

SAC Chairman PM Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits earthquake-affected MICC I and Yanaungmyin Dam, mobile hospital in Shwekyapin Ward of Nay Pyi Taw

STATE Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspected damaged parts of Myanmar International Convention Centre I (MICC I) and Yanaungmyin Dam caused by the Mandalay earthquake which struck on 28 March and comforted patients at the mobile hospital in the township sports ground in Shwekyapin Ward of Zabuthiri Township yesterday afternoon.

Accompanied by SAC Secretary General Aung Lin Dwe, Union Minister U Myo Thant and officials, the Senior General looked into damage to the ceiling at the entrance to MICC I, some cracks in Jade Hall, Ruby Hall and Emerald Hall, meeting halls and walls.

Moreover, the Senior General viewed the filling of sand and earth in the cracks of the embankment at Yanaungmyin Dam as part of the temporary repair. Officials reported to the Senior General on strengthening of the dam, and the emergence of cracks. The Senior General instructed officials to set a target date to repair the damaged embankment before monsoon season and nurture the watershed forests to be green and thriving plants.

At the mobile hospital established by the US-based Samaritan's Purse International Relief Organization in the township sports ground in Shwekyapin Ward of Zabuthiri Township, in-charge of the hospital Dr Elliott Tenpenny explained surgical operations performed on patients and functions of the hospital. The Senior General visited the hospital and cordially greeted patients. He spoke words of appreciation for the government of the United States of America and the people for their assistance to Myanmar.



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks into the fragmented portions of the Myanmar International Convention Centre I (MICC I) in Nay Pyi Taw.

The in-charge of the hospital also expressed his thanks to the Myanmar government for providing smooth processes of management and logistic measures in their rescue and relief operations, so they are convenient in giving medical treatment to the patients.

The mobile hospital was built with the use of containers by the Directorate of Medical Services and the Directorate

of Military Engineers of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army). It is a 60-bed facility for providing treatments to 60 patients at the outpatient unit, emergency unit, operation theatre, medical store and lab. The mobile hospital provides treatment to patients with different diseases and surgical operations free of charge. The US medical team cooperates with surgical specialists and orthopaedic spe-

cialists in addition to other physicians and nurses from the Directorate of Medical Services. The US medical team arrived in Myanmar on 4 April. From 7 April, they started healthcare services with surgical operations on 20 patients. On 10 April, the hospital will open one special intensive care unit and two operation theatres to extend more healthcare services to the people. — MNA/TTA

Article

The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

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Deputy PM MoFA Union Minister receives UNSG's Special Envoy on Myanmar

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More Chinese humanitarian aid arrives in Myanmar

NATIONAL

Leveraging Agricultural Strength for Export Growth through Nationwide Collaboration

OUR country has a strong foundation for successfully operating agricultural and livestock activities and is strategically positioned to export these products based on market demand.

Collaboration among all departmental officials and citizens is essential for the development of agriculture and livestock farms.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with members of the Shan State government and regional- and district-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

Foreign leaders send messages of condolences to Myanmar leader

PRESIDENT of the Federative Republic of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and Former President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari sent messages of condolences to Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General

Min Aung Hlaing, expressing extensive loss and damage as well as the loss of lives and injuries in the event of powerful Mandalay earthquake which struck on 28 March 2025.

The message of condolence, was expressed, on behalf of the people and government of Brazil,

deep sorrow and sympathy to the victims and their families of the earthquake that occurred in Myanmar on 28 March. It conveyed heartfelt condolences for the high number of fatalities and the significant and visible damage and losses caused by the disaster. The message also

expressed a desire to offer emotional support to all those affected by the earthquake through Your Excellency, and sincere wishes for a speedy recovery to all who have been injured. It further stated deep regret over the loss of lives, homes, and destruction of property resulting from

the earthquake in Myanmar. The message concluded with confidence that the government and people of Myanmar would successfully carry out rescue, relief, and reconstruction efforts, including the rebuilding of damaged infrastructure. — MNA/TTA

**Senior General Min Aung Hlaing,
Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Administration Council,**

On behalf of the Brazilian people and government, I express my sincere condolences to the Myanmar people and the families of the victims of the earthquake that struck Myanmar on 28 March.

I am deeply saddened by the large number of victims and the significant material damage. I ask Your Excellency to extend my solidarity to all those who suffered losses due to this tragic event.

I sincerely wish a speedy recovery to this friendly nation and all those affected people by the tragedy.

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva
President of the Federative Republic of Brazil

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

Your Excellency,

Nepal and Myanmar share a longstanding relationship based on mutual respect, trust, and cooperation. Since the establishment of formal diplomatic relations in 1960, high-level visits and exchanges have further strengthened our bilateral ties. I fondly recall my official visit to Myanmar in 2019, during my tenure as President of Nepal, and the warm hospitality we received on that occasion.

Inspired by the teachings of Gautam Buddha, the messenger of world peace, compassion, and friendship, the people of our two nations have maintained close socio-cultural ties that help us share our joys and sorrows.

I am deeply saddened to learn about the great loss of lives and property caused by the devastating powerful earthquake that struck Myanmar on 28 March 2025. Witnessing the horrifying images of this disaster through media and social networks has left me heartbroken.

In this moment of sorrow caused by this natural disaster, I extend my deepest condolences to the government and people of Myanmar through Your Excellency, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. I also express my heartfelt tribute to those who lost their precious lives in this earthquake and wish for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Nepal, too, suffered a similarly catastrophic earthquake a decade ago in 2015. That disaster claimed over 10,000 Nepali lives and destroyed more than 500,000 physical infrastructures, including historical and cultural heritage sites, government and public buildings, and private residences. Therefore, we can deeply empathize with the pain Myanmar is experiencing at this moment.

I firmly believe that the government and people of Myanmar will successfully carry out rescue, relief, and rehabilitation efforts and rebuild the damaged infrastructure. Thank you.

Mrs Bidya Devi Bhandari
Former President of Nepal
7 April 2025

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

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

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

Deputy PM MoFA
Union Minister
receives UNSG’s
Special Envoy on
Myanmar

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Than Swe received Ms Julie Bishop, Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Myanmar, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

They discussed matters to be coordinated between Myanmar and the United Nations concerning assistance and response efforts for the people affected by the earthquake. The Special Envoy also expressed her sincere condolences and empathy for the loss of lives and livelihoods caused by the Man-



Deputy Prime Minister Union Minister U Than Swe receives Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Myanmar Ms Julie Bishop in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

dalay earthquake that struck Myanmar. Also, present at the meeting were senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

Union Minister for Ministry 2 at SAC
Chairman’s Office receives donations by
CITIC Group (Myanmar) Company

DONATION of food and essential supplies by CITIC Group (Myanmar) Company for powerful earthquake-affected employees of Ministry 2 at the Office of the Chairman of the State Administration Council held at Office 41, Nay Pyi Taw, on 9 April. At the event, CITIC Group (Myanmar) Vice-Chairpersons Mr Piao Bo, Mr Ma Chuanfu and Official Mr Zhang Yue handed over donated food and supplies for earthquake-affected employees, which the Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing received and expressed his gratitude. The donation included 220 bags of rice (12 kilo-



Donation event of CITIC Group (Myanmar) Company for powerful earthquake-affected employees of Ministry 2 at the Office of the Chairman of the SAC held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

grammes each), 230 bottles of cooking oil (one litre each), 3,600 bottles of purified drinking water (one litre each), 30 mosquito nets and 10 emergency tents for the earthquake-affected employees. — MNA

Customs duty waived
for electric vehicles,
components

THE Ministry of Planning and Finance reduced customs duty on the importation of electric vehicles (EVs) and their components to enhance EV and related businesses, according to a Notification released on 31 March 2025, in the exercise of the power conferred by Section 3 (D) of the Union Tax Law. This notification is effective until 31 March 2026. Customs tariff set for importation of the Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs) and their components under Completely Built-Up, Completely Knocked Down and Semi-Knocked Down systems in 2012 are reduced to zero per cent, under the decision of the Union Government, in the ex-

ercise of the power conferred by the Section 37 of the Union Tax Law 2022, under the approval of the State Administration Council. EVs and components include road tractors for semi-trailers, buses (motor vehicles for the transport of ten or more persons, including driver), trucks, motor vehicles for the transport of persons, three-wheeled vehicles for the transport of goods, electric motorcycles, electric bicycles, ambulances, prison vans and hearses, charging equipment and spare parts approved by the Ministry of Electric Power. — NN/KK

NATIONAL

Union Info Minister inspects quake damage at Nay Pyi Taw printing facility, housing

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn inspected the Nay Pyi Taw Printing Factory of the Printing and Publishing Department, newspaper publishing houses and staff housing of News and Periodicals Enterprise in Zeyathiri township in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

On arrival at the meeting hall of the Nay Pyi Taw Printing Factory, the Union minister heard the reports of the director-general of the Printing and Publishing Department and the managing director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise regarding the damage and repairs at the Nay Pyi Taw Printing Factory, newspaper publishing houses and staff housing, and regular circulation of newspaper despite the earthquake.

The Union minister highlighted the damage due to the Mandalay earthquake and

stressed the need to construct buildings that can withstand natural disasters as they cannot

be avoided. The staff and people should have disaster-related knowledge.

He also appreciated the staff for continuous broadcasting channels of the ministry and

publishing the dailies despite the quake.

He then urged the staff to work together with proper understanding as the ministry is a focal institution that offers services to the public.

He inspected the Nay Pyi Taw Printing Factory compound, damaged staff housing, the Kyemon (Mirror) Daily house, Bo Waziya hall, printing machines and CTP, and comforted the staff.

The Union minister received the second batch of relief items donated by CITIC Group (Myanmar) Co Ltd at the meeting hall of the ministry yesterday morning. The Union minister expressed gratitude, and Vice-Chair Mr Piao Bo and Mr Ma Chanfu of CITIC Group (Myanmar) Co Ltd presented relief items to the Union minister who returned the certificate of honour. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn accepts the donations of CITIC Group (Myanmar) Co Ltd at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

MoC warns of legal action for price non-compliance

THE Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce stated that reasonable market prices of rice for April 2025 were issued and non-compliance with the set prices is subject to legal actions.

The Ministry of Commerce issued reasonable prices for all varieties; K60,000-K72,000 per 108-pound bag of non-premium rice varieties (Aemahta, Ngasein, Sinthukha, Yakyaw, Kayinma, Yadanatone, Tunpu, GW-11, 747, Theepu, Shweman, and Hnankauk among others), K68,000-K78,000 per bag of rice varieties (Zeeya, Ngwetoe, Minaya, Hnankauk, Shweman) that are consumed locally and exported, K75,000 to K99,000 to Shwethwe, Anyatha, Pakan, Hmawby -2, 3, 90-day short ma-

tured rice, Manaw Thukha, Sinthuka, Byawtun, Ayeyapadetha, and Ayeyamin produced from Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago regions, K90,000-K133,000 to moderate quality rice including Magyantaw, Ayeyamin and Ayeyapadetha produced from Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw and upper Myanmar regions, and premium Pawsan rice (Ayeyawady Pawsan, Shwebo Pawsan). The retailers are not entitled to make a profit of more than eight per cent of the set reasonable market prices, the ministry announced.

The ministry determined reasonable market prices by considering the following factors; fair profit for the farmers, millers and distributors, reasonable prices for consumers,

last year's market price, global market prices and other commodities prices. There are separate prices for modern trade with consumer packaging at mini-marts and supermarkets.

If individuals have difficulty buying rice, they are urged to contact the Myanmar Rice Federation. The buyers can complain about overpricing to the Consumer Affairs Department and MRF. MRF warned that overpricing, sales with inaccurate measurement and quality and non-compliance with directives are subjected to fines, taxation and prosecution under Section 5 of the Essential Supplies and Services Law. Thus, rice millers, rice shops, traders and merchants are encouraged to follow the rules. — NN/KK

Customs Dept streamlines procedures for Thingyan holidays

THE Department of Customs HAS been arranging to operate during the Thingyan holidays to expedite the customs process.

The department stated that it will stay open full-time on 12, 15, and 19 April to regulate the flow of goods via sea and air cargo. It can provide service on the other days upon overtime request, apart from Myanmar New Year Day which falls on 17 August.

Therefore, those companies that want to request overtime need to inform the department by 2 pm on 11 April after depositing tax payments at the department regarding their import and export items.

Furthermore, the department will conduct customs inspection on export containers at

Asia World Port upon the overtime request with three shifts except Myanmar New Year Day.

Additionally, withdrawal of imported essential goods, medicines and medical supplies can be carried out upon the early request.

The exporters and importers can contact the director of the Export-Import Control Division at 09 7847040, the director of the Preventive Division at 09 5149311, the deputy director (Export) at 09 785055456, the deputy director (Import) at 09 445179698, the deputy director (Preventive Division) at 09 2031671, and the deputy director (Airport) at 09 5058792 if they face any difficulties, the department notified. — NN/KK

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MoA signed to boost Yadana offshore gas field production

THE signing ceremony of the memorandum of agreement between Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise under the Ministry of Energy and PTTEP International Ltd to cooperate in expanding production level of the Yadana Offshore Gas Field project was held yesterday at the Ministry of Energy in Nay Pyi Taw.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister for Energy U Ko Ko Lwin said the Ministry of Energy and PTTEP International Ltd cooperate to remedy the declining production level of the Yadana Offshore gas field, which is vital to the country. He then appreciated the signing of the agreement during one year; and the efforts of relevant officials.

As countries around the world are in the energy transition period, there has been an increasing reliance on clean energy sources, particularly natural gas. Meanwhile, the



The signing ceremony of the memorandum of agreement between the Ministry of Energy and PTTEP International Ltd to cooperate in the production of the Yadana Offshore Gas Field project in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday in the presence of Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin.

demand for natural gas has risen significantly, leading to higher prices. The valuable natural gas resources are available in adequate quantities within the country. The ministry is committed to systematically

extracting and utilizing these resources effectively for the benefit of the nation. Under the agreement signed today, the natural gas produced will not only be shared with the people of Myanmar but

also with the people of Thailand. To increase the electricity generation, the two sides negotiated for more natural gas, and PTTEP agreed to reduce the amount allocated to Thailand as per the contract.

The Ministry of Energy and PTTEP have been collaborating for over three decades, and based on this long-standing relationship, the country warmly welcomes PTTEP’s interest to invest and cooperate in a promising and large-scale offshore project. The ministry will also provide the need as much as it can.

The natural gas production will increase within the specified time frame as agreed upon in the memorandum of agreement.

After the event, the Union minister discussed the promising opportunities in promoting bilateral cooperation in the energy sector with the delegation led by the vice-president of PTTEP International Ltd. The directors-general, managing directors, departmental officials and relevant officials of PTTEP International Ltd attended it. — MNA/KTZH



Myanmar workers seen before departing for Russia.

More Myanmar workers deployed to Russia

WITH plans underway to send Myanmar workers to the Russian Federation to create job opportunities for Myanmar nationals and broaden the labour market by placing workers in countries offering better wages, a total of 24 skilled Myanmar workers were sent to the Joint-Stock Company ‘Inturd’ Co., Ltd. in the Russian Federation for the first time on 5 March. Subsequently, one interpreter was sent for the second time on 22 March under the arrangement of Vista International Co Ltd. A further 27 workers were sent for the third time on 8 April

after signing an employment contract with the employer, which followed the provision of overseas job orientation training and the issuing of Overseas Worker Identification Cards (OWICs) per established procedures. The Ministry of Labour is liaising with the Russian Federation on employment matters to strengthen the long-standing friendship between Myanmar and Russia and to identify new job prospects for Myanmar workers. The ministry will continue to facilitate the ongoing dispatch of workers. — MNA/MKKS

The Energy

- O’ energy;
Well-known and useful;
That’s why we value the most.

O’ energy;
So-called
As it provides the driving force.

O’ energy;
What is this for?
Definitely ...
For human lives’ growth.

Abundance of energy;
If we can have,
No matter what happens
No doubt that we have wealth.

Abundance of energy;
If we can have,
Our country will be there with affluence.

Hidden yet precious gem;
The heirloom from our great grand ones.
Let’s make it powerful
By sagacious exploration and expansion more.

Of course this priceless belief;
Our goal is yet there to be reached.
Along with knowledge and endeavour,
Let’s brighten our upcoming future.
- Not only natural gas,
Petroleum as well;
Extract and refine them,
For trading and using well
Oh! Just look at there!
Fruitful factories and electric power everywhere.

Of course this cheerful thought;
Can’t wait to make it worthwhile,
Along with magnificent techniques and human resources.

It’s not too far,
To transform energy into a brighter future
With the claps of people,
And the effort of staff,
On top, of the leader’s proficient guidance.

Oh, Listen!
There is a voice;
It is the hurrah;
Blessing for wonderful hereafter.
- Composed by Ko Ko Lwin (Yankin)
Translated by Koel

“Commemorating the Ruby Jubilee of the Ministry of Energy, marking its 40th anniversary, which falls on 12 April 2025.”

NATIONAL

Interfaith Friendship Group, donors pledge K1.06B to quake relief via AMAID



Photos showcase a ceremony where the Interfaith Friendship Group and donors provided K1.06 billion to AMAID on 8 April at the Esperado Lake Hotel.

A ceremony was held on 8 April at the Esperado Lake Hotel on Kanyeiktha Road, Mayangon Township, Yangon Region, where the Interfaith Friendship Group and donors donated K1.06 billion to Arkani Muslim Aid (AMAID), an organization supporting earthquake-affected people in Sagaing and Mandalay regions.

At the ceremony, attendees observed a minute of silence to express their condolences to those affected by the Mandalay earthquake. Shwekaba U Maung Maung delivered the opening speech, after which U Khin Maung Zaw and U Hla Win from AMAID shared their experiences from their donation visits to Sagaing and Mandalay

Regions, respectively. Additionally, AMAID Patron U Aung Zaw Win explained how to more effectively participate in the relief and rehabilitation efforts in the earthquake-affected areas and donated funds. Meanwhile, AMAID Chairman U Khin Maung Lwin spoke about the Mandalay earthquake relief fund. — ASH/TH

Inwa-era ancient heritage unearthed by Mandalay quake to be preserved and publicly exhibited

DUE to the recent powerful earthquake in Mandalay, a cultural heritage structure from the Inwa period that emerged from underground will be systematically excavated and preserved, according to the Department of Archaeology and National Museum under the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture. Plans are also underway to make the site accessible to the public for educational purposes. It is reported that parts of the southern Thayetkin staircase of the structure were first discovered in 2009 during a brick-making activity by residents. Since then, the Department of Archaeology and National Museum has preserved the site. The recent earthquake has led to the further exposure of cultural heritage elements connected to the previously discovered



A view of parts of the Inwa-era ancient cultural heritage structure unearthed due to the powerful Mandalay earthquake.

From 6 April onwards, the Mandalay Branch of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum began trial excavations at the site. Preliminary findings from the excavation suggest that the structure may have been used in water-related royal ceremonies held by ancient Myanmar kings. However, it is believed not to be a royal water palace, as it lacks large-scale chambers typically associated with such buildings.

The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, through the Department of Archaeology and the National Museum, continues to carry out systematic excavation and preservation of Myanmar's ancient cultural heritage. In this context, the department will continue its efforts to preserve and develop the newly uncovered Inwa-era heritage structure revealed by the Mandalay earthquake, with plans to open it to the public for study and appreciation. — ASH/KNN



The Myanmar-Muslim Business Entrepreneurs' Association (Temporary) handing over cash and kind.

Myanmar-Muslim entrepreneurs deliver vital relief to Pyinmana earthquake victims

MYANMAR-MUSLIM Business Entrepreneurs' Association (Temporary) contributed cash and relief supplies to those affected by the Mandalay Earthquake in Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw. The association donated goods worth K130 million, including rice, edible oil, tents, canned fish, instant noodles, mats, masks, mosquito nets, surgical gowns, Japan-made waterproof

jackets, medical aprons and rubber gloves, and K30 million to earthquake victims on 7 and 8 April 2025 in Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory. Myanmar-Muslim Business Entrepreneurs' Association (Temporary) led by U Ko Ko Lat handed over the cash and relief supplies to the departments concerned, monasteries and residents in quake-hit areas. — ASH/KK

Nay Pyi Taw Airport resumes domestic flights post-earthquake

ACCORDING to Pioneer Aerodrome Services Company Limited, which manages the airport services, Nay Pyi Taw International Airport has resumed domestic flight operations that were temporarily suspended due to the Mandalay earthquake. The suspension followed

the powerful earthquake that struck on 28 March and allowed time for essential repairs and maintenance at the airport. Domestic flight services began resuming on 7 April, with MNA and Air Thanlwin restarting operations on that date. Mingalar Air is set to resume its services on 9 April. — ASH/MKKS



This photo reveals travellers at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.

MACCS online payment system now available in expanded locations

THE Customs Department declared on 31 March 2025 that the Myanmar Automated Cargo Clearance System (MACCS) Online Payment System is now available in Kawthoung, Mandalay and Myeik cities in addition to Yangon, Myawady and Tachilek border areas.

The Myanmar Customs Department initiated the MACCS online payment system through mobile banking and internet banking on 23 May 2023 at Thilawa Special

Economic Zone and Yangon areas by joining hands with AYA Bank, KBZ Bank and CB Bank regarding payment of customs duty. MACCS exercised at Myawady and Tachilek checkpoints starting from 1 January 2025.

The taxpayer can utilize m-banking or i-banking platforms to make direct payments for import and export declaration and can cash in their deposit accounts of MACCS for deposit addition-only pro-

cedures.

The taxpayer can utilize m-banking or i-banking platforms to make direct payments by putting declaration o and Customs Station Code and can cash in their deposit accounts of MACCS for addition-only procedures, by filling in the Deposit owner name and deposit owner code.

MACCS Online Payment System extended to Yangon areas (A1, A3, A4, A5, A6,

A9) including Thilawa Zone, Tachilek (N2) border point, Kawthoung (Q1), Myeik (Q2) and Mandalay (K) starting from 1 April 2025.

For assistance with the MACCS online payment system, individuals facing difficulties can reach out to the Help Desk Section at 01 379429 or contact AYA Bank at 01 2317777, KBZ Bank at 09 951018555, KBZ Pay Call Centre, CB Bank at 01 2317770, or the Customs Department directly. — NN/KK

CBM injects
US\$126M,
THB320M,
CNY3.6M in Mar

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$126 million, 320 million baht and 3.6 million yuan in March 2025.

CBM announced on 31 March that it would pump \$40 million into the fuel oil industry after sales of 3.22 million baht on that day.

CBM announced on 24 March that it would inject \$35 million into the fuel oil sector and 10 million yuan into the import industry and sold \$35 million and 1.2 million yuan into the financial market on 25 March.

It sold over 166,880 yuan on 21 March, over 777,000 yuan on 20 March, \$300,000 and 1.12 million yuan on 19 March, and \$33 million on 18 March after it announced on 17 March to inject them into the fuel oil sector.

CBM sold \$33.5 million and over 156 million baht on 11 March after it announced on 10 March to inject them into the fuel oil sector.

CBM pumped \$197,032.72 on 10 March, \$335,000 and 1.98 million baht on 7 March, and over \$130,000 on 6 March into the financial market. CBM announced on 5 March that it would sell 50 million baht to importers soon. Later, it sold over eight million baht on that day.

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

CBM pumped over \$88 million, 7.5 million yuan and 161 million baht in February and over \$124 million, over 13.8 million baht and over 4.8 million yuan in January 2025. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and the currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK



An aerial drone view of the Buy to Donate and Help Trade Fair organized by Myanmar Digital Economy Association is held at Fortune Plaza to provide humanitarian aid to earthquake victims.

MYANMAR Rice Federation sold rice sacks without profit during the two-day Buy to Donate and Help Trade Fair held at Myanmar Expo Hall, Fortune Plaza in Thakayta Township, Yangon, on 8 and 9 April.

Myanmar Digital Economy Association (MDEA) hosted that fundraising trade fair at Fortune Plaza to provide humanitarian aid to earthquake victims. MRF offered non-profit sales with K1000,000 per sack of Ayeyawady Pawsan rice (24 Pyi) (K4,200 per Pyi), K70,000 per sack of 90-day short-matured rice variety (K2,920 per Pyi) and K60,000 per sack of Aemahta rice (K2,500 per Pyi). Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) initiated K1.5 billion to help those suffering in disaster-stricken regions and contribute towards emergency rescue and resettlement activities in quake-hit areas. MRF will continue to support those affected by the earthquake with the contributions of affiliated associations, members and partners. Those who want to participate in volunteering or rescue equipment,

rice and cash donation drives can contact the Myanmar Rice Federation which formed the MRF Operation AID (Action in Disaster) task force to help the victims suffering from the power and destructive earthquake on 28 March, MRF announced on 29 March.

This donation drive is to show the humanitarian assistance of the affiliated associations and those engaged in the rice industry. They are committed to providing staple food aids and conducting long-term resettlement and relief activities for those affected.

The task force aims to provide food and necessities to those staying in temporary shelters immediately, collaborate with regional and state governments, the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, business institutions and philanthropic organizations, help conduct rescue activities at quake-hit areas with the help of volunteers and provide humanitarian assistance and support short-term and long-term relief activities. — NN/KK

MEOMA offers peanut oil at K16,000 per viss
in Mandalay

MYANMAR Edible Oil Millers Association (MEOMA) announced on 8 April that it will distribute peanut oil at a cheaper price of K16,000 per viss (a viss is equal to 1.6 kilogrammes) to those who like to donate the edible oil to residents in quake-hit areas in Mandalay.

The MEOMA has been distributing local peanut oil, sesame oil and sunflower oil to ensure the food safety of the consum-

ers. The Department of Health also notified consumers to avoid saturated oil and trans-fat which are considered unhealthy. Additionally, the MEOMA will donate peanut oil to the earthquake victims as much as they can.

Those well-wishers can contact the MEOMA to buy peanut oil at a cheaper price through contact numbers 09 4547552971, 09 962130445, and 09 687647488. — NN/KK

Guide youths to choose the best careers for lifespan

THE life of a mercantile cadet has become a great ambition for Myanmar youths, as they are drawn to smart uniforms, potential salaries, employment opportunities, and the popularity of their career in society.

Such a training depot was established as the Institute of Marine Technology, producing both mercantile and marine engineering cadets. Through changes in political systems and administrative bodies in successive eras, the institution has continued to stand strong and is now known as the Myanmar Mercantile Marine College. The college has set missions to provide comprehensive training in both practical skills and intellectual development for all crew members, preparing them to become capable leaders and efficient professionals. It also oversees research initiatives to advance marine technology and support the growth of marine transport enterprises.

The college is planning to upgrade its training facilities to meet both evolving training needs. With guidance from the Ministry of Transport and Communications and recommendations from the International Maritime Organization (IMO), a plan has been set to enhance and expand both facilities and faculty, to become an internationally recognized maritime education and training institution. Ultimately, the vision of the college is to empower Myanmar's youth to realize their dreams, shape their careers, and improve their lives, contributing positively to their families and society.

training, they have been able to demonstrate exceptional talent and skills in their respective vessels and institutions.

Indeed, Myanmar youths can pursue their dreams of becoming maritime cadets and engineers by enrolling in the Myanmar Mercantile Marine College. To do so, they must pass the matriculation examination with high marks that meet the college's entry requirements. After competing in the entrance selection process, successful candidates can begin their journey toward the careers they aspire to. Regardless of the path they choose, it is a promising career opportunity that allows Myanmar youths to showcase their talents in maritime-related professions.

The college is planning to upgrade its training facilities to meet both evolving training needs. With guidance from the Ministry of Transport and Communications and recommendations from the International Maritime Organization (IMO), a plan has been set to enhance and expand both facilities and faculty, to become an internationally recognized maritime education and training institution. Ultimately, the vision of the college is to empower Myanmar's youth to realize their dreams, shape their careers, and improve their lives, contributing positively to their families and society.

The Burma Circle of the Geological Survey of India and their Contributions to the Geology of Myanmar

EPISODE:61

JADEITE FROM BURMA

This article serves as a continuation of Episode 60, “Jadeite from Burma”, originally reported by HL Chhibber in 1934. It provides further insights into the specific geology and methods of mining in the jadeite mining area. Due to space constraints, a summary of the report is included.

Jadeite-Albite Rocks.

The alignment of the known jadeite outcrops suggests that there are at least four jadeite-albite dykes or sills intrusive into the peridotites and serpentines described above, and they may be designated (1) the Tawmaw dyke, (2) the Mienmaw dyke, (3) the Pangmaw dyke, and (4) the Namshamaw dyke. The petrological account of these rocks is dealt with in the account of mines.

The jadeite mines of the region can be classified as follows: -

1. Outcrop mines.
2. Detrital boulder workings.
3. Jadeite workings in the Tertiary conglomerates.
4. The Uru Boulder Conglomerate workings.
5. Jadeite workings in the Uru chaung.

1. Outcrop Mines.

- (a) The Tawmaw Jadeite-Albite intrusion.

Discovery of the Jadeite at Tawmaw: The most enormous outcrop of jadeite is at Tawmaw (25° 41'13", 96° 15'28"), discovered about 54 years ago. The discovery was purely accidental. The story narrated to the author is that about sixty years ago a hunter named Ninjar of Sanhka reached the site of Tawmaw while hunting and started cooking rice on a range of stones. One of the stones cracked and proved to be valuable jadeite. Subsequently, the Kachins started mining on the spot. The story recorded by Batemen, Assistant Superintendent, Kamaing, in his diary dated 28th February 1907, is slightly different. “Some 26 years ago, a Kachin who was on a hunting expedition shot at and wounded an elephant. He tracked the elephant to the spot now being quarried and found the animal dead there. He removed its tusks and was trying to knock some of the flesh off them on a hard rock close by when the weight of the tusk broke off a fragment of the rock, which proved to be a valuable bit of jade. After a fashion, this area's development has continued since.” The proved outcrop's length and width at Tawmaw are a little over 300 and 200 yards, respectively. The intrusion has been regarded as a dyke, but it is quite probable, as especially seen in the Kadondwin and elsewhere, that the injection took place in the form of a sill. The thickness is irregular, probably depending on the fissure into which the jadeite-albite mass was intruded. The general trend is N-E - S-W, which swings between N-N-E - S-S-W and E-N-E - W-S-W.

Old Kachin Workings.: Many old Kachin workings are to be seen to the southwest of the Dwingyi (big mine). When the jadeite was first discovered here at Tawmaw there were only three of four feet of overburden in places, and the covering of serpentine was practically absent. The depth of the numerous deserted pits seldom exceeds six feet. The abandoned water races used to sluice away the overburden are still to be seen. The general section of



Uru Boulder Conglomerate. PHOTO: THAN HTUN

the intrusion exposed at Tawmaw is as follows: at the top, a very thick overburden of red earth represents the soil and subsoil formed by weathering of serpentinised peridotites, which form the country rock into which the jadeite-albite mass is intrusive. Below serpentinised peridotites lies a thin, earthy, very light green chlorite-schist, which is locally called “*byindone*”. The latter is underlain by a siliceous cherty mass which, in the mine, has the appearance of schistose serpentine. Below the chart comes an amphibole-schist or amphibolite (locally called “*shin*”). Next to the amphibolite is a banded amphibole-albite rock, which is underlain by albite and, in turn, by jadeite. Below the layer of jadeite, the relationships of the rocks are seldom visible; in rare sections, however, the sequence may be repeated in the footwall, but albite is not present as a rule below the jadeite, i.e. the latter may be directly underlain by amphibolite. In places, albite is ab-

sent altogether, but in others, it is absent from the footwall only. It may occur at only one in ten localities and commonly occurs at the top of the sill. In the Kadondwin, in the hanging wall, albite occurs in the middle, and jadeite is found above and beneath it, while in the footwall, jadeite occurs in lenses in the albitite.

Outcrop Mines of Tawmaw.

The outcrop mines are situated at Tawmaw. There are two of these: (1) the Dwingyi (meaning “big mine”), and (2) Kadon dwin (“*dwin*” in Burmese means a mine).

The Dwingyi: The Dwingyi is certainly the more important of the two and the mine consists of shafts and tunnels driven along the jadeite “dyke”. There are six shafts in all, and in 1927 the mine subsided in one place making the total number of surface openings seven. The shafts were originally put down by different people and are named after them.

In addition, there are a few small deserted pits that represent attempts at winning in the past. About 200 yards southwest of the Dwingyi, numerous old Kachin workings are to be seen. At this site, jadeite was found almost at the surface; only three or four feet of overburden had to be removed to reach it. Serpentine was particularly absent. The depth of these pits did not exceed six feet.

Method of mining.: The mines are worked for only about three months in a year, i.e. from March to May, and all mining activity ceases with the advent of rains. During the rainy season, the mines get filled up with water, and as a result, the first operation when work is recommenced is to pump out this water. It may be noted in passing that since A W G Bleek's visit in 1907, mining methods have changed considerably. Kachins then emptied the mines by removing water with kerosene tins, but nowadays draining is performed by a steam pump. When the mine is properly cleaned, operations can be started. The owners of the Dwingyi installed a compressed air drilling machine with which they work thin star-bit jack-hammer drills. Generally, the drills are four-rayed, but sometimes they are six-rayed with a maximum diameter of one and three-quarter inches. A hole about six to nine inches in depth is drilled in the jadeite, and then pieces of jadeite are broken off by driving a wedge into the hole with big hammers. But when the compressed air-drilling machine is not operating the miners then work only with blunt chisels, wedges, and hammers. The wedges are five inches in length and two inches in breadth. It is noteworthy that jadeite is a very tough and hard mineral and it is extremely difficult to break it. In a few minutes, a chisel or wedge loses its sharp edge.

The primitive method of cracking jadeite with burning charcoal continues. This practice is very injurious both to the mineral and to the miner. The former gets calcined as a result of this treatment while the value of the stone is considerably reduced on account of the development of cracks in it. The fumes of carbon monoxide emitted from the charcoal fires have their poisonous effects on the miners working underground.

Kadon Dwin.

The Kadon Dwin is run on more scientific and up-to-date methods by Mr C W Chater of the Burchin Syndicate. The main vertical shaft, which is about fifteen feet square and fifty feet deep, leads to drive No 1, which is one hundred feet long, 30° north of

By THAN HTUN
(GEOSCIENCE
MYANMAR)

east, and represents the hanging wall of the jadeite dyke. It opens out into a winze about 23 feet in depth, and this leads to the stope No 2, which represents the footwall of the dyke and is about 50 feet in length 10° east of north. The main shaft is entirely serpentine, and drive No 1 represents the workout portion of jadeite with contact rocks, viz. “chloritic schist” and amphibolite in the hanging wall of the dyke. The average thickness of the jadeite here was about

4 feet. The winze or shaft No 2 is entirely in albite, and stope No 2 has been driven in the footwall of the dyke. The albite is traversed by vertical joints, which, in some cases, are filled with white veins. It is underlain by amphibolite, and beneath this is the jadeite, the thickness of which varies from 5 to 7 feet. Remarkably, the jadeite in the footwall occurs in the form of lenses. Amphibolite and albite with some albitite-breccia intervene between the successive lenses of jadeite. The jadeite was seen dipping 30° east at the working face.

Industry declining at Tawmaw: The mining industry at Tawmaw is gradually declining, chiefly due to the increasing depth of the mines; further, the old primitive methods of the Kachins cannot successfully cope with the present-day condition of mines. Unsettled conditions in China, which is the main consumer of jadeite, must also be partly responsible. To be productive, the mines must be run on scientific and commercial lines, which requires capital much beyond the means of poor Kachins. It is true that about 20 years ago, the output of jadeite was much more significant than at present, and three Mawoks (headmen), a Kachin, a Shan, and Chinaman had to be maintained. Even about five years ago, 400-500 miners were working at Tawmaw, but in 1927 and 1928, however, only some 50 to 60 miners had been engaged.

On the Tawmaw alignment are situated the three other outcrops of (1) Sarmamaw, (2) Malinkamaw, and (3) Sanhkamaw and summarized as follows:

Sarmamaw.: It is interesting to record the discovery of the following outcrops of jadeite, hitherto unknown to science. About one mile south-west of Tawmaw (25° 41'13", 96° 15'28") is an outcrop of Samamaw which occurs on the right bank of a small stream called Sarma *hka*, named after the Kachin Sawbwa of the neighbourhood of Mogaung. At the top is an overburden 10 feet 2 inches thick, and an inner pit about 13 feet deep with a diameter of about 10 to 15 feet. In places, the joints are only about one to two inches apart.

Malinkamaw.: Malinkamaw is about two miles northeast of Tawmaw (25° 41'13", 96° 15'28"). The rock here has greenish-black inclusions of amphibole. The overburden measured only about 8 feet. Jointing in the northeasterly direction is well-marked and simulates bedding.

Sanhkamaw.: The third locality is situated in the Sanhka *hka*, about 2 ¾ miles northeast of Tawmaw. This locality does not leave a shadow of doubt as to the intrusive nature of the jadeite into serpentine. The thickness of the serpentine at the top is about 12 feet, which is underlain by a soft chloritic schist about 1 foot thick. The serpentine is highly jointed. Another probable outcrop of jadeite lies N-W of Mienmaw on the path that connects this village with the old Kansi-Tawmaw path. Several bounders of albitite (“*palun*”) were seen lying near the pit, and apparently, the Kachins did not reach the jadeite underneath the albitite. (To be continued).

References: Chhibber, HL, 1934: The Mineral Resources of Burma, Macmillan, and Co Limited, St Martin's Street, London.



NATIONAL

MoTC sustains critical services in quake zones

THE Ministry of Transport and Communications has been working to ensure smooth and accessible travel for people affected by the natural disaster and facing difficulties due to the earthquake. Both the aviation and maritime transport sectors have been operating efficiently, with daily updates issued to keep the public informed.

In the maritime sector, to maintain the regular transport of passengers and goods between Mandalay and Sagaing, a total of 1,538 cargo vehicles and 744 small passenger vehicles were transported by privately owned vessels and barges between the Shwekyatyet Jetty in Mandalay and the Sagaing Jetty from 31 March onwards. In addition, three cargo vehicles carrying relief supplies were transported free of charge.

In the aviation sector, international aircraft carrying relief supplies, provisions, medicines, and rescue teams began arriving daily on 29 March 2025 at Yangon International Airport,



Ground services are provided free of charge for earthquake relief materials at the newly reopened airport.

Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, and Mandalay International Airport. As of today, a total of 104 aircraft have landed, delivering 1,966.849 tonnes of relief supplies. The respective airports have been providing

free ground handling services for these rescue flights, including manpower and equipment.

Moreover, domestic flights resumed on 5 April 2025 at Mandalay International Airport and Nay Pyi Taw International

Airport. As a result, Myanmar National Airlines, Mann Yadana-bon Airlines, Mingalar Airlines, and Air Thanlwin Airlines are operating regular services. Within four days, 83 flights were successfully operated.

In the railway sector, several sections of the Yangon-Mandalay railway damaged by the earthquake have been repaired. From 5 April, regular services have resumed as follows: DEMU express trains Nos 7 and 8 on the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw route; trains with airbag coaches Nos 27 and 28 on the Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay route; and trains with airbag coaches Nos 11 and 12 on the Yangon-Mandalay route. Additional cargo trains are being deployed to support the smooth flow of goods. Regular services are also running daily on the Yangon-Pyay, Yangon-Mawlamyine, and Patheingyi-Kyangin routes.

In the telecommunications sector, more than 6,700 mobile communication stations in earthquake-affected areas were initially out of service. Of these, 6,000 have been repaired, representing approximately 90 per cent, while work continues to restore the remaining stations. — Ministry of Transport and Communications/MKKS

Rescue and relief operations ongoing for earthquake victims in affected areas

ON 28 March 2025, Myanmar was struck by a powerful earthquake that severely affected six regions and states. As of 9 April, the death toll had reached 3,595, with 4,815 injured and 145 still missing.

The Myanmar Fire Brigade and search and rescue teams, both domestic and international, have been carrying out timely rescue operations in the affected areas. Rescue teams have successfully located and saved 653 survivors trapped inside buildings and have also recovered the bodies of 718 victims.

In addition, local and international donors have been providing financial aid and relief supplies to those affected. As of 9 April, a total of 359.067 tonnes of relief materials had arrived at Yangon International Airport and Nay Pyi Taw International Airport via seven aircraft from China, Malaysia, and Azerbaijan.

Efforts are ongoing to ensure that these supplies reach the affected population as quickly as possible. Relief operations continue to be coordinated to provide timely assistance to those in need. — MNA/MKKS

Bagan Museum earns K64M from 59,000 visitors in FY2024-25

IN the financial year 2024-25, the number of visitors arriving at the Bagan Archaeological Museum was more than 59,000 and received more than K64 million, said an official from the Department of Archaeology and National Museum (Bagan Branch).

In 2023-24 FY, the museum gained more than K71.9 million from 94,951 local and foreign visitors.

Bagan Archaeological Museum is open daily from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm except for Monday and public holidays, and admission is K1,000 per local and

K10,000 per foreigner, but it is free for children under 12 years old, students, monks and nuns.

The museum will be closed during the Thingyan holidays. — MT/ZS



The façade of the Bagan Archaeological Museum. PHOTO- CK HTEIN SWON

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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION
(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

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

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

NATIONAL

More Chinese humanitarian aid arrives in Myanmar

AS the government of Myanmar continues to swiftly assess the damage in earthquake-affected areas and carries out ongoing rescue and relief efforts, humanitarian assistance from the international community has also been steadily arriving. According to the respective donor countries, rescue teams, medical personnel including doctors and nurses, humanitarian relief supplies and medicines are arriving in Myanmar daily.

Four Y-20 aircraft from China arrived at the Tatmadaw Airport in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, carrying a total of

104 tonnes of humanitarian aid supplies and medicines. The aid was handed over by Ms Cao Jing, Chargé d'affaires of the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar and received by Ambassador U Kyaw Htun from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Director-General Dr Min Thein from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

Likewise, an Air China flight carrying 92,727 kilograms of aid supplies including tents, tarpaulins, beds, mosquito nets, and food arrived at Yangon International Airport at 12:20 pm yesterday. The shipment was welcomed by Yangon

Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, regional ministers, officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Mr Jia Junjie, Minister Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar, along with other embassy staff.

Tatmadaw personnel, Yangon City Development Committee staff and local cargo workers loaded the relief items onto vehicles. Under the supervision of the Yangon Region government, the supplies were then sent to Nay Pyi Taw to be delivered to the earthquake-affected areas. — MNA/KZL



The acceptance ceremony for China-aided humanitarian materials is underway at the airport.

Chinese SAR teams conclude earthquake mission, return home

THE Chinese search and rescue teams, including 253 doctors and nurses, who are diligently working to provide humanitarian assistance and support rehabilitation efforts in Myanmar's earthquake-affected areas, departed for China by air from Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

They were seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport by Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, who is also the Vice-Chair of the National Disaster Management Committee, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Than Tun

Oo, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Lwin Oo, and departmental officials. — MNA/MKKS

Chinese SAR teams begin their journey home from Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport.



Group photo documenting the donation event by the Bhutan medical relief team.

Bhutan medical relief team donates water purifier, and personal emergency kit at Khemasivam Monastery

THE Bhutan medical relief team, currently offering treatment for quake victims in Nay Pyi Taw, visited the Khemasivam Monastery in Pyinmana Township yesterday.

The team donated a water purifier and personal emergency kits to Presiding Sayadaw

Bhaddanta Tejaniya.

The donation included K45 million worth of an automatic water purifier, 10,000 litres capacity water tank, 100 personal emergency kits and 2,000 drinking water bottles, amounting to over K100 million. — MNA/KTZH

Severely quake-damaged nunneries in Sagaing remain underreported



Nuns are seen living on the roadside.

THERE are nunneries which are unknown but suffered severe damage during the quake in Sagaing Hill and still lack public attention.

"There are barely any donors there because the lanes are very narrow and difficult to reach. So, I would like to request donors to give a little more effort to reach there," said Maung Yahhan Thathana Yingwin (Sagaing) Facebook page and mentioned the nun's name list and contacts.

According to it, they are nunneries near Sitagu Thandi Kaya and at the foot of Ponnyashin Hill.

"22 nuns reside here. The

building didn't collapse but completely cracked including walls and entrances. A nun passed away and one has been still hospitalized. Water and food are needed," said a nun from Gunawady nunnery, north of Wachet Hospital.

Another nun, Daw Dhammakesi from Mya Yadana nunnery located north of 10th Shweminwun lane said, it houses 55 nuns and rice and water for showering are necessary in an emergency and added that some young nuns have suffered nosebleeds due to extreme heat and half of a rice bag is just enough for two days. — Htun Htun/ZS

NATIONAL

People’s Square to host traditional Thingyan charity feasts despite festival absence

THERE will be no Thingyan Festival in Yangon People’s Square this year, but the Sathu-ditha, a traditional charity feast, will be held without music and dance.

The Information Committee of the State Administration Council has announced that the Myanmar New Year’s Ata Thingyan Festival, which will be held for the first time after being included in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, will be organized peacefully and following Myanmar culture without music and dance.

According to the Yangon City Development Committee’s Engineering Department (Roads and Bridges), preparations for the water festival pavilion and the Thingyan Walk being built in front of Yangon City Hall have been suspended and cancelled.

Such cancellations are due to the strong Mandalay earthquake on 28 March, which left many people dead and injured, as well as damaged buildings.

Applications for the construction of water festival pavilions in Yangon Region were accepted from 25 March to 7 April, and seven companies have submitted applications. — Htun Htun/ZN



A glimpse of the People’s Square Thingyan Festival in the previous year. PHOTO: XINHUA

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



Travellers are seen against the backdrop of beauty and serene scenes of the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone.

Moderate tourist arrivals noted in Bagan

THERE are moderate tourist arrivals to Bagan, according to locals and travellers.

Tourists have booked rooms to visit Bagan during the Thingyan holiday, and there was a moderate arrival before Thingyan.

“I think the number of tourists has decreased due to the earthquake on 28 March and the high temperature. Bagan is not affected and it is safe to travel. Currently, there are not many tourists, but the arrival is moderate. Some people will come during Thingyan,” said a Bagan resident.

During Thingyan, domestic tourists are preparing to visit PyinOoLwin, Kalaw, Hpa-an, Bagan-NyaungU, Bago, Pyay, Zalun, Ngwehsaung, Chaungtha, and places near Yangon, as well as outbound destinations.

The Local Pilgrimage and Tourism Service Association announced on 1 April that it is possible to travel to other regions except for Mandalay and Sagaing regions based on the ground conditions reported by travel groups that have recently visited them, and that tour operators should be able to facilitate their trips. — MT/ZN

Myanmar detains one Ethiopian for illegal entry



MYANMAR authorities detained one Ethiopian who illegally entered the Myawady-Shwe Kokko and KK Park area yesterday.

Kayin State Social Affairs Minister U Saw Tun Aung and officials observed the detention of foreigners to be transferred and collection processes of the personal information and data of new detainees yesterday.

From 30 January to 9 March 2025, 8,740 foreign nationals were detained for illegal entry into Myanmar. Of these, 7,231 were transferred to their respective countries through Thailand, following legal procedures. The remaining 1,509 are ready to be deported shortly.

The 8,740 detained individuals came from various countries including China, Indonesia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Pakistan, India, Uganda, Ethiopia, Nepal, Thailand, Rwanda, Kenya, Kazakhstan, Cambodia, Ghana, Bangladesh, Japan, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Tunisia, Algeria, Congo, Cameroon and Chinese Taipei. The majority of the detainees are from China. — MNA/KTZH

Authorities carry out deportation procedures for undocumented foreigners.

China unveils guidelines to boost employment for college graduates

The goal is to establish a nationwide employment services network that is inclusive, well-functioning, and reliable within three to five years.

CHINA has released new guidelines on building a high-quality system of employment services for university graduates. The policy document, issued by the General Office of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the General Office of the State Council, outlines a comprehensive strategy to promote sufficient

high-quality employment among college graduates. It highlights six key areas of focus: optimizing the higher education training system, strengthening career guidance services, improving job-market and recruitment systems, enhancing support mechanisms for jobseekers in difficulty, innovating employment monitoring

and evaluation tools, and reinforcing supports and safeguards for graduate employment. The document sets the goal of establishing a nationwide employment services network that is inclusive, well-functioning and reliable within three to five years, laying a solid foundation for graduates to find jobs. — Xinhua



A job fair for college graduates is held in Honghe Hani and Yi Autonomous Prefecture, southwest China's Yunnan Province, China, 29 March 2025. PHOTO: CGTN

Greek general strike hits transport and commerce



Greek unions called for a 24-hour strike against the high cost of living. PHOTO: AFP

MORE than 15,000 people took to the streets in Greece on Wednesday in the second 24-hour general strike this year, calling for higher wages to match the rising cost of living. Transport ground to a halt as air traffic controllers joined the action, while rail and public transport as well as island ferry services were hit. Schools, courts, banks and public offices were also shut as part of the demon-

strations. The action came as the new sweeping tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump come into effect. They include a 20-per-cent levy on the European Union, of which Greece is a member. In Athens, police said more than 10,000 people gathered near parliament as part of public- and private-sector union action against the conservative government of Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis. — AFP

Japan's Jera to invest in major ammonia production project in US

JAPANESE energy company Jera Co said Wednesday it will take a 35 per cent share in a \$4 billion ammonia production project in Louisiana to build what would be the world's largest facility to produce low-carbon energy. With plans to locally hire more than 1,000 people for construction, a Jera official said the investment comes in

line with US President Donald Trump's policy to boost US investments and create jobs. Production of ammonia at the facility is set to start in 2029, according to the Japanese firm. Jera is a joint venture between Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings Inc. and Chubu Electric Power Co, and the official said the company will continue to closely monitor US policies. — Kyodo

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (149N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (149N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-4-2025** 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**

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Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

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M.V SOL PRIME VOY.NO. (5504S)

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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.

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Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V YANGTZE DIGNITY VOY.NO. (2502)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V YANGTZE DIGNITY VOY.NO. (2502)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-4-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-5** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S ELDER TRIUMPHANT SHIPPING LINES PTE., LTD

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

NEWS IN BRIEF

Indonesia president says ready to temporarily shelter Gazans

INDONESIA President Prabowo Subianto on Wednesday said he was prepared to grant temporary shelter to Palestinians affected by the war in Gaza between the Israeli military and the territory’s rulers Hamas.

Nearly 400,000 Gaza residents have been displaced in the weeks since Israel resumed military operations in the territory last month, according to the United Nations.

“We are ready to receive wounded victims,” Prabowo said before leaving for a Middle East visit to the United Arab Emirates, Turkiye, Egypt, Qatar and Jordan. “We are ready to send planes to transport them. We estimate the numbers may be 1,000 for the first wave.” – AFP

Israel’s top court freezes dismissal of Shin Bet chief “until another decision”

ISRAEL’S High Court of Justice on Tuesday issued an interim order, ruling that Ronen Bar, chief of the internal security service Shin Bet, would remain in his position until another court decision, state-owned Kan TV News reported.

The order followed an over 10-hour hearing on petitions filed by opposition factions and other organizations against the government’s 21 March decision to dismiss Bar due to “a lack of trust”.

As part of the decision, the court also ordered the government not to advance any move regarding ending Bar’s tenure, including announcing a replacement or acting head, and that his power should not be impaired. – AFP

Death toll from Dominican Republic nightclub collapse rises to 66

THE death toll from the nightclub roof collapse on Tuesday in Santo Domingo, the capital of the Dominican Republic, has climbed to 66, with 155 others injured, authorities confirmed.

Rescue operations are ongoing, said Juan Manuel Mendez, director of the Emergency Operations Centre, describing the tragedy as one that has plunged not only the affected families but also the entire nation into mourning. Dominican President Luis Abinader has declared three days of national mourning starting 8 April to honor the victims. The collapse occurred during a party at the Jet Set nightclub in the capital in the early hours Tuesday. Jet Set is a well-known nightclub in Santo Domingo and often hosts live performances during the week. – Xinhua

President Murmu emplanes for Slovak Republic after concluding ‘fruitful’ State visit to Portugal

This will be the first visit by an Indian president to Slovakia in 29 years.



Indian President Droupadi Murmu during her visit to Portugal. PHOTO: PIB

AFTER concluding a “fruitful” State visit to Portugal, President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday (local time) embarked for the next leg of her tour, Slovak Republic.

She visited Portugal at the invitation of President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa. The visit is taking place after a 27-year gap. The last State Visit took

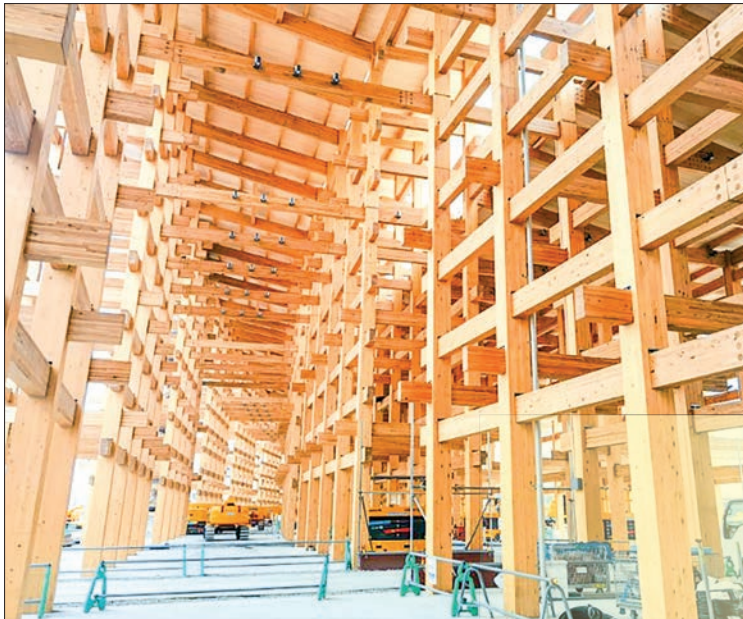
place in 1998, when President K R Narayanan visited Portugal.

“A fruitful State visit to Portugal concludes. President Droupadi Murmu emplanes for the next leg of her tour, Slovak Republic,” the Ministry of External Affairs said in a post on X.

President Murmu will visit Slovakia from 9 to 10 April at the invitation of Slovakian Presi-

dent Peter Pellegrini. It will be the first visit by an Indian president to Slovakia in 29 years.

During her visit, President Droupadi Murmu was accorded a ceremonial Guard of Honour at the Portuguese Parliament, where she was warmly received by the President of Assembleia da Republica, Jose Pedro Aguiar-Branco. — ANI



Potentially explosive methane gas level logged at Osaka Expo venue

A potentially explosive level of methane gas was detected at the World Exposition venue in Osaka less than a week before the event’s opening on Sunday, prompting the organizer to step

up safety measures.

The Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition said flammable gas exceeding safety limits was discovered on Sunday in an underground space for electrical equipment in the Green World construction area on the artificial island of Yumeshima. When the covering was opened for ventilation, the gas concentration fell below safety standards.

The day marked the final rehearsal to check facility operations and traffic flow with visitors, ahead of the event’s opening.

In a bid to prevent an accident, the organizer will more frequently monitor gas levels and install fences to restrict access. Built on reclaimed land, the venue has areas where methane is generated due to buried waste beneath the surface. — Kyodo

This photo, taken on 27 June 2024, shows the construction site of the Grand Ring, a signature location for Expo 2025 Osaka, on the Yumeshima artificial island in Japan. PHOTO: XINHUA

SPORTS

Onana 'one of worst goalkeepers in Man Utd's history': Matic

FORMER Manchester United midfielder Nemanja Matic has labelled Andre Onana "one of the worst goalkeepers" in the club's history, reacting angrily to the shotstopper's claim that the Premier League side are "way better" than Lyon.

Ruben Amorim's struggling United travel to face the French side on Thursday in the first leg of their Europa League quarter-final.

United are 13th in the Premier League after a miserable season but remain unbeaten in Europe.

Onana said after the Manchester derby on Sunday, which finished 0-0, that overcoming Lyon, fifth in Ligue 1, was "not going to be easy, but I think we are way better than them".

That bullish remark was put to the normally understated Matic on the eve of the first leg in France.

"You know, I respect everyone but to say that then you need to give the answer," said the Serbia international, who also had a spell with Chelsea in the Premier League.

"If you are one of the worst

goalkeepers in Man United's history, you need to take care of what you are talking (about).

"If David de Gea or Peter Schmeichel or (Edwin) van der Sar said that, then I would question myself.

"But if you're one of the statistically worst goalkeepers in Man United's modern history, then he needs to show that before he says (anything). We will see." — AFP



Lyon's Nemanja Matic had spells at Chelsea and Manchester United.
PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Voeller extends Germany role until Euro 2028

RUDI Voeller, a World Cup winner with Germany in 1990, has extended his contract as sporting director of the national team until Euro 2028, the German Football Association (DFB) announced on Wednesday, continuing his work alongside coach Julian Nagelsmann.

The extension to the 64-year-old's contract was signed at the end of March in the wake of Germany's win over Italy which sent them through to the semi-finals of the Nations League.

"The national team and the whole team within the DFB have become very dear to my heart," Voeller said in a press release.

"The enthusiasm of the

Euro 2024 home tournament, and above all the collaboration with Julian Nagelsmann, have played a big part in this."

Voeller was appointed sporting director in February 2023, taking over briefly as interim coach following the sacking of Hansi Flick in September that year.

Under his charge, Germany beat France 2-1 in a friendly. He then formed part of the task force to find a successor to Flick, strongly arguing for Nagelsmann.

The former Bayern coach has already signed an extension to his contract that will take him through to Euro 2028. — AFP

Premier League claims fifth Champions League spot

ARSENAL'S 3-0 win over Real Madrid means at least five Premier League teams will play in next season's Champions League, the English top flight confirmed on Wednesday.

The top four sides in the Premier League automatically qualify for Europe's top club competition.

But due to the success of English clubs in the three European competitions, England is now guaranteed a top-two placing in UEFA's association club coefficient rankings, which earns a European Performance Spot.

England lead the way, with Spain and Italy next on the list.

Five English teams are involved in the quarterfinals of the various European competitions — Arsenal and Aston Villa in the Champions League, Manchester United and Tottenham in the Europa League and Chelsea in the Conference League.

The Premier League could potentially



At least five Premier League teams will be in next season's Champions League.
PHOTO: AFP

have as many as seven clubs in next season's Champions League — the top five teams in the league, plus the Champions League winners and the Europa League winners if they finish outside the top five.

Liverpool are almost certain to win the Premier League and Arsenal, in second, are well-placed.

But there is a scrap for the remaining Champions League spots, with just six points separating third-placed Nottingham Forest from Villa, in seventh.

Arsenal shocked 15-time European champions Real Madrid 3-0 on Tuesday in the first leg of their quarterfinal, with Villa in action against Paris Saint-Germain on Wednesday. — AFP

Alcaraz recovers from sluggish start to move into Monte Carlo last 16

CARLOS Alcaraz picked up his first ever win at the Monte Carlo Masters when he came from a set down to win his second round match against Francisco Cerundolo 3-6, 6-0, 6-1.

After a mixed American tour, with a semifinal in Indian Wells and an early loss to David Goffin in Miami, the 21-year-old Spaniard made a successful return to clay.

His only previous appearance in Monte Carlo in 2022 ended in a three-set defeat by Sebastian Korda.

The 21-year-old Spaniard, ranked two in the world, made a slow start against the lively Argentine who outlasted him in extended cross-court rallies.

After gaining an early break, Alcaraz gave up four games in a row which was enough for Cerundolo to go on and take the set.

From then on, however, it was all Alcaraz. He dropped

just a single game over the next two sets as he blasted his way to victory in one-hour 37-minutes.

"I didn't start well," said Alcaraz. "I made a lot of mistakes and I let him play inside the court, dominating the points.

"I just knew that I had to do something else, play more aggressively, and play my own

tennis: drop shots, going to the net and show more aggression.

"The most important change was the return, I tried to return closer to the line and push him." The world No 3 booked himself a last 16 date against the German Daniel Altmaier, 84th in the world, who saw off the French veteran Richard Gasquet 7-5, 5-7, 6-2. — AFP



After dropping the opening set Carlos Alcaraz roared back to beat Francisco Cerundolo at the Monte Carlo Masters. PHOTO: AFP

President Murmu emplanes for
Slovak Republic after concluding
'fruitful' State visit to Portugal
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WORLD

China releases white paper on China-US economic, trade relations

CHINA'S State Council Information Office on Wednesday released a white paper titled "China's Position on Some Issues Concerning China-US Economic and Trade Relations".

The Chinese government issued the document to clarify the facts about China-US economic and trade relations, and elaborate the position of the Chinese side on relevant issues, according to the white paper.

The white paper came as rising unilateralism and protectionism in the United States have significantly impeded normal economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.

Since the beginning of trade friction in 2018, the US side has imposed tariffs on Chinese exports worth more than US\$500 billion, and has continuously implemented policies aimed at containing and suppressing China. Recently, the United States levied comprehensive additional tariffs on Chinese products, including tariffs citing the fentanyl issue as the pretext, "reciprocal tariffs," and an additional 50 per cent on existing tariffs.

These measures — revealing the isolationist and coercive nature of US conduct — run counter to the principles of the market economy and multilateralism, and will have serious repercussions for China-US economic and trade relations, the white paper said.

In response to the US moves, China has taken forceful countermeasures to defend its national interests, and has remained committed to resolving disputes through dialogue and consultation, with multiple rounds of consultations with the US side to stabilize bilateral economic and trade relations, according to the document. — Xinhua

Since 2018, the US has imposed tariffs on over \$500 billion worth of Chinese exports and implemented policies to contain China.



A staff member inspects stainless steel products at Tsingtu Group in Fu'an County of Ningde, southeast China's Fujian Province, 17 August 2022. **PHOTO: WEI PEIQUAN/XINHUA/FILE**

Vietnam, Spain pledge to upgrade ties after tariff shock

THE leaders of Spain and Vietnam pledged on Wednesday to upgrade ties to the highest level, as the two countries attempt to manage the

fallout from enormous tariffs imposed by Washington.

During a visit by Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez to Hanoi,

he and counterpart Pham Minh Chinh signed a joint declaration aiming to elevate ties to the level of comprehensive strategic partnership.

It came on the same day US President Donald Trump's 20 per cent tariffs on EU products, and a massive 46 per cent levy on Vietnamese goods, came into force.

Sanchez said Spain was committed to an international order based on rules, "free trade and economic freedom".

"Trade wars benefit no one, but harm everyone," he said. "In a global context as complex as the one we are in, the Spanish government is firmly committed to the opening up of our country and Europe to Southeast Asia," he added. — AFP



Garment workers in Ho Chi Minh City on 3 April. The 46 per cent US tariffs threaten to devastate Vietnam's economic growth plans. **PHOTO: HUU KHOA/AFP**

HISTORIC BIRTH IN BRITAIN

First baby born from transplanted womb in Britain

FOR the first time in Britain, a woman has given birth following a womb transplant, Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital in London confirmed on Tuesday.

New mother Grace Davidson, who is 36 and lives in the south of England, was born without a functioning womb. This changed in early 2023 when she became the first woman to receive a womb transplant in Britain, after her sister Amy donated her own womb as part of the Womb Transplant UK living donor programme.

As reported in 2023 by BJOG, the international journal of obstetrics and gynecology, the original donor operation and subsequent transplant took place at the Oxford Transplant Centre, part of OUH's Churchill Hospital.

Grace then subsequently had In vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment at the HCA UK's Lister Fertility Clinic in London. She has since been closely monitored at the Churchill Hospital and Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, which is run by Imperial College Healthcare and is where her baby was born. Grace and baby girl are both doing very well following a caesarean section birth in February 2025, said the hospital in a statement. — Xinhua