

Resolving political problems politically to cease current conflicts

Let us all citizens of the nation work together and actively participate in the continued journey of initiating a multiparty democracy.

Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Thadue Maha Thray Sithu Thadue Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing extended the New Year’s greetings for 1387 Myanmar Era. The full text of the translated greetings is as follows: -

ON this auspicious occasion of Myanmar New Year, making the transition to the year 1387 of the Myanmar Era, I extend my heartfelt wishes to all global people including entire ethnic national people who inhabit the Republic of the Union of Myanmar be free from potential harms and dangers and may they all enjoy physical and mental well-being.

Our country bitterly suffered two dreadful calamities in the old year. Last September, Typhoon Yagi severely struck several towns and villages, bringing heavy rains and flash floods. Moreover, a devastating 7.7-magnitude earthquake jolted the country on 28 March this year. As the powerful earthquake caused numerous loss and damage including deaths and injuries, the earthquake-affected areas required extensive rescue and relief efforts. I have invited internal and external aid and I met with State leaders while attending the 6th BIMSTEC Summit hosted by Thailand and sought their aid for the earthquake. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to internal and external rescue squads which tirelessly carried out emergency search and rescue operations in the earthquake-affected areas and all internal and international well-wishers for their donations



in providing necessary supplies, relief materials and cash for quake-affected people.

Our government has decided to carry out reconstruction and rehabilitation in the quake-affected areas as quickly as possible. We firmly believe all affected areas will return to normalcy soonest through concerted efforts of the people.

Our government is implementing the visions to strengthen a genuine, disciplined mul-

tiparty democratic system and build a Union based on democracy and federalism. Strenuous efforts are being made to hold a fully free and fair multiparty democratic general election in coming December in order to soonest initiate the multiparty democratic system the people aspire to. I would like to request the people to cooperate with the government to hold the election successfully if they wish to enjoy the multiparty democratic sys-

tem really. Our government is striving to serve the interests of the State and all citizens.

We have decided to make utmost efforts in rehabilitation measures in the quake-affected areas such as reconstruction of government offices and departments as well as residential houses and transport infrastructures. It is necessary to mount vigorous efforts on agriculture and livestock based production which plays a key role in promotion of

the State economy. Likewise, all businesspersons engaging in MSME businesses have to try hard to manufacture products as much as possible.

Moreover, education is crucial for development of a country. So, the entire people have to emphasize creation of chances for all school-age children to pursue education in the coming academic year.

Peace and stability have pivotal roles in development of the nation. As such, efforts are being made to forge durable and genuine peace. Our government has invited all to resolve the political problems politically in order to cease current conflicts. I believe that, as all are our national brethren, they will cooperate with the government through the Union spirit.

We have faced various disasters, difficulties, and challenges in the old year, and we learned valuable lessons from these identified weaknesses. As we enter the New Year with fresh perspectives and renewed vision, I extend my New Year greetings to all the ethnic national people, and let us all citizens of the nation work together and actively participate in the continued journey of initiating a multiparty democracy.

Thank you all.

Article

Myanmar to overcome quake sufferings with Chinese compassion

By Thet Mon Tun

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Thingyan Festival concludes with religious activities, charity in Yangon Region

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Indonesian medical team provides healthcare services to earthquake victims in Nay Pyi Taw

NATIONAL

Empowering Agro-Based Industries for Enhanced Value-Added Production

- It is necessary to operate agro-based industries to be able to manufacture value-added products.
- If existing sound foundations and human resources are utilized for the development of agriculture and livestock, production will change.

(Excerpt from the speech given by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to the State Administration Council meeting 2/2024 on 29 March 2024)

Head of State of Bosnia and Herzegovina sends message of condolence to SAC Chairman PM

DUE to the severe damage, loss of life, and numerous injuries caused by the powerful earthquake that struck Mandalay in Myanmar, Ms Željka Cvijanović, Chairwoman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, sent a message of condolence to Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister of Myanmar.

The statement expresses deep sorrow upon hearing that a devastating earthquake in Myanmar has caused a significant loss of lives and extensive destruction. It conveys profound condolences for the severe impact the disaster has had on Myanmar, shares heartfelt sympathy with the families of those who lost their lives, and offers prayers for the speedy recovery of those who were injured. — MNA/TTA

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

Your Excellency,
It is with sincere grief that I have received the news of the devastating earthquakes that have caused the loss of many human lives and caused immense material damage in Your country.
On the occasion of this enormous tragedy that has affected Your country, please accept my most sincere condolences.
I kindly ask You to convey our most profound sympathies to the families of those who lost their lives in this tragedy, as well as our wishes for the swift recovery of the injured.

Chairwoman of the Presidency of BiH
Željka Cvijanović
Sarajevo, 28 March 2025

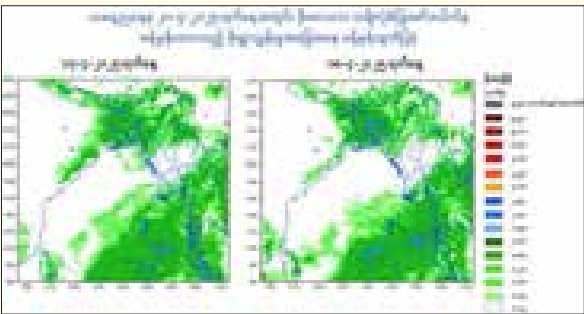
Weather

Untimely Rainfall Warning No 19

Issued at 18:00 hours MST on 16 April 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 17:30 hrs MST today, due to the western disturbances and the eastern disturbances, development of convective clouds, rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated to scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Bago and Magway regions and Rakhine and Shan states and fairly widespread to widespread in Yangon, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin and Mon states with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls during today evening to 20 April 2025.

Advisory
People should be awared untimely rainfall accompanied by strong wind, thunder, lightning, hails and landslide. — DMH



Relief aid being unloaded from aircraft of India at the airport.

Rescue and relief operations ongoing for earthquake-affected communities

AS of 14 April, a total of 3,667 people have been confirmed dead, 4,825 injured, and 129 reported missing in six regions and states of Myanmar that were severely affected by the powerful earthquake which struck on 28 March.

Members of the Myanmar Fire Brigade and local and international search and rescue teams have been working swiftly to carry out emergency response operations in affected areas. To date, they have successfully rescued 653 survivors trapped under collapsed buildings and recovered the bodies of 752 deceased individuals.

Domestically, charitable donors have been providing both financial and material aid to those affected. Similarly, foreign countries, organizations, and philanthropists have also extended support in the form of cash donations and relief supplies. Between 7 pm on 15 April and 5 pm on 16 April, over 67.232 tonnes of humanitarian aid, including essential items, temporary shelters, and food supplies, were delivered by two aircraft from the Government of India and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw international airports.

Efforts are ongoing to ensure that all donations and relief supplies, both domestic and international, are promptly distributed to those in need. — MNA/MKKS

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)

Nay Pyi Taw Walking Thingyan includes free food donation

THE Aye Thingyan festival was celebrated in Nay Pyi Taw in accordance with Myanmar traditional cultures, and the people participated on Thingyan-Atet Day peacefully, whereas the donors donated food. Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn and his wife also donated juice and food for the people participating in Nay Pyi Taw Walking Thingyan festival area, and extended greetings to the people. Similarly, the donors donated various snacks and Myanmar traditional snacks on each of Thingyan days. The donated snacks were enough to offer to all those participated in Nay Pyi Taw Aye Thingyan festival, and the people enjoyed the food adequately.

The people in Nay Pyi Taw participated in Thingyan festival aiming to leave the sins of the previous year and welcome the new things in new year period. The Thingyan water can calm the mind of people and the loving-kindness of donors can support the people despite the Mandalay earthquake that occurred in the old Myanmar year. Moreover, the government and its people gained new mindset and strength in the New Year for rehabilitation and national-building processes. Moreover, such action can be a supportive measures to gain achievements in social, economic and education sectors, according to the youths who participated in the Thingyan festival. — MNA/KTZH



Union Information Minister U Maung Maung Ohn donates juice bottles to people participating in Nay Pyi Taw Walking Thingyan festival yesterday.

Unexpectedly large crowds visit Seleintan beach during Thingyan



Visitors to Seleintan Beach are seen.

UNEXPECTEDLY large crowds were seen at Seleintan beach during Thingyan holiday, according to locals and visitors. Compared to previous years, in addition to day trips, there are also more overnight stays in bungalows. “This year, Seleintan beach is very crowded. There

are many people from Yangon. There are also visitors from nearby places. Some people who do not go to far places come here, which is a beach near Yangon and easily accessible. This year, unlike last year, it is very crowded with travellers since the beginning of Thingyan holiday,” said a

local. During the Thingyan holiday, there is a continuous influx of cars, motorcycles and many tourists every day. “There are unexpectedly large crowds coming to Seleintan Beach. There are many tourists,” said a staff member at the Beach Sunset restaurant. With large visitors since the summer school holidays, the beach has been thronged with vacationers, creating more job opportunities for food vendors and locals. Since there are high tide and low tide at the beach, tourists who want to swim have to call in advance and the beach has bungalows for those who want to stay overnight, according to locals. — MT/ZN

MoHA UM inspects construction of temporary basha tents in Nay Pyi Taw

UNION Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung inspected the construction of temporary basha tents for quake-affected staff of affiliated departments and their families yesterday. First, the Union minister went to temporary tent construction sites in police band and entertainment division compound in Pobbathiri township in Nay Pyi Taw and made proper instructions regarding the systematic access to water, electricity and sanitation, cleanliness, power control system and the need to complete the operations by the end of

May. Then, the Union minister proceeded to Gangaw Housing in Zabuthiri Township, and inspected the No 211 and 216 buildings, which were not affected seriously by the earthquake and allowed to stay back, in detail. During the inspection, the Union minister comforted the staff and their families. Moreover, he instructed officials to fill the water tanks with water twice a day using the department-owned water tankers, to ensure the power grids and the minor maintenances. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

New Year’s sermon by Chairman of the State Sangha Mahanayaka Committee, Thanlyin Minkyaung Pahtamabyan Buddhism Learning Centre Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Aggamaha Pandita, Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Dr Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa

Disperse four cardinal virtues

Today is a an auspicious time, as the old year of the Myanmar calendar, 1386 ME, has passed and the new year, 1387 ME, has arrived.

Before this new year, as the old year draws to a close, all over Myanmar, in accordance with the ancient sages’ saying, “The way of mundane world is unthinkable,” we have experienced a terrible earthquake that was so severe and terrifying that we could not have

imagined. We pray that such deadly disasters as those that have occurred in the world will not occur or be experienced in the future. We pray that all monks, people, and the general public may be free from illness, be free from all dangers, be filled with beauty and good fortune, be filled with wealth, strength, longevity, etc.

“When the four cardinal virtues were established, everybody, may be free from disease, free from evil, and free from evil.



“May you be blessed with wealth, strength, and longevity,” says the new Magha Devalanka.

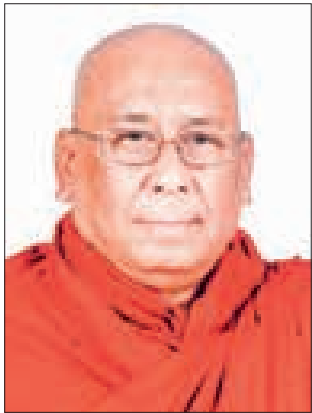
As such, everybody has to foster

- Love, which is the desire for the well-being of beings,
- Compassion, which, upon seeing the suffering of the poor and needy, moves the hearts of good people to desire to relieve their suffering.
- The faculty of joy, which is clear and joyful when one sees happy beings ,

- The Dhamma of equanimity, which is not opposed to happiness and suffering, and is experienced equally in due time. May the four cardinal virtues, the noble Dhamma, which are called the Four Noble Truths, be continuously cultivated from this time forward, and may all the people/citizens of the country and the global people be free from harm, healthy and happy, and may all their wishes be fulfilled, and may they be showered with love and prayers.

Sitagu Sayadaw
State Ovadacariya
Shwegyin Nikaya Sangharaja
Abhidhaja Maharatthaguru Abhidhaja
Aggamaha Saddhammajotika Aggamaha
Pandita
Chancellor of Sitagu Hospitals and Sitagu
International Buddhist Academies

New Year sermon of Sitagu Sayadaw from 1386 ME to 1387 ME



The advice written by Maha Withokdayon Sayadaw

Insights of all living beings are very worse similar to the bad tastes of meals. During the Kaliyugga period, enlightenment of the Lord Buddha is very wonderful. Such an event is similar to emergence of a great lotus flower in the flame.

Four cardinal virtues practised by humans are the great reliable for all living beings during the Kaliyugga period. However, all humans are happy in evils.

(as quoted from Kappaduma treatise)

It is referred to Withokdayon decision of the Withokdayon Sayadaw.

New Year sermon of Presiding Patron of
Nanda Aungmyay Monastery Sayadaw
Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Aggamaha
Kammathanacariya Dr Bhaddanta Nimala

MAY the showers of the Buddha’s virtues pour forth abundantly, so that the entire land may be peaceful and serene, and the flowers of peace may bloom gently.

May the showers of the Dhamma’s virtues rain down abundantly, bringing peace, prosperity, and serenity throughout the land, and may the blossoms of tranquility fill the air with their fragrance.

May showers of the Sangha’s noble virtues pour forth, that the entire nation may prosper in peace, and may the flowers of tranquility bloom.

At the auspicious moment of the New Year, may you, with unceasing mind-



fulness that never permits heedlessness — mindfulness ever holding fast to the the Buddha, the Dhamma and the Sangha and to the Five Precepts — exert every effort to transcend the three great scourges of disease, famine and conflict. May all people of Myanmar and all citizens of the world rise above these calamities; may your mind be at peace and your body enjoy perfect health; and may your journeys, your labours and your enterprises proceed smoothly and effortlessly, unimpeded by any obstacle. By the power of merit and the force of righteousness, I pay homage and pray that, in this New Year’s moment, all your plans and aspirations may be fulfilled completely and perfectly.

NATIONAL

New Year sermon by Dr Bhaddanta Saddhamma Kittisara (Aung San Sayadaw)

AT the auspicious time of transitioning from the year 1386 to 1387 Myanmar Era, I send my heartfelt wishes that all the people of Myanmar and around the world may receive and enjoy good fortune, auspiciousness, and a prosperous time. May every citizen of Myanmar and people across the world be free from all five kinds of enemies and dangers starting from today. May you all enjoy peace of mind, good health, and prosperity. May you overcome the old year and enter the new year with happiness, peace, success, and abundance.

May all negative thoughts disappear, and

may you gain prosperity and well-being. May good intentions, good actions, and good thoughts bring about positive outcomes and happiness. Today, not only in Myanmar but around the world, the elements are being disrupted. The four great elements—fire, water, air, and earth—are being damaged, and because of this, people in Myanmar and around the globe are experiencing mental and physical suffering and hardships. May all suffering be far away. May the misfortunes of the old year fade away, and may the new year be filled with prosperity and abundance.



When a person becomes human, their body is composed of the elements earth, fire, water, and air. When these elements are disrupted, suffering occurs. The internal elements are connected to external elements. Within

the body, the defilements of greed, anger, delusion, pride, and wrong views burn continuously like flames, scorching the internal elements of human beings without pause.

In Myanmar, natural disasters occur. On top

of that, due to moral and spiritual decline, people are suffering and facing poverty. These sufferings don't happen because people want them to; they happen as a result of actions. If we do good, good things will happen. If we do bad, bad things will follow. According to the law of karma, when the internal fires of greed, anger, delusion, pride, and wrong views are burning, they lead to the destruction of external elements, causing living beings to suffer. To prevent such suffering, as we transition from the old year 1386 to the new year 1387 Myanmar Era, everyone — citizens and people of the world alike

— is encouraged to strive to extinguish the internal fires of greed, anger, delusion, and pride within themselves.

During this Thingyan (Myanmar New Year) season, in Vipassana meditation centres, Dhamma is taught, shared, listened to, and practised. All people are basking under the rain of Dhamma. May all people of Myanmar and around the world attain mental peace, physical well-being, and a life of tranquility. As the old year fades away, may everyone enter the new year with a renewed mind, a refreshed self, and a new life filled with all forms of prosperity.

New Year sermon by Rector of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Aggamaha Pandita Dr Bhaddanta Hsekinda

THE transition from the Myanmar calendar year 1386 to 1387 marks the New Year season, which occurs once a year. Because of this annual change, it is referred to as the Myanmar Thingyan (Water Festival). Time constantly changes — every second, every minute — and with change often comes progress, but also sometimes decline. Physically, as time passes, there tends to be a gradual weakening or deterioration.

When it comes to the mind, for virtuous people, every time there is a change, it leads to growth and improvement — change becomes something better than just good. But for others who are not virtuous, change can cause their good thoughts to turn

toward negative ones. That's why, during the New Year, the idea is to change like the virtuous — a transformation that strengthens everyone's minds. It's a time to cast away bad thoughts and negative spirits, and to develop good, positive mindsets. This is why the Thingyan (Myanmar New Year) transformation is marked as a time for renewal. For the virtuous, transformation means rising from bad to good — and that's already virtuous. But it doesn't stop there: they go from good to better, and from better to the best and most noble.

For Buddhists, there's the progression of becoming four steps of Arahat. This progression happens because the minds of virtuous individ-

uals become more developed and transformed. When we look into how these virtuous people change, we notice that where there was once little loving-kindness (Metta), it begins to increase. And not just Metta—compassion (Karuna), sympathetic joy (Mudita), and equanimity (Upekkha) also grow stronger. Because of this, they help one another as much as they possibly can with loving-kindness, compassion, and joy. Some may be fulfilled in this life, yet when the burdens of past unwholesome karma that come with the cycle of existence arise, they still have to face them. At that time, others save them as much as they can—rescuing, helping however possible.

I won't be emotion-



ally burdened — I'll just do what needs to be done, help where help is needed, and support where support is needed. The outcome depends on the Kamma they are capable of receiving. Helping others with this understanding is called upekkha (equanimity).

As for the noble ones, their intentions how do these qualities become so strong? It's because

the great noble beings of the past, who had already become Buddhas, gave prophecies to those who would become future Buddhas. When these future Buddhas received the prophecy, they would say, "A Buddha-to-be has nothing to do with building a household or worldly affairs—why would I remain in household life? I will renounce and become a monk." They declared this with great conviction.

As for good people, I've slightly rephrased my words and said: "I am a good person. One must recognize oneself as a good person. A good person doesn't do things that shouldn't be done or things that are inappropriate. Good people, with a good heart and good deeds, bring good

outcomes. Those outcomes are not only for their own happiness and benefit, but also for the benefit of their relatives, their community, their town, their country, and their religion. With a good mindset, constantly striving to apply these three key sentences with deep commitment, one can create positive outcomes for everyone.

As we enter the New Year, here is a gift of words and a gift of Dhamma — a New Year's gift urging everyone to carry forward both personal and collective benefit as much as they can."

May everyone have a good spirit, each individual with their own, and may they become virtuous people who can carry both their own benefit and the benefit of others.

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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

Thingyan festival held peacefully in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

ON Thingyan Atet Day, the people and staff played water with *Eugenia* sprigs peacefully in accordance with the customs of Myanmar avoiding the dances and music and also performed the good deeds in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

All the famous pagodas, temples and religious buildings were packed with visitors in Nay Pyi Taw, and the religious groups, pilgrims and staff were also donated flowers and oil lamps. Moreover, they recited Parittas, freed the



Youths serve older persons with manicuring and people with softdrinks in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

animals and offered food.

Similarly, they welcomed the New Year by shampooing the heads of elderly people, cutting the nails and offering Myanmar

traditional snacks and offered food to the monks.

This year, the people participated in Aye Thingyan festival in Nay Pyi Taw, and they played

water peacefully at Nay Pyi Taw Mayor pavilion and offered free Myanmar traditional snacks.

Moreover, at the pavilions of Nay Pyi Taw Walking Thingyan area, the people peacefully played water like brothers and sisters, and they washed the heads of elderly people, cut the nails and offered food for those participated in the festival daily. Such doings depicted the good-will of Myanmar people.

The Thingyan pavilions also included the wearing of Thanaka honouring the Myanma Thanaka for the efforts for inclusion in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage list, and the people also participated in this programme happily.

Moreover, those participated in Aye Thingyan festival of Nay Pyi Taw avoided the inappropriate actions, and depicted the Myanmar traditional actions.

Similarly, the townships and wards were also packed with Thingyan pavilions and food donation events. — MNA/KTZH

Thingyan Festival concludes with religious activities, charity in Yangon Region



People join charity feasts and damsels make up each other with Thanaka during Maha Thingyan festival in Yangon yesterday.

PEOPLE in Yangon Region celebrated the Myanmar Traditional Thingyan Festival in 1386 ME in a peaceful and cultural rich atmosphere on the eve day of the festival. Devotees engaged in acts of merit including Buddhist rituals at pagodas and monasteries such as Shwedagon Pagoda, meditation at Dhamma centres, rec-

itation of Buddhism treatises and alms-giving activities.

A releasing ceremony of 5,000 fingerlings was held at Kandawgyi Lake under the supervision of the Yangon Region Government. Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, regional ministers and officials released the fingerlings as an act of merit.

The Chief Minister and his team also visited the Maha Thingyan pavilions at People's Square in Dagon Township and Kandawgyi Park, where they greeted festivalgoers, participated in water sprinkling and supported donors offering charity feasts. Civil servants and their families joined the offering of traditional meals and

applying Thanaka to revellers.

At the Maha Bandoola Park near Yangon City Hall, citizens played water peacefully and young women proudly promoted Myanmar Thanaka traditions, aiming for recognition as an intangible cultural heritage.

Elsewhere, donors provided charity feasts near Shwed-

agon Pagoda and throughout townships across Yangon Region. Generous donors offered traditional meals such as buttered rice, chicken curry, sour mango salad and cold drinks, reinforcing both festive spirit and Myanmar cultural values till evening of the last festival day. — Nay Ko Zaw (MNA)/KZL

NATIONAL

Myanmar New Year Wishes from Interfaith Dialogue group

IT is the end of 1386 ME and the beginning of 1387 ME. On the first day of Myanmar New Year, 1387 ME, the Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central) extends wishes that may all Myanmar citizens, the esteemed ethnic national brethren, and all the people on earth be in good health, peace of mind and possess a peaceful society. As part of the roadmap of our group, representing the four major religions, we are committed to working together harmoniously and collaboratively for the benefit of the public through combined efforts such as:

- Providing assistance and support in areas affected by natural disasters,
- Offering free eye surgeries,
- Organizing blood donation events,
- Opening free vocational training courses.

Moreover, we celebrate the traditional events of four religions, and implement as per the motto “From interfaith unity to peace”. Currently, we all can see the casualties, damage and losses due to the Mandalay earthquake. As per the motto Unity is strength, we should work together for

the quake-affected people in rehabilitation processes, protect with national spirit for the State peace, be in unity and cooperate by making efforts for the emergence of a peaceful nation. May the country be filled with peace and prosperity.



U Wunna, Chairman Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central)



U Zaw Zaw Naing

ON the first day of Myanmar New Year, during the transition from 1386 ME to 1387 ME, may the country be peaceful and prosperous with the Metta of Gotama Buddha, and may it be a developed country without

any internal and external destructive elements due to Ganesha. Myanmar is a country with enormous ethnic diversity.

We deeply empathize with the hardships and emotional distress experienced by the public due to the recent powerful Mandalay earthquake, which has severely impacted the social and economic lives of the people. We also understand the many challenges that the government is facing in responding to and addressing this crisis. In recovering the damage after the Mandalay

earthquake, we are committed to contributing toward the reconstruction and recovery efforts. May all Myanmar citizens have peace of mind. We are responsible to create more job opportunities for the youths, who are the future of our nation. May we all carry out our duties with loving-kindness, work diligently, and overcome any challenges that come our way.

U Zaw Zaw Naing (Hindu)
Vice-Chairman, Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Organization (Central)

AS Christian Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central), I extend my wishes to Myanmar citizens to be in peace of mind and in good health. Our Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group is trying hard for the people of different religions, attitude and opinions based on Metta (loving-kindness) to be able to live peacefully in the same country and drink same source



U Tuu Tuu

of water. The group will also participate in supporting the quake-affected people as much

as it can. Moreover, our group, the Christians participates in implementing the measures for State stability. During the transition from the old year to New Year, may all Myanmar people work together in building a modern and developed nation. May God bless you all.

U Tuu Tuu (Christianity)
Vice-Chairman, Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central)



U Aung Zaw Win

I am U Aung Zaw Win (Islam), vice-chairman of Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central). During the end of 1386 ME and the beginning of 1387 ME, I, on behalf of Mus-

lim people, extend wishes, may all Myanmar citizens be protected from the dangers and filled with good health. In implementing the durable peace that is essential for social, business and security of all living in the country, the Muslim people are also participating through thick and thin by conserving the different traditions, customs, believe, culture and characteristics of all ethnic people living in Myanmar. While the country faced the earthquake, the Muslim

people also provided supports in quake-hit areas.

On behalf of our Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group, we extend our heartfelt New Year wishes to all our ethnic brothers and sisters living in Myanmar, as well as to people all around the world. May all welcome the New Year with the same faith and loving-kindness of four major religions.

U Aung Zaw Win (Islam)
Vice-chairman, Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group (Central)

Myanmar new year greeting message

I extend warmest wishes for peace and blessings to all members of the Sangha, elders and citizens residing throughout the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. May you all enjoy excellent physical and mental well-being.

Before the Myanmar New Year Festival which fell on the 5th waning of Tagu in the year 1387 of the Myanmar Era, a powerful earthquake struck on 28 March 2025. This severe earthquake caused casualties, injuries and disappearances among the people in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, Mandalay Region, Sagaing Region, Magway Region, Bago Region and Shan State. It also led to widespread destruction of residential buildings and infrastructure, severely impacting the socio-economic lives of the people. Our association deeply shares the sorrow and grief of the affected citizens in light of these tragic losses.

As an organization, we took immediate action by coordinating the Public Security and Disaster Relief Committees that are structured across various states and regions. We deployed these teams to the quake-hit areas, where they carried out rescue and relief operations including the distribution of food, clean water, shelter materials, clothing and basic necessities.

Dear fellow citizens, please be assured that our organization



U Ye Tun

will continue participating in rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts for the communities affected by the earthquake.

As we now step into the Myanmar New Year: 1st waxing of Tagu, it is our collective duty, including citizens, government, Tatmadaw and the Young Men's Buddhist Association (YMBA) to join hands in unity and expedite the rebuilding of the earthquake-affected areas.

In brief, I sincerely wish that throughout this Myanmar New Year, our beloved nation remains peaceful, prosperous and stable. May every citizen enjoy sound health, both physically and mentally.

U Ye Tun
Chairman
Young Men's Buddhist Association (Central)

U Aye Win (President of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry)

ON the Myanmar New Year Day that falls on 5th waning of Tagu month of 1387 ME, may all ethnic brothers and sisters and Myanmar nationals be filled with happiness, joy, and prosperity year ahead.

I would like to express my deepest sympathy to those who have been affected by the devastating earthquake which occurred on 28 March 2025. The federation is exerting concerted efforts in rescue and reconstruction activities, together with affiliated associations, institutions concerned and members.

UMFCCI will also accelerate its efforts to connect with domestic and international institutions and partners to create



U Aye Win

conducive business environment to maintain long-term economic growth this year, advocating the objectives and future action plans of the federation.

Wishing all Myanmar citizens be free from harm and be happy and prosperous.

OPINION

Welcome New Year with joy and happiness

ON the occasion of the New Year 1387 ME, all living beings in Myanmar should foster compassion among all national brethren, contribute to the collective well-being, and support each other's good actions. They should also discard malpractices and embrace good deeds. By doing so, the New Year of 1387 ME will be a glorious one for all the people of Myanmar.

The human mind naturally inclines toward both good deeds and malpractices. Thus, individuals encounter opportunities for both good and bad. It is essential for them to find the strength to resist harmful behaviours. If they engage in malpractices based on misguided thoughts, actions, or speech, they will face difficulties and suffering. The Lord Buddha taught about seven types of virtuous people.

Everyone – individuals, organizations, and nations — should

Peace will put an end to the killing of one another. Peace will end armed conflicts and eliminate hatred in society. It will remove dangers and pave the way for prosperity. As such, people from all walks of life must contribute to the activities in negotiating the peace process to welcome the New Year with joy and happiness.

Currently, Myanmar is facing various conflicts and challenges, in addition to natural calamities. Regardless of the nature of these issues, the people all hope for a peaceful resolution. They desire an end to the conflicts and problems without causing harm to anyone. It is not, indeed, enough to merely pray or wish for these problems to end. Everyone must actively participate in fostering the motivation to resolve these issues including peace processes. By doing so, they will soon reap the rewards of their efforts to sow the seeds of peace.

Peace will put an end to the killing of one another. Peace will end armed conflicts and eliminate hatred in society. It will remove dangers and pave the way for prosperity. As such, people from all walks of life must contribute to the activities in negotiating the peace process to welcome the New Year with joy and happiness.

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LOVE, sympathy, and respect have tightened among the people of China and Myanmar during the catastrophic earthquake hit in the later. China and its people, with a straightforward nature, have exposed their genuine commitment toward a shared future and shared respect with the people of the Southeast Asian country where a massively devastated quake recently struck.

A powerful earthquake hit Myanmar on 28 March 2025. The tremor occurred at a shallow depth of just 10 kilometres with its epicenter close to Mandalay, the second most populous urban area of the country. The shallow depth and proximity to major cities resulted in widespread destruction across urban centres, residential areas, religious sites, and critical infrastructure. Additionally, the quake affected many major cities from Sagaing, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw and southern Shan State. A total of at least 128 aftershocks have struck various parts of the country as updated on 11 April.

This apocalyptic Mandalay Earthquake has claimed 3,706 lives and left 5,027 people injured, with 130 others remained missing as of 14 April.

Unfortunately, the domestic resources of manpower, finance, and rescue techniques were not enough, and did not have capacity to save the souls. Chairman of the State Administration Council, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, immediately declared a request to the international community to help the country in dealing with the deadly earthquake.

China is the country that arrived in Myanmar the very first among the international rescue operations. The first Chinese rescue team with 32 members with rescue equipment from Yunnan arrived in Myanmar within 17 hours after the quake. In the combination of G2G cooperation, China's provincial authorities' assistance, and Non-Governmental Organizations of China sending rescue teams to Myanmar; at least 150 Chinese rescuers had already arrived in the country within 24 hours after the occurrence of the disaster.

China engaged in various forms of cooperation with Myanmar authorities in facilitating the delivery of rescue personnel and relief supplies during rescuing period. These efforts included

Myanmar to overcome quake sufferings with Chinese compassion



Obviously, within just five days after the disaster (by 2 April), a total of 400 Chinese rescuers were actively conducting rescue operations in Myanmar. PHOTO: XINHUA

coordinated land transportation across the Muse-Ruili borderline and collaboration in the use of air-space for rapid aid deployment.

Obviously, within just five days after the disaster (by 2 April), a total of 400 Chinese rescuers were actively conducting rescue operations in Myanmar; according to a spokesperson of the Chinese Foreign Ministry Guo Jiakun. That figure reflects only the official rescue workers and does not include many other Chinese nationals in other sectors such as medical teams, logistics support, journalists for media coverage, or team members of the various Chinese non-governmental organizations.

At present, China has already sent its sixth dispatch of relief and humanitarian aid to Myanmar before Thingyan Festival (last updated on 11 April). In addition, China has decided on 10 April to provide another 1 billion Yuan (equivalent to \$138 million) of emergency relief assistance to Myanmar adding to the primary 100 million Yuan assistance for rescue processes soon after the happening of the earthquake.

That is the solid bond as stated by China: "Disasters show no mercy, but humanity shows compassion and love." China and Myanmar, bound by a shared future, have stood together in solidarity and mutual support.

Friend in need is a friend indeed: The Myanmar-China's people-to-people ties have strengthened breaking records

and reached unprecedented solidarity throughout the history of the two countries in the wake of the Mandalay Earthquake as China obviously shares weal and woe together with us, the citizens of Myanmar.

During the rescue period, it was truly heart-touching to witness tirelessly searching for and saving lives day and night by Chinese rescue workers in the hottest month of Myanmar with a temperature of +40°C in Mandalay. Moreover, earthquake-affected Myanmar people drove away mosquitoes by using the hand-fans to take care of Chinese rescuers while they took break or a rested on the platforms in the late night. That scene, despite of simple, beautifully portrays the mutual sympathy and love shared between the Chinese and Myanmar or the modest and humble behaviour of Myanmar people expressing their gratitude to the Chinese rescuers.

Thanakha is a reflection of the national identity of Myanmar. With its sun-protective and cooling properties, Myanmar people traditionally wear Thanaka for protection from sunburn.

That is why, also in the daytime, the disaster-hit local residents of Mandalay kindly put Thanaka on the arms, backs, faces, and hands of the Chinese rescuers in order to cool down the body temperature and to give a soothing effect under the weather of high temperature during their

rescue operations.

China could show its compassion and fellow feeling towards Myanmar in the disaster crisis not only by the government and the rescue workers but also by its public from different walks of life – including teachers and students, medical field, technological upgrading, and donations of the businesspersons and traders.

Here are some instances: A video clip of a Chinese primary school, in which, teachers and kindergartens were praying for Myanmar, wishing to stay strong and standing shoulder together with the earthquake-hit Myanmar was viald and circulated on social media among Myanmar netizens bear a heartfelt thanks for the shared love. Again, Chinese media stands as another pillar in sharing kindness by broadcasting the latest status which encourages the international community to pay more attention to the Myanmar earthquake, which in turn, boosts international assistance.

Reports also suggested that the technological upgrading of the DeepSeek emergency translation platform was developed within seven hours. This development of Chinese-Myanmar-English translation system of the DeepSeek was created by the National Language Service Corps of China and Beijing Language and Culture University, aiming to help better assistance in earthquake relief efforts in Myanmar. The system was intentionally designed for emer-



ineradicable mark in our history and hearts.

"Earthquakes may shatter continents, but our solidarity stands unshaken", is an expression of navigating Chinese's shared love to Myanmar.

Thus, the mutual love, sympathy, respect, and compassions between the people of Myanmar

and China have passed beyond borders and boundaries, languages and barriers, and deterrence and challenges, which prove that "true friendship shines brightest in the darkest hours." This enduring tie will absolutely stand holding over to our next generations and descendants lasting as long as the world itself.

Learning about social interaction by studying dancing

The study highlights that synchronized movements occur most effectively when dancers are listening to the same music and can see each other.



DANCING fluidly with someone requires social coordination. This skill requires coordinating movements with others while also processing dynamic sensory input, such as sounds and visuals.

Felix Bigand and Giacomo Novembre from the Italian Institute of Technology in Rome, together with others, report on how the brain drives social coordination during dance.

The researchers recruited pairs of inexperienced dancers and recorded their brain activity, whole-body movements, and muscle activity as they danced to the same or different songs. The researchers also manipulated whether dancers could or could not see each other. These methods unveiled distinct neural signals for music processing, self-generated movements, movements generated by following a partner, and social coordination.

Neural signals for social coordination that enabled synchronized movements between people occurred only when dancers

were moving to the same song and could see each other.

Bigand said, "What was perhaps most peculiar was we found that out of the 15 different movements we recorded, the brain was most sensitive to bouncing or flexing of the knees [during social coordination]. This was strange because bouncing had relatively weak amplitudes (or strength) compared to most of the other movements. For the brain to respond more to a weaker movement, like bounce, suggests it has a unique role in social coordination."

According to the authors, this work advances our understanding of social interaction beyond dancing because it sheds light on how the brain supports socially engaging activities while integrating dynamic sensory information. Bigand also emphasizes that the methods used to unravel distinct neural signals for different kinds of sensory information processing may improve the applicability of future preclinical work to reality. — ANI

NATIONAL

New Year wish of MPC

AS the previous Myanmar calendar year: 1386 ME came to a close, the powerful earthquake that struck on 28 March caused tremendous devastation. The violent tremours in Mandalay brought severe damage and destruction to countless lives, homes and cherished possessions of many people across the region.

We feel deep sorrow and heartfelt sympathy for the people who were affected by this disaster. At the same time, we are encouraged to see how unitedly everyone worked together to carry out rescue and relief efforts.

We are also informed that recovery and rebuilding efforts have already begun.

To those who had to face the hardship and danger of this natural disaster, we urge you to stay strong and not lose heart. May you hold firmly to the spirit of “If we fall, we rise again”, face the situation with courage and resilience and strive toward recovery. We sincerely hope you all rise again with strength and determination.

Therefore, as we now step into this auspicious early period of the new Myanmar year 1387 ME, we earnestly wish that



Dr Tin Tun Oo

throughout this coming year:

- All citizens of Myanmar may remain safe from all forms of danger, especially natural

disasters. This is our foremost and heartfelt wish.

- May everyone be blessed with good physical health and peace of mind.
- May your sincere aspirations be fulfilled and may all your wishes be realised. This is our heartfelt prayer.

Furthermore, we express our wishes that the entire Republic of the Union of Myanmar will:

- Enjoy nationwide peace, stability and harmonious prosperity and continue progressing toward a modern and developed state.
- May the Union remain firm,

enduring and everlasting.

On behalf of the Myanmar Press Council, we also wish to express that:

- We will continue striving to ensure that the media industry develops and grows more than ever before.
- Moreover, in service of the nation and the people, we will do our utmost within the media sector to carry out our responsibilities and duties to the best of our ability.

Dr Tin Tun Oo
Chairman
Myanmar Press Council

New Year greetings from business people

Daw Khaing Khaing Nwe (secretary general of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry)

OLD year has come to an end and the new year has begun. May the 1387 ME bring Myanmar nationals, those communities dwelling in Myanmar and workers happiness, peace and achievement. May all beings explore new opportunities, be free from all disasters. May this year be auspicious and prosperous.



Daw Khaing Khaing Nwe

U Yan Naing Tun (chair of Thilawa Special Economic Zone)



U Yan Naing Tun

IT has been a decade that Thilawa Special Economic Zone has been established in line with the State's economic objectives. Thilawa SEZ contributes to the country's GDP growth, export promotion, earning revenue and MSME development, under the guidance of the head of the State.

The investors from the zone also donated K3.6 billion and relief supplies to support those affected by the massive earthquake that hit on 28 March 2025.

Be happy and auspicious new year filled with achievement, success, peace and tranquility to Myanmar nationals.

New Year Wishes from Artistes

UKyi Soe Tun, Chairman of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization

DURING the Myanmar New Year period, people traditionally engage in meritorious deeds such as making donations, observing moral precepts, and practising meditation. I sincerely wish for these

noble traditions to be preserved and cherished, so that our country, Myanmar, may continue to thrive in peace and stability for many years to come.

In keeping with the saying “Cinema is for the people,” I also hope that filmmakers will continue to create meaningful films

that bring benefit to the public and the audience.

To those affected by the recent devastating earthquake, I earnestly hope that we can all support and assist them with compassion to the best of our abilities, and together help protect and uphold the wellbeing of our nation.



U Kyi Soe Tun



Director Pachi Soe Moe

Director Pachi Soe Moe

MINGALABA! May the Myanmar New Year mark a new beginning filled with all kinds of blessings and prosperity.

So many conflicts, challenges, and overwhelming thoughts, perceptions, and desires have pushed the lives of our

brothers and sisters into deep darkness, like dry twigs scattered by strong winds. On top of that, we have been struck hard by various natural disasters that we could neither escape nor avoid.

But the end of darkness is the beginning of light. From this New Year

onwards, I wish that all the people of Myanmar may shine like the rays of the sun — blessed with peace, prosperity, and wellbeing. May you all move forward hand in hand, with wisdom and mindfulness, towards a life of success. I send this wish with love and goodwill.

ULwin Myint, Chairman of the Myanmar Music Association (Central)

DURING the Myanmar New Year, we hope to witness the return of peace and prosperity in our country, along with good omens. At this time of the year, may all ethnic people of our nation be blessed with peace of mind and good health. With renewed hearts and spirits, may everyone

come together in unity for the good of our country, our land, and our people. May you all be filled with countless blessings and auspiciousness.

Throughout history, the Myanmar Music Association has continuously played its part for the nation. Musicians and artists are now actively contributing in their respective roles for the ben-

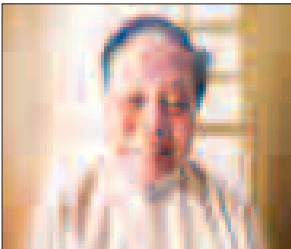
efit of the country and its people. With a long tradition of serving the public and the nation, the Music Association continues to give back to our beloved people through the power of music.

As we enter the Myanmar New Year, I send heartfelt wishes to all music lovers — may your hearts be calm and peaceful, and may your lives be filled with abun-



ULwin Myint

dant blessings and good fortune.



U Aung Tin Win

UAung Tin Win, Patron of the Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central)

AS we enter the Myanmar New Year, I offer heartfelt wishes for success, victory, and triumph. With these prayers for prosperity, I

extend my best wishes to all our ethnic brothers and sisters of the Golden Land of Myanmar, without exception. May we all join hands in unity, continuously sharing blessings of peace and harmony across the country.

To all citizens and members of the theatrical world, I wish you good health, peace of mind, safety from harm, and growing prosperity, property and income. May your hearts be filled with calm and happiness.

NATIONAL

Firefighters returns precious items from earthquake-hit buildings to their rightful owners

MYANMAR firefighters are searching for important items — such as documents, gold, silver, and motorcycles — in buildings damaged by the Mandalay earthquake in the Bala Theikdi and Nyana Theikdi wards of Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, and are systematically returning them to their rightful owners.

More than 160 firefighters from the Yangon, Ayeyawady, and Bago regions are conducting search and recovery operations, using machinery to retrieve important items from buildings damaged and submerged by the Mandalay earthquake, and are systematically returning them to their owners. — ASH/TH



This photo showcases officials handing retrieved important items from buildings damaged and submerged by the Mandalay earthquake to their owners.

Residents, civil servants from Cocogyun Township donate cash to earthquake victims

CIVIL servants and local residents from Cocogyun Township in Yangon Region made cash donations to assist people affected by the recent powerful Mandalay earthquake, according to the branch manager of Myanma Economic Bank in Cocogyun Township.

Departmental personnel and ward administrators in the township jointly established a donation centre to support the victims of the devastating earthquake. Through this centre, both government staff and residents contributed funds to aid those affected by the natural disaster.

A total of K4 million was collected from Cocogyun Township for earthquake victims. The donation was transferred to the Nay Pyi Taw's Myanma Economic Bank with the account number OA 011834, which was set up by the government to receive contributions. — ASH/KZL

Indonesian medical team provides healthcare services to earthquake victims in Nay Pyi Taw



The Indonesian emergency medical team providing healthcare services to people affected by the earthquake.

THE Indonesian emergency medical team is providing medical services to residents in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The Indonesian rescue and emergency medical team consists of 37 personnel, including general practitioners, surgeons, orthopaedic specialists, anaesthetists, paediatricians, emergency medicine specialists, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, administrative officers, and logistics officers.

Since 7 April 2025, the team has been offering medical treatment to earthquake victims at the temporary TCK EMT Indonesia's clinic, located at the 50-bed People's Hospital in Ottarathiri Township.

The TCK EMT Indonesia's temporary clinic is equipped with five tents and comprises an emergency unit, outpatient unit, observation ward, pharmacy unit, and a management and supervision unit. Medical services being provided at the clinic include emergency care, outpatient treatment, paediatric healthcare, minor surgical procedures, maternal healthcare, dispensary services, and basic laboratory testing. These services will continue to be provided until 21 April 2025. — ASH/KNN

Ayeyawady Foundation distributes donation boxes to quake-affected people



Ayeyawady Foundation volunteers are seen with donation boxes for people affected by the earthquake.

THE Ayeyawady Foundation is donating donation boxes to people affected by the powerful earthquake in Mandalay.

The foundation has been distributing these donation boxes directly to local communities in earthquake-affected areas. Foundation volunteers are personally delivering the boxes to neighbourhoods and villages that suffered extensive damage and loss across Mandalay, Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw, Tatkon, Pyinmana, Yamethin, Kyaukse, Pyawbwe, Paleik, Singaing, and TadaU.

Each donation box includes rice, cooking oil, Alpine bottled water, canned fish, chickpeas, eggs, dried fish, instant noodles, coffee mix, mosquito nets, cups, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, stainless steel bowls and spoons, embrocation, rehydration salts, and other essential medicines.

To date, the Ayeyawady Foundation has donated more than 11,000 donation boxes, with a total estimated value of over K1.1 billion, to support those impacted by the earthquake. — ASH/MKKS

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

NATIONAL



People enjoy charity feast in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Thingyan Atet Day
celebrated peacefully
across states, regions

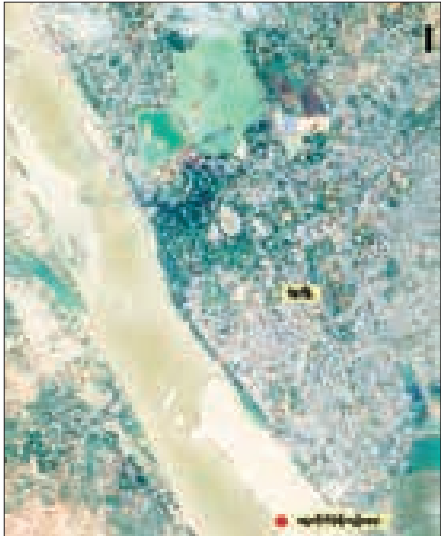
MYANMAR celebrated Traditional Thingyan Atet Day on 16 April in states and regions with cultural norms and peaceful festivities marking the New Year transition from 1386 ME to 1387 ME.

Chief Ministers of region and states, command commanders, officials and residents joined ceremonies held across the country. In Nay Pyi Taw, events were held at pavilions inside the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), attended by senior Tatmadaw officers, Tatmadaw

members and their families. Participants sprinkled scented water using eugenia sprigs, an age-old tradition of the festival.

Traditional practices included offering Thingyan meals at charity pavilions, Thanaka-smearing, and paying respects to elders. People also recited protective Paritta verses, offered alms such as breakfast, day meals and donated uncooked rice to the Sangha, performing good deeds as part of the New Year observance. — MNA/KZL

Terrorists’ rocket targeting Monywa
seized before launch



A google map shows acts of terrorists’s rocket targeting Monywa.

PDF terrorists attempted to disrupt the peaceful and joyful celebration of Myanmar’s traditional Thingyan Festival by targeting residential towns, villages, and urban wards with rocket attacks. Their intent was reportedly to stoke public fear and cause instability.

Acting on a tip-off from a vigilant citizen, security forces discovered a 107mm short-range rocket near the jetty on the Chindwin River in South Monywa Ward, Monywa, Sagaing Region. The rocket was targeted at Monywa and intended to be fired at about 12:55 pm yesterday. Security personnel successfully defused and seized the rocket.

These PDF terrorists deliberately attempted to launch an unprovoked attack on civilians celebrating the Myanmar New Year. In response, security forces have stepped up necessary security measures in the area and are continuing operations to maintain public safety. — MNA/KZL

12.5 tonnes of restricted chemicals
seized in Tachilek Township

THE Myanmar Police Force reported the seizure of 12.5 tonnes of a restricted chemical (caffeine) in Tachilek Township, Shan State.

Following a tip-off, a combined team comprising members of the police force searched the compound of Aung Kyaw Htay (aka) Kyaw Htwe in Tachilek Township at 3 pm on 13 April. During the search, the security team discovered 12.5 tonnes of smuggled prohibited chemicals (caffeine) hidden in a 12-wheel trailer without a tractor head

and three tippers within the compound. Nyein Myint Htun, a guard of the house, was present at the time.

According to the investigation, the police arrested Aung Kyaw Htwe (aka) Kyaw Htwe, who was responsible for storing the chemicals at his house in Pakhokno Village, Tachilek Township, at 3:30 pm on the same day. They also arrested Soe Min Htun (aka) Naung Paing Soe and Myint Win (aka) U Win, who had transported the chemicals, in Saykham Ward, Tachilek, on

14 April.

The police determined that the owner of the seized chemicals is Aik Aon (aka) Aik Keng) from Wamtung Village in Tachilek Township. The chemicals had been smuggled across the Myanmar–Laos border via the Mekong River by motorboat and transported illegally to Tachilek.

Legal action has been initiated against the offenders, and an investigation is ongoing to apprehend other individuals involved in the case. — MNA/MKKS



Relief supplies donated by Bhutanese medical team.

Bhutanese medical relief team
donates water purifiers, and personal
emergency kits in Pyinmana

THE Bhutanese medical relief team, currently offering treatment for quake victims in Nay Pyi Taw, donated water purifier and a 2,000-capacity water tank at Nyaungbintha village Basic Education High School in Pyinmana township yesterday.

Team leader Dasho Tashi Wangyal explained the purpose of donation and medical treatment for over 3,000 patients and installation of four water purifiers.

The medical team also visited quake-hit Maha Withutayama Zaygon Buddhism Learning Centre in Pyinmana, and donated US\$13,000 worth of rice bags, cooking oil, foodstuffs and relief kits to Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Candobhasa.

At noon, the medical team also provided the people, who removed the debris at No 1 BEHS Pyinmana and urban area, with blankets, mosquito nets, emer-

gency kits and foodstuffs.

The medical team provided medical treatments starting from 3 April to date at temporary hospital (Paunglaung) by cooperating with medics of Tatmadaw and the Ministry of Health and volunteers of Air Mandalay Holding Co Ltd.

They offered medical treatments to over 80 inpatients and 3,850 outpatients daily, and performed 79 surgeries.

Similarly, they donated water purifiers, 2,000-litre-capacity water tanks and emergency relief kits at each of Khemathiun and Masoeyin monasteries in Pyinmana, Buddha Yadana Parahita Monastery in Zabuthiri Township and basic education high school in Nyaungbintha village.

The medical team closed their camp yesterday, and will return to their county today. — MNA/KTZH

In a first in India, ATM installed onboard train on a trial basis

IN a first, Indian Railways has installed an ATM on a trial basis — on the Manmad-CSMT Panchvati Express in Maharashtra. Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has shared a video of the ATM on a train on his X timeline. ATM On Wheels initiative is in accordance with the Railway Board’s directive to explore innovative methods to boost railway revenue through non-fare revenue. A meeting was held with all potential vendors on 25 March 2025. During the meeting, the concept of installing mobile ATMs on trains was proposed. — ANI

Japan’s rice prices continue to rise despite gov’t intervention

This marked the 14th consecutive week of increases despite the fact that the government has begun releasing its emergency rice reserves for retail sale in late March.

RICE prices at Japan’s supermarkets have continued to rise despite government’s move to release reserves to the market, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Monday.

According to the data collected from around 1,000 supermarkets nationwide, average retail price for a 5-kg bag of rice between 31 March and 6 April came in at 4,214 yen (about US\$29.3), up 8 yen from the previous week.

This marked the 14th consecutive week of increases despite the fact



File photo shows rice sold in bags at a supermarket in Koshigaya, Saitama Prefecture, on 18 October 2024. PHOTO: KYODO

that the government has begun releasing its emergency rice reserves for retail sale in late March. The ministry noted that the reserves had not yet reached store shelves in significant quantities during the survey period. — Xinhua

TOWNSHIP CRAFT BEVERAGE COMPANY LIMITED
(the “Company”) (under Members’ Voluntary Winding Up)

Notice under Section 147, 152 (a) of the Insolvency Law and Rule 9 and 15 of the Insolvency Rules as per a special resolution passed in writing on 8 April 2025:

- The process of members’ voluntary winding up will proceed and take effect from 8 April 2025.
- Daw Cho Thandar Soe (CPA No. 498 and MAIP Membership No.00225) shall be and is hereby appointed as liquidator of the Company for the purpose of such members’ voluntary winding up and is authorized to carry out the Company’s affairs in respect of such winding up; and
- All of the creditors (if any) of the Company are required to contact the liquidator before 7 May 2025 with detailed particulars of their claim attached with complete supporting documents. The Company shall not take any responsibility for or settle any debts that are claimed and submitted after such date.

Daw Cho Thandar Soe
B.Com CPA (CPA No.498 and MAIP No. 00225), Liquidator
No. 271, 13 Street, 3 Block, South Okkalapa Township, Yangon.
Tel: 09-5113498/09-254379711

Date: 17 April 2025

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2504S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC CHANGMING VOY.NO. (2504S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-4-2025** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V PADIAN 3 VOY.NO. (0UVCUS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PADIAN 3 VOY.NO. (0UVCUS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-4-2025** 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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC RUIDE VOY.NO. (2505N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC RUIDE VOY.NO. (2505N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-4-2025** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC JUNDE VOY.NO. (2504S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC JUNDE VOY.NO. (2504S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-4-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY.NO. (513W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TORRES STRAIT VOY.NO. (513W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-4-2025** 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V BEYPORE SULTAN VOY.NO. (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BEYPORE SULTAN VOY.NO. (-)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-4-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Cambodia starts to celebrate traditional New Year

The Lunar New Year is the largest holiday celebrated in Cambodia.

CAMBODIA on Monday began to celebrate its three-day Lunar New Year — the Year of the Snake.

In a New Year message to the compatriots, Prime Minister Hun Manet expressed his best wishes to all Cambodians, reaffirming the government’s commitment to further boosting economic growth and national development.

He highlighted the kingdom’s significant achievements last year in the areas of economy, trade, investment, agriculture, foreign affairs, social affairs, public works and transport, energy, tourism, culture, religious affairs, and telecommunications, among others.



Actors perform during a prayer ceremony in Siem Reap province, Cambodia on 14 April 2025. PHOTO: SOVANNARA/XINHUA

He vowed to continue safeguarding peace and to bring further socio-economic development to the kingdom in the new year.

“In 2025, the Royal Government of Cambodia will continue to vigorously implement its historic mission with a strong, relentless and energetic commitment to deeper and broader reforms in all areas,” Hun Manet said.

The traditional New Year is the largest holiday in the South-east Asian country.

On occasion, people prepare food, fruits, and soft drinks on altars, as well as light candles and incense sticks, in order to greet the New Year’s angel.

Besides, they bring food, cash gifts, and praying stuff to offer to Buddhist monks at pagodas in order to dedicate to their ancestors and pray for longevity, good luck, happiness and prosperity in the New Year. — Xinhua

Trump signs order aimed at lowering drug prices

US President Donald Trump signed an executive order Tuesday aiming to lower crippling drug prices by giving states more leeway to bargain-hunt abroad and improving the process for price negotiations.

Americans face the highest prescription drug prices in the world, leaving many people to pay partially out of their own pockets despite already exorbitant insurance premiums. “This (order) will provide meaningful relief to seniors and low income individuals who depend on insulin and many, many more,” a White House official told reporters.

“Furthermore, it will foster a more competitive prescription

drug market to ensure the prices being charged to patients and the government are more aligned with the value they provide, rather than some quirk in the way that the government pays for them.”

The order directs the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which regulates prescription and over-the-counter pharmaceuticals, to allow more states to import medicines directly from countries with lower prices.

The administration of Trump’s predecessor Joe Biden approved Florida’s application to import from Canada last year but no other states were given the green light for their own deals. — AFP

Canada party leaders hold high-stakes debate two weeks from vote

CANADA’S main party leaders face off Wednesday in a debate that could prove pivotal ahead of this month’s election, with Prime Minister Mark Carney’s French language skills set to be tested.

Carney’s main rival on the stage in Montreal will be Pierre Poilievre, whose Conservative Party is trailing the Carney-led Liberals in most opinion polls ahead of the 28 April vote.

Carney, who took over as prime minister from Justin Trudeau on 14 March, has argued that his experience as a central banker during periods of economic upheaval make him the ideal choice to confront US President Donald Trump, whose trade war threatens thousands of Canadian jobs and whose talk of annexing this country has people incensed.

Poilievre has also promised to stand firm against Trump, but argues that a decade of weak economic performance under the Trudeau-led Liberals has left Canada vulnerable to hostile US trade



Mark Carney took over as prime minister of Canada on 14 March. PHOTO: AFP

policies.

The leader of the left-wing New Democratic Party, Jagmeet Singh, the head of the Quebec separatist Bloc Quebecois, Yves-Francois Blanchet, and Green Party co-leader Jonathan Pedneault will also be on stage.

But in a departure from past Canadian elections, polls

indicate this year’s race is largely becoming a two-party contest, raising the debate stakes for Carney and Poilievre.

“This is really a two-horse race, and it isn’t usually like that,” said Laura Stephenson, head of the political science department at Western University. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

Singapore to hold general election on 3 May

SINGAPORE will hold its next general election on 3 May, local media reported on Tuesday.

Singaporean President Tharman Shanmugaratnam on Tuesday dissolved the parliament, officially starting the election process. The Nomination Day will be on 23 April, according to a statement from the Prime Minister’s Office earlier on Tuesday.

Prime Minister Lawrence Wong will lead the ruling People’s Action Party into the contest. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Onana to return in goal for Man Utd against Lyon: Amorim

ANDRE Onana will start in goal for Manchester United in their season-defining Europa League match against Lyon on Thursday, manager Ruben Amorim has confirmed.

The Cameroon international made two costly errors in last week's 2-2 draw in France in the first leg of their quarter-final and was dropped for Sunday's 4-1 defeat against Newcastle.

Back-up goalkeeper Altay Bayindir played at St James' Park but Onana will be back in goal at Old Trafford.

"Onana, he will play tomorrow," Amorim said at his pre-match press conference.

The Portuguese coach said: "As a coach and former player first of all I try to do things that can help a player in this situation.

"We speak about managing players physically but we also have to manage them also mentally.

"We had one weekend where I felt it was better for Andre Onana not to play and a good thing for Altay (Bayindir) to play".

The United boss also confirmed that forward Joshua Zirkzee will miss the rest of the season.

The Netherlands international, 23, limped off in the second half of Sunday's defeat at Newcastle after suffering a hamstring injury.

United are an embarrassing 14th in the Premier League with just six matches left and could end up in 17th spot, just above the relegation places. — AFP



Andre Onana will be back in goal for Manchester United against Lyon. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**



Myanmar Judo team comes back home with 12 medals

Myanmar Judo Team poses for documentary photo at the airport on its arrival.

THE Myanmar national Judo team returned to Yangon on the evening of 14 April after securing five gold, four silver and three bronze medals: totalling 12 medals at the Penang JICA Invitational Judo Championship 2025 held in Penang, Malaysia from 11 to 13 April.

Team Myanmar was warmly welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by officials, students and athletes from the Institute of Sports and Physical Education (Yangon). Officials

also awarded a K1 million cash prize in honour of the team's achievement.

Medal winners included Ma Ei Chit Hsu San (-36 Kilogramme), Ma Yoon Wady Soe (-70 Kilogramme), Ma Htike Htike Kyaw (-55 Kilogramme), Ma Poe Ei Ei Lwin (-57 Kilogramme), and Ma Nang The Nu Nu San (+78 Kilogramme), who each won gold medals.

Silver medalists were Shan Kaung Set Paing (-24 Kilogramme), Kaung Kin Min Sit (-28 Kilogramme), Aung Zay

Htet (-32 Kilogramme), and Ma Phyo Shwe Zin Kyaw (-70 Kilogramme), while bronze medals went to Ma Khit San Nan Htut (-32 Kilogramme), Myat Phone Khant (-38 Kilogramme) and Thant Zin Win Aung (-81 Kilogramme).

The competition saw participation from over 200 athletes representing 31 teams from 12 countries, including Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and Australia. — Arkar Linn/KZL

Maradona's daughter says doctors could have prevented his death

ARGENTINE football legend Diego Maradona's daughter told a court Tuesday his death "would have been avoided" if doctors caring for him after surgery had done their jobs.

Maradona died on 25 November 2020, aged 60, while recovering at home from brain surgery for a blood clot. He had battled cocaine and alcohol addiction for decades.

His seven-person medical team is on trial for what prosecutors have called the "horror theater" of the final days of his life, and risk up to 25 years in prison if found guilty.

Maradona was found to have died of heart failure and acute pulmonary edema — a condition where fluid accumulates in the lungs — two

weeks after going under the knife.

"If they had done their job, this would have been avoided," his daughter Dalma Maradona, a plaintiff in the case, told a court in San Isidro in the north of Buenos Aires.

"They deceived us in the cruelest way," she said of the medical team.

Dalma Maradona, 38, testified that physician Leopoldo Luque, one of the accused, had assured the family that home hospitalization was "the only option".

She was told her father would have everything he needed, including 24-hour care and an ambulance at the ready.

This "never happened," she said. "It was a house where, occasionally, a doctor would come to see him".



Dalma Maradona, daughter of football star Diego Maradona, told a court that doctors could have prevented his death. **PHOTO: AFP**

After her father's death, she said she found the house "disgusting, and it smelled like urine". — AFP

Skating 'Quad God' Malinin ready for Olympic favourite tag

DOUBLE world figure skating champion Ilia Malinin knows he will have a target on his back at next year's Winter Olympics, but said Wednesday he can handle the pressure.

The American, known as the "Quad God" for his dazzling arsenal of quadruple jumps, won his second straight men's world title last month in Boston at the age of 20.

Malinin said he was "still trying to process" the achievement but he knows he will be the man to beat at the Milan-Cortina Games in less than a year's time.

"Definitely I was made aware of that even last year, being the favourite going into the Olympic year," he said in Tokyo, where he is preparing to compete for the US in the season-ending World Team Trophy this week. — AFP



Xi says China-Malaysia ties ushering in new golden era

Xi emphasized the importance of fostering cooperation in future industries such as artificial intelligence, the digital economy, and the green economy.

CHINESE President Xi Jinping said Wednesday that China-Malaysia ties are ushering in a new golden era.

Xi made the remarks during his meeting with Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim.

Xi said he is ready to work with Anwar to boost the high-level and strategic development of China-Malaysia community with a shared future, and to further contribute to regional prosperity and stability.

Xi called on China and Malaysia to ensure good implementation of major projects such as the "Two Countries, Twin Parks" programme and the East Coast Rail Link.

Xi also called on the two sides to actively foster cooperation in future industries such as artificial intelligence, digital economy and green economy.

Xi attended in Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday a welcome ceremony held by Malaysian King Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar.

Xi arrived in Kuala Lumpur Tuesday for a state visit, the second leg of his three-nation Southeast Asia tour. — Xinhua



A welcome ceremony for Chinese President Xi Jinping is held by Malaysian King Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 16 April 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

Thailand's Songkran festival rises from local tradition to global celebration

AS 1,200 drones painted Bangkok's night sky on Saturday by forming iconic Thai patterns, including a giant water gun-wielding figure on a tuk-tuk, the display immediately evoked the excitement of real water fights celebrated across the country, marking the opening of another spectacular Songkran festival that attracted global festivalgoers.

The UNESCO-listed Songkran festival, also known as the traditional Thai New Year, typically takes place from 13 to 15 April and features family reunions, merit-making, and water splashing which symbolizes purification, renewal, and blessings.

Addressing the opening ceremony of the Maha Songkran World Water Festival 2025, Thai Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra highlighted this year's fusion of "soft power, technology, and cre-



People and elephants splash water in celebration of the upcoming Songkran festival in Ayutthaya, Thailand, 10 April 2025. PHOTO: RACHEN SAGEAMSAK/XINHUA

ativity" to boost tourism, drive the economy, and showcase Thailand's ability to host world-class events.

The Songkran festival in Ayutthaya dazzled attendees with vibrant parade floats and synchronized drone light shows, blending

heritage and modernity. An hour north of Bangkok, the festival's highlight featured elephant-led water battles, where adorned elephants playfully sprayed crowds, captivating visitors like Chinese vlogger Kong Qingbin. — Xinhua

SWIFT DATA SHARING

WHO countries strike landmark agreement on tackling future pandemics

AFTER years of negotiations, countries reached a historic agreement early Wednesday on how to handle future pandemics, aiming to learn from the mistakes made during the Covid-19 crisis. Delegates at the World Health Organization (WHO) headquarters finalized the deal around 2:00 am (0000 GMT), marking a significant milestone in global health cooperation.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus emphasized the urgency of the talks, given ongoing threats like H5N1 bird flu and Ebola. The agreement includes a Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing System (PABS) to facilitate the quick sharing of pathogen data with pharmaceutical companies, enabling faster development of pandemic-fighting products.

Despite last-minute disagreements, particularly over technology transfer to developing nations, negotiators found common ground by ensuring that any transfer would be "mutually agreed." The 32-page agreement was fully approved, leading to applause from delegates. — AFP