of the Sea Phase. Both navies will engage in complex tactical manoeuvres and joint engagement drills on air and surface targets. INDRA2025 showcases ongoing collaboration and interoperability of the two navies."

The 14th edition of Indra, a cornerstone of the enduring maritime partnership between India and Russia, began in Chennai on 28 March, according to the Ministry of Defence (MoD) release. Since its inception in 2003, Exercise Indra demonstrates the long-term strategic relationship between the navies of India and Russia. — ANI



The Indian Navy spokesperson emphasized that Exercise Indra 2025 showcases the ongoing collaboration and interoperability between the Russian and Indian navies. **PHOTO: ANI**

LACK OF DOMESTIC INCORPORATION

Hungary to withdraw from International Criminal Court

HUNGARY will begin the process of withdrawing from the International Criminal Court (ICC), citing concerns over the court's politicization, the head of the Prime Minister's Office, Gergely Gulyas, said on Thursday. Gulyas told state news agency MTI that the government would initiate the formal withdrawal process later in the day, in line with constitutional and international legal frameworks. Gulyas also noted that Hungary never formally incorporated the ICC's Rome Statute into domestic law, making enforcement of its decisions within the country legally impossible even prior to the planned withdrawal. — Xinhua