

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets departmental personnel at different levels in Taunggyi yesterday.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing held separate meetings with departmental personnel at different levels at the city hall in Taunggyi and at the meeting hall of the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone in Hopong, Shan State (South) to talk about the earthquake disaster and regional development measures.

At the hall of the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone in Hopong, Chairman of the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone Administration Body U Khun Ye Htwe reported on the number of injured people in townships of the zone in the earthquake, the loss and damage of infrastructure, the potential for rebuilding, and plans to reconstruct religious buildings and pagodas in the precinct of Thiri Mingala Shwechantha Mwedaw Pagoda in Hopong.

In his speech, the Senior General

Shan State authorities called to boost exports

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing emphasized earthquake disaster and regional development in a meeting with departmental personnel in Taunggyi and Hopong.

revealed that till this morning, a total of 3,649 people were dead, 5,018 injured and 145 missing due to the Mandalay earthquake. He pledged to provide K1 million each to dead persons caused by the earth-

quake. Other loss and damage mentioned more than 60,000 residential houses, 2,366 schools, 3,514 monasteries and nunneries, 5,620 pagodas and 291 hospitals and clinics across the nation.

He continued that search and rescue operations were carried out with difficulties to save lives trapped in the collapsed and damaged buildings. Foreign rescue teams poured out their utmost efforts in rescue and relief measures.

The Senior General highlighted that the government emphasizes the improvement of transportation facilities into normality as rapidly as possible. Likewise, efforts are being made to open schools on time whereas arrangements are being made to give shelter to earthquake victims before monsoon season. **SEE PAGE 5**

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UNICEF aids over 800 families in Pyinmana

NATIONAL

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

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

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

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

Kazakhstan President sends message of condolences to Myanmar leader

PRESIDENT of the Republic of Kazakhstan Mr Kassym-Jomart Tokayev sent a message of condolences to State Administration Council Chairman and Prime Minister Senior General

Min Aung Hlaing, expressing his deep heartfelt of sadness for the severe damage, loss of life, and numerous injuries caused by the powerful earthquake that struck Mandalay,

Myanmar.

In the message, he expressed that upon hearing the sad news of the devastating earthquake that occurred in your esteemed country, which

resulted in the loss of many lives of Myanmar nationals, I am deeply saddened. During such a difficult time, I extend my heartfelt condolences to the families who have lost their

loved ones and to the people of Myanmar. I sincerely pray that those affected by this natural disaster will recover quickly and be safely reunited with their families. — MNA/TTA

**Mr Min Aung Hlaing,
Prime Minister of Myanmar,
Nay Pyi Taw,**

Your Excellency,

I received with deep sorrow the tragic news of the earthquake in your country, which has claimed the lives of many of your fellow citizens.

In this difficult time, I extend my heartfelt condolences to you, the families who have lost their loved ones, and the people of Myanmar.

I sincerely wish a swift recovery to those injured by this natural disaster and hope they return safely to their families soon.

With deepest sympathy,

Kassym-Jomart Tokayev
President of Kazakhstan
28 March 2025

Weather Low-Pressure Area Condition

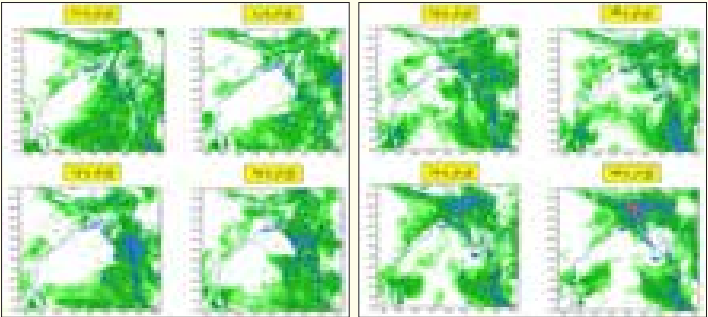
Issued at 7 pm MST on 10 April 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the low-pressure area over Westcentral Bay of Bengal still persists. It is likely to move north-northeastwards and weaken gradually over central Bay of Bengal during next 12 hours.

Due to the low-pressure area, rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, and Shan States from tonight to 11 April 2025. Rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, and Shan States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls during 12 to 18 April 2025.

Advisory

People should be aware of the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning, hails, flash flood and landslide in the hilly areas and near small rivers and inland water transport and untimely rainfall accompanied with Strong wind, thunder, lightning, hails and landslides. — DMH



Cement imports keep flowing into Yangon



This photo shows imported cement bags being discharged from the vessel at the port.

TO rapidly meet the domestic cement demand for construction projects nationwide during this dry season and bolster domestic production, cement imports are being permitted.

Continuously arriving via

the Kawthoung border trade station, a cement vessel carrying 1,500 tonnes reached Shweme Port in Shwepyitha Township, Yangon Region, on the evening of 9 April and is now being distributed in the market.

The import of cement required for domestic construction work has been allowed during this period, and in addition to this vessel, other vessels carrying cement will continue to arrive weekly. — MNA/TH

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)



State Administration Council Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing assesses search-and-rescue operations and debris cleanup efforts in Kalaw and Aungban, southern Shan State.

SAC Chairman Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on inspection tour of Aungban damaged by Mandalay Earthquake

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by his entourage, the chief minister of Shan State, the commander of

Eastern Command and officials, yesterday afternoon inspected the loss and damage in Aungban caused by the Mandalay earthquake and beautification process of Kalaw, leaving necessary instructions.

On arrival at the collapsed Hotel Aungban, the Senior General inspected search and rescue operations at the damaged site and gave necessary guidance to officials. The Senior General asked about the search and

rescue measures of the rescue teams and fulfilled their needs.

The Senior General also looked into the damaged Sasana Hitakari nunnery in the precinct of Aungchantha Buddhism Learning Centre.

At Kalaw railway station, the Senior General heard reports on expanding the Kalaw Creek and dredging process by the Kalaw District Natural Disaster Management Committee, and the creation of a new landscape in front of the Kalaw railway station by the Kalaw Township Development Committee by the Chief Minister of Shan State and officials.

In his response, the Senior General stressed the need to ensure the proper flow of water along Kalaw Creek without any blockage. Officials need to raise public awareness not to throw garbage into the creek and take

action against them with fine punishment. The Senior General urged residents and administrative bodies to cooperate in the beautification of the region and the improvement of the social system.

He viewed the expansion of the width of Kalaw Creek to ensure the proper flow of water, dredging of silt, and progress of landscaping, gave necessary instructions, and visited Kalaw railway station.

In his instruction, the Senior General underlined that the railway station must be systematic with a fence. The yard of the station must be for the employees of Myanmar Railways and passengers only. It must be a systematic, neat and tidy station. Documentary photos of the railway station must be displayed systematically. — MNA/TTA



The Senior General is pictured during his inspection tours in Kalaw and Aungban.

NATIONAL

SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy PM Vice-Senior General Soe Win thanks Bangladeshi rescue and medical teams before departure

A ceremony to honour the search and rescue and emergency medical team of Bangladesh which completed their mission to conduct emergency search and rescue operations in the earthquake-affected areas in Myanmar took place at Tabaung Ground in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, attended by National Disaster Management Committee Chairman Vice-Chairman of the State Administration Council Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win.

Also present at the ceremony were Union ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, deputy ministers, Bangladeshi Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Md Monwar Hossain, the Defence Attaché and officials.

All attendees led by the Vice-Senior General observed a one-minute silence for sympathy over the loss of life and damage in the 28-March powerful earthquake.

In his honorary speech, the Vice-Senior General said that due to such earthquake activity, more than 60,000 houses, 3,514 monasteries and nunneries, 2,366 schools, and 3,678 departmental offices and buildings were destroyed across the country. In addition, 155 bridges and 5,620 pagodas were damaged. Till this morning, the number of confirmed deaths stood at 3,649, with 5,018 people injured and 145 people missing. From 28 March to 9 April, Myanmar search and rescue teams along with international emergency response teams were able to rescue 653 people alive and recover the bodies of 718 deceased individuals.

From Bangladesh, a total



State Administration Council Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win presents appreciation document and gifts to Bangladeshi search-and-rescue, and medical teams.

of 55 personnel led by Colonel Shamim Iftakhar and Colonel Nasir — comprising search and rescue teams, support and relief teams, medical teams, and structural engineering teams — arrived in Nay Pyi Taw at 2:00 pm on 1 April, along with 69 types of modern search and rescue equipment, and participated in rescue operations.

The medical team led by Colonel Nasir from Bangladesh also carried out operations at Nay Pyi Taw Children's Hospital from 1 to 3 April. From 4 April onward, they were based at Zabuthiri Township Hospital, and also operated as a mobile clinic in Pyinmana Township. They collaborated with Myanmar's emergency medical teams to provide surgical and medical

treatments at people's hospitals, including the Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1,000-bed) and the hospital in Lewe Township. They also gave healthcare services to 527 patients, including four major surgeries.

Led by Colonel Shamim Iftakhar, the Bangladesh search and rescue team, in collaboration with the Myanmar Fire Brigade's search and rescue team, was able to locate a missing person trapped inside the building at No 1338, Danatheikdi Ward, Zabuthiri Township, which had collapsed due to the earthquake on 3 April 2025.

As a deceased person was found at the site, they had to break through the walls and concrete slabs with great effort to retrieve the lifeless body. On

behalf of the families, heartfelt thanks and appreciation were expressed for their efforts.

On the morning of 4 April, the engineering team from Bangladesh also inspected the demolition and clearance of hazardous sections of the quake-affected Central Fire Station building in Zabuthiri Township (Nay Pyi Taw). They kindly provided necessary suggestions and advice, for which we are deeply grateful.

It is also known that the search and rescue team from Bangladesh is a highly experienced group, having previously assisted in earthquake response operations in Nepal and Türkiye. Thanks to their valuable experience, they were not only able to help locate and rescue trapped

individuals —whether alive or deceased—from collapsed buildings, but also provided recommendations concerning buildings at risk of further collapse.

On behalf of the State Administration Council, the national government, the National Disaster Management Committee, and the earthquake-affected people and their families, the Vice-Senior General expressed his deep and heartfelt gratitude to the Government and responsible officials of Bangladesh for their timely and wholehearted support extended purely out of neighbourly goodwill and genuine humanitarian concern, without any conditions attached.

He also extended his sincere thanks to the rescue and medical teams led by Colonel Shamim Iftakhar and Colonel Nasir, as well as to Dr Md Monwar Hossain, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar, and all members of the Embassy for their assistance in search and rescue operations and in providing medical treatment through mobile clinics for the victims of the earthquake in our country.

The Vice-Senior General presented certificates of appreciation and gifts to individuals of the Bangladeshi team through an official.

After the ceremony, the Vice-Senior General hosted meals for the Bangladeshi rescue and emergency healthcare team.

The Bangladeshi team on 13 April will return home by a Bangladeshi vessel which will transport relief supplies for earthquake-affected people of Myanmar to Yangon on 11 April. — MNA/TTA

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NATIONAL

Shan State authorities called to boost exports

FROM PAGE 1

The Senior General stressed the need to supply sufficient drinking water to the people in addition to systematic conservation of watershed forests.

He underscored that as the government will need a large sum of money to be spent on rehabilitation of the earthquake-affected areas, it is necessary to increase export volume to generate foreign exchange. Hence, the Senior General urged authorities of Shan State (South) and Pa-O Self-Administered Zone to increase export volume through agricultural and livestock farming tasks.

He pointed out that it is necessary to organize students to attend schools at

a cent per cent rate and efforts must be made to raise the high rate of changing student grading in the coming academic year.

The Senior General disclosed that the government has adopted a policy on rehabilitation to have better buildings, roads and bridges than in the past and shape more developed cities. Moreover, he urged all to cooperate in successfully holding a free and fair election in coming December.

Also present at the meetings were Council Joint Secretary General Ye Win Oo, council members, Union ministers, the chief minister of Shan State, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the

Commander-in-Chief and officials.

In Hopong, the Senior General inspected the maintenance of the spring and water tank at Hopong Spring.

While in Hopong, he paid homage to Thiri Mingala Shwechantha Mwedaw Pagoda and then Hoko Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vijaya and supplicated repair of damaged parts at the pagoda, and long-term existence of the structures. He donated cash to the overall renovation of the pagoda through the Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The Senior General viewed damaged religious buildings in the precinct of the pagoda and gave instructions to officials.

At the University of Computer Stud-

ies (Taunggyi), the Senior General heard reports on the damage to the main lecture buildings, lecture halls, student hostels and staff housings caused by the earthquake presented by the pro-rector.

The Senior General noted that as the three-storey building was severely damaged by the earthquake, it is necessary to systematically demolish the building. Priority must be given to the construction of the new building meeting the set standards for strengthening and safety.

In the afternoon, the Senior General inspected the site chosen for the construction of the gymnasium at Pa-O National Development Ground and gave necessary guidance to officials. — MNA/TTA

SAC Member provides aid to patients at Nay Pyi Taw hospital 1,000-bed

STATE Administration Council Member Mahn Nyein Maung visited Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1,000-bed) yesterday morning to meet with health workers and earthquake-affected patients to provide food and cash assistance.

First, SAC member Mahn Nyein Maung met with patients who were injured in the earthquake at the Neurology and Orthopaedics Wards of the General Hospital (1,000-bed) and encouraged their health and living conditions by providing oral rehydration solution and instant noodles.



SAC Member Mahn Nyein Maung offers comfort to patients at the Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital.

Yesterday, the Council Member donated a total of 120 bags of rice, 400 visses of potatoes, 200 visses of tomatoes, 1,200 eggs, four cartons of instant noodles, yoghurt, oral rehydration solution and K1.5 million worth of lunch. — MNA/MKKS

Deputy PM MoFA Union Minister receives UN WFP Resident Representative



Deputy Prime Minister MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe holds talks with WFP Resident Representative Mr Michael Dunford yesterday.

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Than Swe received Mr Michael Dunford, Resident Representative of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

They discussed the matters pertaining to the provision of humanitarian assistance to the population from the areas affected by the Mandalay earthquake which struck in the central part of Myanmar on 28 March 2025.

The meeting was also presented by senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

MoHA Union Minister inspects temporary camps in Nay Pyi Taw

UNION Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, who is also the First Vice-Chair of the National Disaster Management Committee, accompanied by Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Than Tun Oo, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Aung Kyaw Kyaw, Vice-Mayor U Maung Maung and relevant officials, inspected the construction of temporary camps and accommodation for quake-affected people, staff and their families in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Union minister and party first observed the safe shelter, electricity, solar, water, toilets, clinics and kitchens at the temporary camps in Wunna Theikdi, Thukha Theikdi, Nyana Theikdi, Dhana Theikdi and Bala Theikdi wards.

During the inspection, the Union minister said the tents would be established for the people and staff before the monsoon season. The water, electricity and toilets will be fully provided at all the camps in addition to the clinics, health staff and medicines. Moreover, the staff whose accommodation will be repaired or constructed will be placed at the temporary Bashes before the monsoon.

At noon, 23 political parties donated K10 million and well-wishers from foreign countries K15.96 million for quake victims, and the Union minister received the cash donation. — MNA/KTZH

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NATIONAL

Deputy PM MoFA Union Minister receives Nepali Ambassador

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Than Swe received Mr Harishchandra Ghimire, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Nepal to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar expressed his appreciation to Nepal for providing humanitarian assistance and sending a medical team to Myanmar in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake. Both sides discussed working closely in the rescue and relief efforts of the victims of the earthquake.



Deputy Prime Minister Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Than Swe meets Nepali Ambassador Mr Harishchandra Ghimire yesterday.

They exchanged views on ways to further strengthen bilateral

ties, including fostering closer economic cooperation and pro-

moting trade and investment between the two countries. — MNA

MIFER Union Minister virtually attends Special ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting



Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw participates in the online Special ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting held yesterday.

THE delegation led by Myanmar ASEAN Economic Minister, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Dr Kan Zaw, attended the special ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting via videoconference yesterday morning.

The meeting was chaired by the Minister for Investment, Trade and Industry of Malaysia and also participated by the Economic Ministers from the ASEAN Member States, the ASEAN Secretary-General and the representatives.

The meeting exchanged views on ways to protect ASEAN's trade and investment. Moreover, the meeting discussed the US reciprocal tariffs announced on 2 April 2025, especially on its impact on ASEAN Member States, along

with ASEAN's strategies and collective response going forward, and the establishment of an ASEAN Geoeconomics Task Force. The Task Force will complement national efforts by offering a regional perspective, identifying shared challenges, and formulating coordinated responses. The meeting adopted the Joint Statement of the ASEAN Economic Ministers on the introduction of unilateral tariffs of the United States.

In his statement, the Union Minister expressed deep appreciation to the ASEAN Member States for despatching skilled rescue teams, providing critical rescue equipment and medical supplies, and offering lifesaving humanitarian assistance for the devastating earthquake on 28 March 2025 in Myanmar. He shared his views on the means

to safeguard ASEAN's trade and investment and the way forward on the ASEAN-US Economic Engagement. He also underlined that the ASEAN's Unity can protect the region's shared interest and seize new opportunities in the changing global economy. In addition, he discussed making efforts to minimize negative impacts on Myanmar's exports such as CMP and agricultural products and the workers and employment in these sectors.

Together with the Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, the SEOM Lead of Myanmar, the director-general of the Foreign Economic Relations Department and the senior officials from the Foreign Economic Relations Department joined the meeting. — MNA

Nepali Tatmadaw Emergency Medical Team completes mission

UNION Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win inspected the healthcare services provided by the Nepali Tatmadaw emergency medical team at Yamethin District General Hospital in Yamethin District, Mandalay Region. During the inspection, the Union minister cordially comforted the out-patients and in-patients who were quake victims.

The Union minister then organized a farewell event for the Nepali Tatmadaw emergency medical team that completed their duties yesterday.

Speaking at the event, the Union minister highlighted the long-lasting bilateral relations between Nepal and Myanmar and appreciated the efforts of the Nepali emergency medical

team in emergency healthcare services of the ministry, which benefited over 1,000 patients at Yamethin District General Hospital, on behalf of the government, public, ministry and quake victims.

He presented gifts to the Nepali Tatmadaw emergency medical team officials.

The Union minister also met the staff of the Public Health Department and Yamethin District General Hospital (100-bed). He appreciated the staff for their efforts and presented K1 million for the staff of the Yamethin District Public Health Department and K1 million for the staff of the Yamethin District General Hospital (100-bed) in addition to relief kits. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win offers gifts to the Nepali Tatmadaw Emergency Medical Team yesterday.

ADVERTORIAL

uab bank and uabpay pledge
K10B for Mandalay quake
relief through uab foundation

Delivering Clean Water and Dignified Shelter to Affected Communities



YANGON, April 2025 — In the aftermath of the Mandalay Quake, uab bank, uabpay, and the uab foundation have jointly pledged K10 billion to support immediate relief and long-term recovery for displaced communities. In collaboration with trusted partners Humanity Matters and Myanmar Golden Rock, the initiative prioritizes two urgent needs: access to clean, safe drinking water and the provision of dignified shelter.

Relief efforts began on 29 March, just one day after the disaster, with uab bank CEO Christopher Loh visiting impacted areas to lead response coordination.

“We are not only responding – we are rebuilding lives with dignity. Our commitment goes beyond emergency aid,” said Mr Loh.

Ensuring Clean Water

To prevent the spread of disease and ensure safe daily use, purification systems meeting international standards have been deployed in critical zones. Over 1,000 jerry cans (18 litres) have also been distributed to assist families with the storage and transport of clean water.

Beyond emergency tents, weather-proof shelters are being constructed to create secure, respectful living spaces. These shelters aim to support not only physical safety but also the emotional well-being of displaced families.

This is just the beginning. uab’s efforts will continue in phases, including medical assistance, lighting and power restoration, and long-term recovery planning.

MGMA’s immediate assistance
to reach affected areas

MYANMAR Garment Manufacturers Association has been planning to contribute towards those who need immediate assistance in quake-hit areas. MGMA has collected over K280 million as of 8 April 2025 to help earthquake-stricken Mandalay, Sagaing and Nay Pyi Taw, in collaboration with volunteers on-ground and the Mandalay Garment Manufacturers Association.

MGMA initiated fundraising with K100 million to support relief supplies to those affected by the devastating earthquake on 28 April 2025 and donated K200 million to the Committee on Disaster Management on 1 April 2025, including the K100 million fund designated for the Phase II Programme of flood rescue and resettlement activities. — NN/KK

Online vegetable trade halts;
Offline trade continues in Aungban



This photo displays vegetables being organized for sale at the Aungban vegetable market.

IN Aungban Township, the vegetable online trade has paused temporarily due to the highway being destroyed by the quake, however, the local offline market has run as usual.

“Aungban quite suffered during the quake. The online trade has paused though, the local offline trade including the Aungban market has continued operating regularly because people need basic foods daily,” said Ma Nyo

Lae Yi, vegetables and fruits trader in Aungban Township.

The Mandalay earthquake struck on 28 March and left much damage in Aungban and many buildings including the Aungban Hotel collapsed, with fatalities.

Taunggyi was also affected by the quake but vegetables and fruits are still able to be transported to other townships. — Thit Taw/ZS

MoC to exert efforts for export promotion in FY 2025-2026

THE Ministry of Commerce will strive to the utmost to boost exports in the financial year 2025-2026 beginning 1 April.

Deputy Minister U Min Min of the Commerce Ministry gave that remark during the work coordination meeting to meet export targets in various sectors for the FY 2025-2026 held on 8 April at the Ministry of Commerce. He also emphasized export competitiveness to bolster exports. Export value hit about US\$10 billion before the 2013-2014 FY. Yet, exports grew to 80 per cent in the two financial years (2019-2020, 2022-2023). Therefore, we all need to exert concerted efforts for export promotion and increase in output this FY. Myanmar’s major trading partners are China, Thailand and India. China accounts

for 25 per cent of Myanmar’s exports, while India constitutes about 52 per cent of various pulses exports from Myanmar. Myanmar’s export items must follow the Sanitary and Phytosanitary – SPS protocol and meet other standards and criteria of the trading partners to sell the goods in the competitive market. The government will coordinate the departments concerned to facilitate the trade and to implement government-to-government pacts to penetrate more international markets, he added. — NN/KK

A glimpse of the container yard with working terminals at the port.



OPINION

Uphold the importance of social justice in society

SOCIAL justice is a vital foundation for a fair and balanced society. It involves recognizing and addressing inequalities in treatment, access, and opportunities among different groups of society. These disparities often arise from factors such as gender, age, race, wealth, social status, religion, and more. The core aim of social justice is to dismantle barriers that lead to discrimination and unequal access to resources.

Emerging in the 19th century, the concept of social justice encompasses five key components: resource availability, balance or equity, opportunities for participation, diversity, and human rights. Today, institutions like the United Nations have expanded on these principles, emphasizing the need to respect diverse societal needs, ensure equitable access to resources, encourage active participation in all aspects of life, protect the rights of individuals, and value diversity in nationality, gender identity, and sexual orientation.

To achieve a more equitable world, it is essential for everyone – governments, organizations, and individuals – to uphold the principles of social justice. Doing so helps promote universal values such as justice, liberty, and equality, and paves the way for a more inclusive and compassionate society. Only when individuals of relevant countries formulate social justice will the entire world be peaceful, prosperous and progressive. If so, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be effective for all, and the universal truths will make the lives of individuals from different societies better.

gender equality. When social justice is absent, both individuals and societies suffer. Without equal opportunities, people are denied the chance to meet their basic needs and contribute meaningfully to their communities. Importantly, social justice does not imply treating everyone the same; rather, it means ensuring fair opportunities for all and acknowledging individual differences and societal contexts. To achieve a more equitable world, it is essential for everyone – governments, organizations, and individuals – to uphold the principles of social justice. Doing so helps promote universal values such as justice, liberty, and equality, and paves the way for a more inclusive and compassionate society. Only when individuals of relevant countries formulate social justice will the entire world be peaceful, prosperous and progressive. If so, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be effective for all, and the universal truths will make the lives of individuals from different societies better.

WHEN disaster strikes, I’ve noticed something unsettling about how some of us in Myanmar respond. It’s not just the chaos or the loss – it’s the way certain people see opportunity in the suffering. I’ve always known that crises can bring out both the best and worst in humanity, but it wasn’t until recently that I saw it so clearly with my own eyes. After the earthquake that shook our lives, I encountered a side of my people that left me questioning our values.

I’m not saying this is unique to Myanmar – far from it. Around the world, when calamity hits, there are always those who turn fear and scarcity into profit. But here, in the wake of natural disasters or unrest, I’ve seen business owners and vendors act in ways that clash with the compassion I grew up believing in. Take the recent earthquake, for instance. As buildings crumbled and lives were upended, I assumed we’d come together to help one another. Instead, I found myself chasing construction materials while others hoarded them, waiting for the perfect moment to cash in.

This isn’t just about supply and demand – it’s deeper than that. Sure, when need spikes and resources dwindle, prices can rise naturally. But what I witnessed went beyond that: deliberate hoarding, artificial shortages, and a cold calculation that turned a community’s pain into a payday. It’s a stark contrast to the *‘thaddha’* (goodwill) and *‘karuna’* (compassion) I was taught to cherish, and it made me wonder how we’ve strayed so far. Not everyone behaves this way, of course – many rush to aid those in need – but my recent experience with something as simple as buying cement showed me just how pervasive this profiteering can be.

It was Saturday, the day after the earthquake. The tile installer, whom I had scheduled to come tile my small extension room of about 360 square feet, arrived at my house. Since the main materials needed for tiling are tiles and cement, the installer and I went to a construction supply store together. This store is a large one where you can find all kinds of construction materials, a place where you can get whatever you need at any time.



Profiteering in the Rubble

By Min Zan

I’ve supported this shop before, having bought items like a generator from them in the past. When we arrived, we looked at the tiles together. We easily found the tiles in the size and quantity we wanted – 380 pieces. After that, when we asked about cement, the tile installer told us that the Alpha brand cement, which he preferred, wasn’t available. For tiling, we didn’t need a lot of cement – five bags at most would suffice. Recently, in the construction world, the Alpha brand has been the most favoured by tile installers. When we asked the shop’s sales staff, they said that the Alpha brand was no longer in stock, and only other brands were available. They also mentioned that it wasn’t certain when the Alpha brand would be back in stock. The installer didn’t like the cement they had in the shop,

saying it was of poor quality. So, after asking for the tiles but not buying them yet, we decided to go to another construction supply store next door to check if they had the Alpha brand cement we wanted, and we headed over there.

As soon as we arrived at that shop, we saw a big truck parked in the compound, loaded with Alpha brand cement. We were delighted and went inside the shop, where I directly asked, “How much is the Alpha cement?” A young female employee at the shop told us that the Alpha cement was out of stock. I pointed at the truck and asked, “What about the Alpha cement in that shop?” She replied that those weren’t for sale. When I asked, “Isn’t that cement your shop’s stock?” she confirmed that it was indeed theirs. So, I pressed, “If it’s yours, why aren’t you selling

they wouldn’t sell it; now, even the Alpha cement stacked in this shop wasn’t for sale either. We started to realize something was off. At this point, it had only been about 24 hours since the earthquake. It dawned on us that there were things we hadn’t considered, but the construction supply stores had already thought of them – though I still didn’t fully understand what was going on.

Two more days passed, and it was Monday. Over those two days, through online media, I witnessed firsthand the sheer scale of the earthquake’s destruction. In the densely populated cities of central Myanmar, nearly all the buildings – apartment blocks, offices, historical heritage pagodas, and places of worship like mosques – had collapsed into piles of rubble. There were countless casualties, and the numbers of the dead and injured kept rising day by day. During those two days, the scenes I saw on social media finally revealed why the cement shops, despite having stock, weren’t selling it.

Coincidentally, I’d like to share something about a short video from Japan here. It’s a brief clip, likely filmed by a passerby, showing young Japanese children – elementary school age – crossing a road in a group. In the video, drivers stop their cars to let the kids cross, and after crossing, instead of just moving on, the children pause and bow respectfully to the drivers who stopped for them. Though the video is short, it spoke volumes to me. I thought to myself that Japan, a country reduced to ashes after World War II, managed to transform and progress within about fifty years because they instilled values like mutual respect – or, in a way, a sense of humanity – from such a young age. They’ve rooted these qualities deep in their children. In our country, too, I believe we should move away from the mindset of teaching these things only when people are older. We should start with elementary-aged kids, teaching them to see others as human, to have empathy, and to respect one another. I’d like to take this opportunity to suggest to those in charge that it’s time to prepare and implement this kind of education proactively.

Oh... what a thing to do... After the earthquake, once the debris is cleared, reconstruction efforts will inevitably begin. The collapsed buildings will have to be rebuilt, and cement will become an absolutely essential material. It hit me – they’re holding back on selling Alpha cement to us now so they can sell it later at whatever price they want. That’s the realization I came to... Oh... what a terrifying mindset... Such an utterly despicable attitude... To think that amidst the apocalyptic destruction, with people grieving beside piles of rubble, they’re heartlessly scheming such plans.

I’ve become utterly fed up with us Myanmar people. I’m a Myanmar person myself, but to be honest, I’ve come to feel disgusted with my own kind – specifically, Myanmar businesspeople. While I admire and take

pride in those who, at a time like this, are sacrificing their own interests to save others’ lives and help the suffering as much as they can, I genuinely feel repulsed by certain Myanmar businesspeople. I wonder if these people are even Buddhists. Their mindsets seem more like those of vultures, with eyes fixed on devouring prey, thinking, “The more the country suffers, the more money we’ll make.” That’s the kind of attitude I see in them. How do we fix the hearts of people like this? If more and more people develop this kind of mentality, the country will surely fall apart. Changing the mindset of such people when they’re already grown up seems impossible. Even the admonishments of great monks and revered teachers wouldn’t be effective. Compassion for others is something that needs to be instilled from a young age. I’ve come to realize that the attitude of helping those in distress as much as possible, without harbouring undue greed, must be taught from childhood. Only then will it become a habit that carries into adulthood.

But the disease has made a troubling comeback in recent years as vaccine coverage declined after the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2024, several outbreaks left public health officials and hospitals scrambling to accommodate a sudden influx of patients, primarily infants, who are often too young to be vaccinated and suffer the most severe symptoms.

Against this backdrop, a team of researchers, including members of UT’s McKetta Department of Chemical Engineering and Department of Molecular Biosciences, has made significant strides in understanding and enhancing pertussis immunity. One of the things that makes pertussis infections dangerous is pertussis toxin (PT), a chemical weapon produced by the bacteria that weakens a patient’s immune response and causes many of the severe symptoms associated with whooping cough.

The new research, described in a new study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, focuses on two powerful antibodies, hu11E6 and hu1B7, which neutralize the PT in dif-

New research could help improve future whooping cough vaccines

WHOOPING cough, also known as pertussis, was formerly a leading cause of death in children in the United States and around the world before vaccines were introduced in the 1940s.

In the decades since, the bacterial disease has been practically eradicated in the United States, with annual fatalities falling into the double digits.

Now, new research from The University of Texas at Austin could aid in improving whooping cough vaccines to once again push this disease towards eradication by targeting two key weaknesses in the infection.

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ferent ways.

Using cutting-edge cryo-electron microscopy approaches, the researchers identified the specific epitopes on PT where these antibodies bind. Epitopes are chemical targets the immune system can zero in on to fight pathogens. Hu11E6 blocks the toxin from attaching to human cells by interfering with sugar-binding sites, while hu1B7 prevents the toxin from entering cells and causing harm. These findings are the first to precisely map these critical regions, providing a blueprint to improve vaccines.

“There are currently several promising new pertussis vaccines in the research and clinical trial phases,” said Jennifer Maynard, professor of chemical engineering at the Cockrell School of Engineering and corresponding author of the new study. “Our findings could be incorporated into future versions quite easily, improving overall effectiveness and longevity of protection.”

She pointed to innovations like mRNA technology used in the COVID-19 vaccine, as well as breakthroughs in using genetic engineering on pertussis toxin (PTgen) to generate safer and more potent new recombinant acellular pertussis vaccines as technologies preserving neutralizing epitopes that can combine with her team’s new findings.

“Training the immune system to target the most vulnerable sites on the toxin is expected to create more effective vaccines,” Maynard said. “And the more effective and longer-lasting a vaccine is, hopefully, the more people will take it.” In addition to helping guide future vaccine designs, the hu1B7 and hu11E6 antibodies themselves hold promise as therapeutic medicines for infected and high-risk infants.

SOURCE: ANI

ARTICLE

NATIONAL

MoI delivers aid to quake-stricken employees

THE Ministry of Information provided its quake-affected staff with cash assistance in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn said the people and staff faced losses due to the earthquake. Although some departments experienced significant casualties and damage to buildings due to the earthquake, the department suffered minimal casualties as a positive outcome amid the worst, and all should stay strong. Currently, it needs to spread true information continuously to the people via the state-owned media or online as it is important to prevent false information circulation to the people and staff.

After the quake, some staff returned to their native while some served their duties as usual. Therefore, all the staff must perform their respective duties after the Thingyan holidays.

He then highlighted the role of staff and encouraged them to



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn holds discussions to aid earthquake-impacted staff.

work together.

The Union minister and deputy minister presented cash to the staff of the affiliated departments.

At noon, Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association Chairman U San Lin donated 1,200 oil bottles to the staff of the ministry. The Union minister received them and expressed gratitude.

— MNA/KTZH

Rail tracks reinforced using heavy machinery

FOLLOWING the severe earthquake on 28 March, Myanma Railways under the Ministry of Transport and Communications repaired damaged railway lines and bridges using manpower and machinery. Passenger and cargo trains, including container trains, resumed operations along the Yangon-Mandalay route starting on 5 April.

To further strengthen the railway infrastructure, reinforcement work is ongoing using All TM heavy machinery between several stations on the Yangon-Mandalay line: between Ywapale and Hanza stations, between Nyaunglunt and Magyibin stations and between Phyu and Nyaungbintha stations. Work includes gravel filling, packing and adjusting concrete sleepers.

To ensure convenient travel and transport, passenger and cargo



An MOW locomotive carrying out repair work on railway tracks.

trains No 103 Up and No 104 Down resumed regular service on the Pyinmana-Taungdwingyi-Pyinmana route starting 10 April. Train No 103 departs Pyinmana at 2 pm and arrives in Taungdwingyi at 8 pm. Train No 104 departs Taungdwingyi at 5 am the next morning and arrives in Pyinmana at 11 am. Each train consists of five ordinary class coaches and one brake van. Ticket fares and stopping stations remain unchanged. — Myanma Railways/KZL

Rescue and relief operations ongoing in quake-stricken areas

ON 28 March 2025, Myanmar was struck by a powerful earthquake, which severely affected six regions and states. As of 10 April, the death toll has reached 3,649 with 5,018 injured and 145 still missing.

The Myanmar Fire Brigade and search and rescue teams from both domestic and international sources 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 724 victims.

In addition, local and international donors have been providing financial aid and relief supplies to the affected population. From the evening of 9 April to 10 April, a total of 91.26 tonnes of relief materials arrived at Yangon International Airport and Nay Pyi Taw International Airport via three aircraft from UAE and Nepal.

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

MCEF to offer free training course for female masons



This image depicts labourers working on a construction site. A female mason training course, which aims to create more job opportunities for women, will be conducted in

Yangon on 5 May free of charge, according to the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation.

MCEF's technology development committee will organize it and employment will be created after finishing, said MCEF.

Women aged between 18 and 35 who have at least primary education are eligible, and MCEF will provide accommodation and food during the training.

Trainees are limited to 50 and interested persons can register by 30 April. The duration is 14 days.

For more information, any individual can contact MCEF numbers at 09 893217109, 09 660282000, 09 422721757 and 09 250609740. MCEF is located at the corner of Thanthuma Road and Waizayanta Road in Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region. — MT/ZS

NATIONAL

Shwedagon holds
Paritta recitation
ceremony for nine
days

THE nine-day recitation event is being held at the Shwedagon Pagoda to protect from various dangers.

The recitation event is being held at the Chanthagyi prayer hall of Shwedagon Pagoda for nine days from 8 to 16 April by 18 monks taking turns reciting to protect from various dangers.

The opening ceremony was held on 8 April at the Ancient Buddha statues prayer hall at the southern stairways of Shwedagon Pagoda. The reciting event was attended by the Yangon Region Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman along with Sanghas, members of the Yangon Region government, department



This photo shows the Paritta recitation event held at the ancient Buddha statues prayer hall in Shwedagon Pagoda.

officials, members of Pagoda Board of Trustees and members of religious organizations.

Similarly, the Paritta recitation will be held at the pagodas in Yangon Region to

protect them from various dangers. — ASH/MKKS



This photo captures Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung accepting donations from Chinese companies, including the China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC).

Chinese firms in Myanmar donate
K400M relief fund to Mandalay

DEPUTY Consul-General Jiang Wei of the Chinese Consulate-General in Mandalay, accompanied by officials from the China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC), Myanmar Conch Cement Co Ltd, and the Myanmar Chinese Chamber of Commerce (Mandalay), donated cash and relief materials worth K400

million to the Mandalay Region government on 8 April, which was accepted by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung.

The donations will be distributed to earthquake victims promptly, according to the authorities. — ASH/TH

UNICEF aids over 800
families in Pyinmana

UNICEF (Myanmar) distributed 4,800 water gallons to over 800 families in Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 9 April in response to water shortages caused by the Mandalay earthquake.

The organization also plans to provide water purification sachets, each capable of purifying up to 10 litres of water especially

helpful for children during critical times. Similarly, UNICEF has supplied hygiene kits to protect the health of earthquake-affected children and families in Sagaing Region.

The organization is continuing to support other affected areas with essential aid for both families and children. — ASH/KZL



This image reveals UNICEF (Myanmar) distributing water and purification sachets to people affected by the earthquake.

Daily newspapers available online

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

News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

UAE sends more humanitarian aid to Yangon

A cargo aircraft operated by Aerostan Airline carrying humanitarian aid from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) arrived at Yangon International Airport on the morning of 10 April. The shipment included 65 packages of medicines and temporary shelters, weighing a total of 24,860 kilogrammes and was intended for distribution to earthquake-affected areas in Myanmar.

Likewise, another cargo flight from the UAE Air Force arrived in Yangon on the afternoon of 9 April with 36 packages of food supplies and temporary shelters, weighing 33,582 kilogrammes. These relief items were donated to support people in regions impacted by the re-

cent major earthquake in Mandalay Region.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, regional ministers, officials of Department of Strategic Studies and Training under Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Disaster Management Department under Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement welcomed the aid at the airport.

Following the arrival, the chief minister and officials inspected the relief cargo and met the UAE team, expressing gratitude for the donations and presenting commemorative gifts.

The relief items were loaded onto vehicles by Tatmadaw personnel, Yangon City Development Committee staff and



Humanitarian aid arrives at Yangon airport from the UAE.

local logistics teams. Under the supervision of the Yangon Region Government, the aid is now transported to the quake-hit areas for distribution. — MNA/KZL

Bhutan Royal Medical Team gifts water purifiers, emergency aid to Pyinmana

THE Royal Medical Emergency Response Team of Bhutan, currently providing healthcare to earthquake-affected people in Nay Pyi Taw, donated a water purifier and emergency personal care items to Masoeysin Monastery in Pyinmana on the morning of 9 April.

The team presented the donations to the monastery's presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Revata, including a water purifier, a 2,000-litre water tank, rice, cooking oil, sugar and other relief items. They then distributed emergency personal care kits to quake-affected locals near the monastery.

The total value of the donation was over K100 million, which included a K45 million automatic water purification sys-



The Bhutan Royal Medical Team providing healthcare to quake-stricken people in Nay Pyi Taw.

tem capable of purifying 10,000 litres per day without electricity, one 2,000-litre water tank, 100 emergency hygiene kits and various food items. — MNA/KZL

Philanthropic association to build 300 houses for quake victims

FOR houses that collapsed in the quake, the Than Min Kywal Parahita association has planned to construct about 300 houses with a fund donated by people locally and abroad.

The Parahita association initially said that it would construct 191 houses, each worth K1.7 million but it made a new announcement on 8 April that the number of houses was expanded to 204, thanks to additional donations.

And it said it will try to build houses between 250 and 300 with additional contribution.

"We will help those, who faced this tough situation due to the quake, to return to rehabilitate neatly. Finance for reconstructing their houses is an essential need for them. We feel the same that how much they are miserable for their properties devastated by the quake," said the association.

By using donated money, 100 houses will be built first for people who have chronic diseases, the older, the disabled, pregnant women and families who have 5 members and more, it said. — MT/ZS

Nepal delivers over 25 tonnes of aid to Myanmar



The acceptance ceremony for Nepali aid in progress at the airport upon its arrival.

AS part of the ongoing international support for Myanmar's earthquake-affected communities, a humanitarian aid shipment from Nepal arrived at the Tatmadaw Airport in Nay Pyi Taw on the morning of 9 April. The A-330 aircraft carried a total of 25,445 kilogrammes of relief items and medicines intended for use in emergency response efforts.

The donation was formally handed over by Nepali Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Harishchandra Ghimire to Director-General Dr Min Thein and responsible officials from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. — MNA/KZL

NATIONAL

Myanmar extradites 47 telecom fraud suspects

MYANMAR authorities transferred 32 Indians, four Kazakhstans, eight Kyrgyzstans, two Uzbekistanis and one Russian, totalling 47, who were involved in online gambling and online scams illegally entering the Myawady-Shwe Kokko and KK Park area in Kayin State via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II yesterday.

The officials from Myanmar and the respective countries attended the transfer event.

From 30 January to 10 April 2025, 8,740 foreign nationals were detained for illegal entry into Myanmar. Of these, 7,278 were transferred to their respective countries through Thailand,

following legal procedures. The remaining 1,461 are ready to be deported shortly.

The government decisively combats online scams, online gambling and online destructive elements by cooperating with international organizations and people and systematically transferring the detainees to their countries. The officials of regions and states are also making efforts to combat online scams, online gambling and destructive elements. — MNA/KTZH

Immigration process in progress for undocumented foreigners.



Visitor numbers at Ngwehsaung Beach drop after quake

AFTER the Mandalay earthquake, visitor arrival to Ngwehsaung Beach has been low, according to residents and visitors.

Hotel rooms were booked for Thingyan since March but some were resold and cancelled, said a resident.

“It may be related to the quake. The beach has yet to be crowded. People postponed their bookings and some resold. It seems the visitor arrival won’t be large this year. Some visitors won’t come. Rooms are still available. There are just a few visitors for now at the beach,” said a travel planner.

Over previous years, even in early April before the Thingyan Festival, the two local famous beaches – Chaungtha and Ngwe-



This photo shows the current situation of Chaungtha Beach recorded on 6 April 2025.

hsaung were thronged with visitors including family vacations and company trips, he said.

Similarly, there are still visitors in Bagan after the quake struck, according to residents.

Except for Mandalay and

Sagaing, travelling is still possible in other cities based on recent travel information, so travel operators can arrange tours smoothly, the Domestic Pilgrimage and Tour Operators Association announced on 1 April. — MT/ZS

Property association donates cash to quake victims at YGH

MYANMAR Real Estate Services Association (Central) has donated money to earthquake-affected patients receiving treatment at Yangon General Hospital.

The donation ceremony was held on 9 April, when the association donated money and food to 32 patients at the hospital.

“We donated K100,000 and meal pack each to 32 patients at the YGH after collecting small donations from members as we knew that there were people who were referred to the YGH after the earthquake,” said U Thet Naing Oo, vice-president of the association.

The real estate association donated more than K30 million to the members in Sagaing, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw, Nawngkhio, and Inlay, which were significantly affected by the Mandalay earthquake.

“Our main focus is to support the people and members in Sagaing, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw, Nawngkhio, and Inlay, which were significantly affected by the Mandalay earthquake. The money we receive is not very much and it was more than K30 million donated through the regional heads,” he continued. — Thit Taw/ZN

Over K280M worth of drugs seized in Tachilek

DRUGS valued at over K280 million were seized in Tachilek Township of Shan State, as reported by the Myanmar Police Force.

Acting on a tip-off, a combined team, including members of the Anti-Drug Police Force, conducted a search of a rental department in Tachilek Township at 6 pm on 8 April. They arrested Nyi Lauk Si with 1,200 stimulant tablets

and 10 grammes of low-grade opium while police arrested Sai Kat at room No 17 of this rental department with 24 grammes of Ketamine, 35 grammes of Happy Water, 200 stimulant tablets and 250 grammes of low-grade opium.

According to the investigation, police arrested Si Thu Phyto in room 5 of same rental department with 400,000 stimulant tablets and a Honda CRV.

Legal proceedings have been conducted against the offenders, and an ongoing investigation is underway to apprehend others involved in the case. — MNA/MKKS

Arrestees are seen alongside confiscated drugs and vehicle.



90-day reprieve from US reciprocal tariffs “positive”: Japan

Japan plans to launch bilateral ministerial talks to address the impact of higher US tariffs.



Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi (C) talks to the press at the prime minister's office in Tokyo on 10 April 2025. PHOTO: KYODO

JAPAN said Thursday that US President Donald Trump's decision to pause his so-called reciprocal tariffs for 90 days is a “positive development”, but it will continue to put pressure on its closest ally, Washington,

to roll back other tariff measures.

Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba vowed to deploy all possible steps to curb the impact of the higher US tariffs on Japan's export-oriented economy, as his government prepares to launch bilateral ministerial talks on the issue.

Ryosei Akazawa, Japan's minister in charge of the negotiations, is arranging to visit the United States next week, a source close to him said.

Akazawa, a close aide to Ishiba, is expected to hold talks with U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, who serves as the point man for the negotiations with Japan, according to the source. — Kyodo

Afghanistan launches anti-locust campaign in northern province

AFGHAN authorities launched a campaign against locusts in northern Samagan province on Wednesday to protect farmlands and pastures, an official from the provincial Agriculture Department said Thursday.

Aimed at protecting 8,000 hectares of farmlands, the campaign would cover the provincial capital Aybak and all the districts to ensure farmers' interests in the province, said Gulabudin Ghiasi.



Aimed at protecting 8,000 hectares of farmlands, the campaign would cover the provincial capital Aybak and all the districts to ensure farmers' interests in the province. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/PHYS.ORG

India Inc is better placed to handle global slowdown, amid tariff uncertainties: Report

WITH stable finances, Indian companies are better positioned to handle the current economic slowdown, says a report by the DSP Asset Managers. Indian companies have some of the strongest balance sheets seen in recent history. This is a major shift from previous cycles, where many sectors were weighed down by high levels of debt. A closer look at the data shows that nearly all key sectors have reduced their debts significantly over the past two decades. The median Debt-to-

Assets ratio—a key measure of financial health—has reached record lows in several industries. This indicates that companies have more stable finances and are in a better position to handle a slowdown and bounce back when growth returns. The report said, “This cycle has one of the cleanest corporate balance sheets going into a slowdown. This would probably enhance the ability of corporations to ride the slowdown better than the cycles in which indebtedness was elevated”. — ANI

MYANMA Port Authority
“NOTICE of High Tide”

EXCEPTIONALLY high spring from 20.05 feet to 20.31 feet high above the chart datum are expected to occur in the Yangon River during the period of April 27th to April 29th, 2025. Please be noted that it is not serious level of tide because the highest tide level have reached up to 22 feet above the chart datum in year 2014 and 2015, and this notice is normally issued whenever high tide of the Yangon River is expected to reach over 20 feet high above the chart datum in order to take precautionary measures to the public living near river foreshore area of Yangon City.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0345-794N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI-ACTIVE VOY.NO. (0345-794N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-4-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**
**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**
Agent For:
M/S EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MSC ANDREA F VOY.NO. (SB512A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC ANDREA F VOY.NO. (SB512A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-4-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**
**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**
Agent For:
M/S MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V AS SOPHINA VOY.NO. (512W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SOPHINA VOY.NO. (512W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-4-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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 MAERSK A/S

SPORTS

Aston Villa boss Emery remains bullish despite defeat in Paris

ASTON Villa coach Unai Emery insisted he still believes his side can get the better of Paris Saint-Germain and reach the Champions League semifinals despite a 3-1 defeat in the first leg of their last-eight tie on Wednesday.

Villa took the lead in the first half in Paris through Morgan Rogers only for the hosts to turn the game on its head thanks to stunning strikes by Desire Doue and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia either side of the interval.

And a Nuno Mendes effort in stoppage time which gives PSG a two-goal cushion to take to Villa Park for the return appears to leave Emery's side with a huge task to turn the tie around.

"At 2-1 we were thinking about playing to win in the next match, and at 3-1 it is still the same," Emery said. — AFP

Salah getting closer to new Liverpool deal: reports

LIVERPOOL are making progress on talks over a new contract for Mohamed Salah and the Premier League leaders are increasingly confident he will stay at Anfield next season, according to reports on Wednesday.

The 32-year-old Egypt international is out of contract at the end of this season along with Liverpool teammates Virgil van Dijk and Trent Alexander-Arnold. While Alexander-Arnold has been linked strongly with a free transfer to Real Madrid, Van Dijk said after Sunday's 3-2 loss to Fulham that negotiations were progressing over a much-discussed new deal for the club captain. It is understood no agreement has yet been struck but there is optimism Salah and Van Dijk will extend their contracts. Salah is the top scorer in the Premier League this season with 27 goals and has netted 243 times in 394 appearances for the Reds since joining the club from Roma in 2017. — AFP



Liverpool star Mohamed Salah's future has been discussed at length this season. PHOTO: AFP

Peaty says yes to 2028 Olympics after new swim events added



Six new swimming events will be contested at the 2028 LA Olympic. PHOTO: AFP

ADAM Peaty announced Wednesday he intends to compete at a fourth Olympics after six new swimming events were added to the 2028 Los Angeles Games in what he called "an amazing decision".

The International Olympic Committee ratified a move that will see the 50-metre back-

stroke, butterfly and breaststroke all contested for the first time.

Previously, only freestyle was raced over the sport's shortest distance despite all four strokes being on the schedule at world championships.

Britain's Peaty is a two-time 100-metre breaststroke

gold medallist and the world record holder over 50 metres.

The 30-year-old had previously stopped short of confirming his plans for Los Angeles, but the chance to win a 50 metres breaststroke title has convinced him to keep going.

"50-metre Sprint Events have just been added to the 2028 games which confirms my attempt to be at my Fourth Olympic Games," he said on Instagram.

"This is the best result for our incredible sport and will allow more people to be part of it and stay in it much longer. Thank you world aquatics for this amazing decision.

"I've got a good feeling about these next three years," he added.

The additional 50-metre events bring the swimming gold medal count to 41 from 35 at the 2024 Paris Olympics. — AFP

Tennis: Japan aims to return to Billie Jean King Cup finals

JAPAN'S Billie Jean King Cup captain Ai Sugiyama hopes to get her team back to the finals of the women's team tennis event by topping the three-team Group A of the qualifiers beginning Friday in Tokyo.

Japan last year advanced to the 12-team finals in Malaga, Spain, and lost to eventual champion Italy two matches to one in the last eight.

After Friday's opening tie between Canada and Romania, Japan will face Romania on Saturday and Canada on Sunday at Ariake Colosseum.

Under the new format for the qualifiers, a tie consists of two singles matches and one doubles match, instead of the four singles and one doubles played until last year. — Kyodo



Japan's Billie Jean King Cup captain Ai Sugiyama (3rd from L) poses for a photo with her team members in Tokyo on 10 April 2025. PHOTO: KYODO



**AUTOMATIC
DETECTION OF
MALARIA**

**Indonesia
develops
AI-based system
to detect malaria
parasites**

INDONESIA has been developing an artificial intelligence (AI)-based malaria detection system that will use data from various places around the country to recognize distinct malaria parasite species, according to the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN).

"This technology utilizes morpho-geometric feature extraction to identify the size and shape of infected blood cells," said Anto Satriyo Nugroho, head of BRIN's Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity, in a press release on Wednesday. The AI system is designed to detect a patient's malaria infection status automatically by analyzing blood smear microphotographs.

Although one of the most difficult aspects of building the system is the parasite's changing morphology throughout the mosquito's life cycle, BRIN is optimistic that the technology will make a substantial contribution to malaria eradication efforts in Indonesia. BRIN has also encouraged collaboration among scholars, industry, and government to create AI that is relevant to local requirements. — Xinhua



Co-chairs signed a protocol outlining the new projects and reviewed outcomes from the previous session. **PHOTO: ANI**

India, Russia agree on six new strategic projects to boost bilateral investment cooperation

The session took place in New Delhi and was part of the India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological, and Cultural Cooperation.

INDIA and Russia have agreed on six new strategic projects aimed at enhancing bilateral investment cooperation during the 8th Session of the India-Russia Working Group on Priority Investment Projects (IRWG-PIP), as per a press release.

The session that was held in the national capital on Wednesday was conducted under the India-Russia Inter-

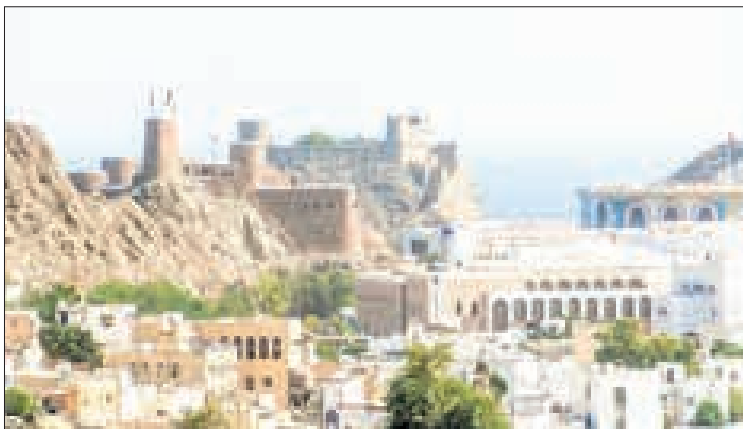
governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological, and Cultural Cooperation and focused on advancing collaborative projects in sectors of mutual interest. The co-chairs of the session signed a protocol highlighting these projects and reviewed the outcomes of the previous 7th session.

India and Russia discussed initiatives to strengthen economic ties and

affirmed their commitment to expanding investment collaboration.

The session was followed by the 2nd Edition of the India-Russia Investment Forum, organized in collaboration with Invest India, the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), and the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, the release stated.

— ANI



The warning precedes planned US-Iran talks in Oman. Muscat, Oman's port capital, sits on the Gulf of Oman surrounded by mountains and desert. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/PIXABAY**

Trump threatens Iran with military action over nuclear disarmament

US President Donald Trump on Wednesday warned that military action remains on the table if Iran fails to agree to end its nuclear programme, suggesting Israel will play a key role in any potential response.

"If it requires military, we're going to have military," Trump told reporters from the Oval Office. "Israel will obviously be very much involved in that," he said on Fox News.

Trump said he has established a specific deadline in mind for Iran to agree to end its

nuclear programme, though he did not reveal the timeline. Previous reports indicated he had given Iran a two-month window starting from his March letter to Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

The warning came ahead of planned US-Iran talks in Oman on Saturday. US Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff is set to lead the American delegation, while Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi will represent Tehran. — Xinhua