

The **Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR**

Article

Don't cling too hard to pessimism

By April Son

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CBM sells US\$1.3M to fuel oil importing companies on 12 June

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Botahtaung Pagoda to hold sacred Buddhist scripture recital & monk alms offering



A general view of the office building of the Central Bank of Myanmar in Yangon.

# CBM warns: Illegal forex traders face stiffer action

The Central Bank of Myanmar announced on 12 June that it would intensify the clampdown on illegal foreign current trading without a valid licence and take action against individuals and institutions involved in the grey market.

In order to facilitate the purchase of foreign currencies and curb foreign exchange market manipulation, those studying abroad, working abroad, travelling abroad for medical treatment and going on a pilgrimage are entitled

to buy foreign currencies (petty cash) at the authorized banks' foreign exchange counters.

CBM conducted legal proceedings against those who want to manipulate the forex market and disseminate misleading information under the Foreign Exchange Management Law, Anti-Money Laundering Law, Financial Institutions Law and the existing laws. Investigating and prosecution against illegal foreign exchange traders are ongoing.

Pay accounts and banking ac-

counts of those spreading false information via social media platforms (Facebook, Viber, Myanmar Market Price) to cause severe fluctuations in the forex market have been frozen. The SIM associated with them are also cancelled. Those who were convicted of illicit acts faced legal action as well.

Therefore, CBM has been joining with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws, CBM notified. — NN/KK

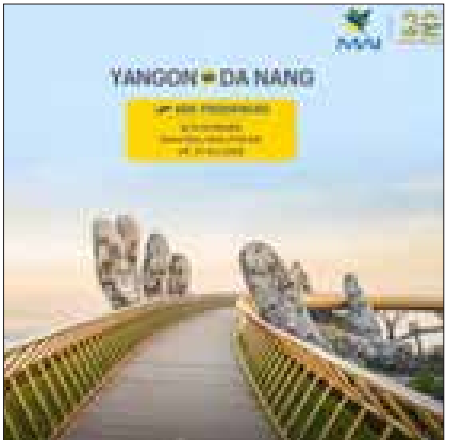
## MAI boosts international capacity with October schedule expansion

To celebrate Myanmar Airways International's 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary, MAI will increase international flights from October to make travel more convenient for passengers, MAI said.

From historic cities to bustling urban areas to beautiful beaches, MAI will fly more flights, it stated. The flight to Hanoi will increase from four times a week to seven times a week, starting from 26 October; and the Chiang Mai flight will increase from four times a week to 16 times a week (from Yangon and Mandalay), starting 27 October.

Moreover, the flight to Da Nang will increase from two times a week to four times a week from 27 October, Kolkata flight from two times a week to three times a week from 28 October, Chennai flight from once a week to two times a week from 28 October, and Guangzhou flight from three times a week to four times a week from 31 October.

For tickets purchased with MAI's 32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Deals, the travel validity period has also been extended until 31 December 2025. — MT/ZN



MAI's 32<sup>nd</sup>-anniversary logo and itinerary announcement for increased flights.

# NATIONAL

## Flourishing literature will be more dignified and prestigious for nation

- Literature is the cultural essence of a nation, and various books reflect the eras of humanity.
- Books are good friends for humankind; flourishing literature will be more dignified and prestigious for the nation.

*(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the awarding winners in the National Lifetime Award for Literary Achievement, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Contest for 2023 to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Diamond Jubilee) National Literary Ward celebration on 1 December 2024)*

### Myanmar Gazette

## Head of Service Organization appointed

THE State Administration Council has appointed U Aung Myo, Deputy Director-General of the Education and Training Department under the Ministry of Border Affairs, as Director-General of the same organization on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

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.

## Weather

### Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Friday 13 June 2025)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and moderate elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**SPECIAL Features:** According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Severe Tropical Storm“(WUTIP)” over near west coast of the Hainan Island, China, has moved north-northeastwards and may reach near coast of Southern China on 14 June 2025.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 14 June 2025:** Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, northern Shan States, fairly widespread in Chin, eastern Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon States. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD:** The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan State. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance these phenomena.

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-12 feet in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 6-9 feet off and along the Rakhine Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of isolated heavy rain or thundershowers in Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 14 June 2025:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 14 June 2025:** One or two time of rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 14 June 2025:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

**WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon Region and fairly widespread in Mandalay Region. — DMH

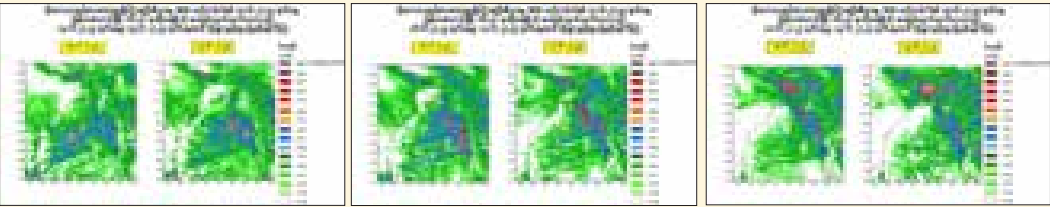
## Special Weather News

Issued at 7 pm MST on 13 June 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 4:30 pm MST today, monsoon will be strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, due to the easterly waves and remnants of the Severe Tropical storm“(WUTIP)”, 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 regionally and isolated heavy falls during tonight to 19 June 2025. Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30-35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet in the Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

### Advisory

People should be aware of the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strikes, lightning, hails, flash floods and landslides in the hilly areas and near small rivers and to make necessary preparations for inland water transport, domestic flights and irrigation dams. — DMH



## Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

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



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)

Diamond Jubilee Myanmar-China Friendship Music Concert held



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma Jia, and officials attend the Diamond Jubilee Myanmar-China Friendship Music Concert yesterday.

THE “Diamond Jubilee Myanmar-China Friendship Music Concert” in Commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Myanmar-China Diplomatic Relations took place at MRTV in Yangon yesterday evening.

It was attended by Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and regional ministers, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Ma Jia, officials from the Myanmar Press Council, movie, theatrical, music and comedian organizations, China-Myanmar Friendship Association, Myanmar Chinese Chamber of Commerce and China Enterprises Chamber of Commerce in Myanmar; oth-

er officials, guests, students of YUFL, youths of Yangon Region Youths Centre and Chinese news agencies.

Myanmar Orchestra of MRTV first played classical Yakin melody, and a total of 11 artistes, including MRTV artistes and external artistes entertained Myanmar-Chinese songs.

China Enterprises Chamber of Commerce in Myanmar President Mr Liu Ming donated 1,500 bags of cement for the reconstruction processes of the ministry after the quake to the Union minister.

The concert intends to strengthen the bilateral relationship and friendship. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar eyes new tourist routes through Russia partnership talks

UNION Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Kyaw Soe Win, who is attending the Fifth Moscow International Tourism Forum being held from 10 to 15 June in Moscow at the invitation of Russian Economic Development Minister Mr Maxim Reshetnikov, observed the international tourism booths at the VDNH Park on 11 June morning.

At noon, the Union minister attended the discussion on the topic of The Role of Tourism in Preserving Historical Heritage and Strengthening International Ties. The meeting discussed the potential to implement sustainable development in the tourism sector through preserving the environment and the historical heritage.

On 12 June, the Union minister participated in the talk on the topic of Combining Spaces and Harmonizing Cultures: Cross-Border Route for Tourist Exchange



The fifth Moscow International Tourism Forum in progress on 10-15 June in Moscow, participated by Union Minister U Kyaw Soe Win.

held at Conference Hall 3 of VDNH. During the occasion, the Union minister discussed the Myanmar tourism sector and promising issues, tourist attractions,

neighbouring countries, transnational tourism industry with the cooperation of regional organizations such as ASEAN, GMS and BIMSTECS, acceleration of tours like Buddhist Tourist Circuit, Temple Tourist Circuit, Ancient Cities Trail, Ecotourism, Medical Tourism, Cruise and Yacht Tours with the collaboration of regional countries, implementation of Welcome Russia programmes and initiation of Familiarization Trip (FAM Trip), and participation in the tourism expo of Russia.

In the evening, the Union minister joined the tour of the Sun of Moscow festival and studied the recreational arrangements for tourists and people in VDNH, the opening of restaurants and souvenir shops and the tallest skyscraper in Europe. — MNA/KTZH

# NATIONAL

## 15<sup>th</sup> Thuta Swesone Literary Awards honour Myanmar's best writers

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn attended the 15<sup>th</sup> Thuta Swesone Literary Award ceremony in Yangon yesterday.

Speaking at the event, the Union minister said it is important to engage in reading to have a positive mindset to do good things. Today, misunderstanding may arise due to certain interference, and reading fine literature that fosters critical thinking can help people maintain mutual trust.

For young people, especially, reading literature is essential to understand and uphold virtues such as respect (Garava) and humility (Nivata), as well as to develop the ability to critically analyze good and bad.

He continued that the Prime Minister is also a member of the Sarpay Beikman, values literature, and is always encouraging the youth to read, as literature is the life of the country and people. The Union minister briefed all on



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn addresses the 15<sup>th</sup> Thuta Swesone Literary Awards presentation event in Yangon yesterday.

the awards.

Thuta Swesone Literary Award donor and member of the award selecting team, chairman of Swesone Media Group Dr Tin Tun Oo explained the work processes, reviews of the team and history of 12 winners.

The Union minister presented the Thuta Swesone Lifetime Achievement Literary Award to Dr Khin Maung Nyo and the Thuta Swesone literary awards to Saya Naing Zaw (Reference) and Bo Aye Myint Kyu (Biography).

Yangon Region Chief Min-

ister U Soe Thein presented awards to Thein Tun (Myawady) (Fiction-arts) and Dr Thein Swe (Public Health) (Applied science), while regional Security and Border Affairs Minister Colonel Win Tint to Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing (Fiction-arts) and regional ministers

to Nay Zin Lat (Translation), Maung Khit Tun (Belle-Letter), Hein Latt (Biography), Doc Htwe (Hsay/Mdy) (Belle-Letter), Kyaw Nyunt Yi (Fiction-arts) and Professor Dr Mya Thein Han (Applied science).

Dr Tin Tun Oo and Dr Khin Moe Moe presented K5 million for the quake-stricken staff of the Ministry of Information and K2 million for the Thuta Swesone library that marks U Phoe Kyar to the officials of the library.

The Yangon Region government provided K6.2 million for the 15<sup>th</sup> Thuta Swesone Literary Award ceremony. The prize is K3.7 million for the Lifetime Achievement Literary Award and K2 million for each of the Thuta Swesone literary awards.

The Union minister inspected the work processes of Sky Net of Shwe Thanlwin Media Group in Botahtaung township yesterday morning and proceeded to Hexagon Complex in Tamway township. — MNA/KTZH

## Myanmar attends 5<sup>th</sup> Global Biosecurity Conference opening in Sochi

AT the invitation of Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation Mr Sergey Ryabkov and Head of the Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Well-being Dr Anna Popova, Myanmar's delegation led by Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Aung Zeya attended the opening ceremony of the fifth International Scientific and Practical Conference on "Global Biosecurity Challenges, Problems and Solutions," held at the Novotel Hotel in Sochi, southern Russia on 10 June.

The ceremony commenced with a flag salute to the Russian national flag. Dr Anna Popova then read a message from Russian President Mr Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin. Following this, Deputy Foreign Minister Mr Sergey Ryabkov delivered opening remarks. Dr Popova presented an address on modern global biosecurity challenges and strategic responses under a multilateral global approach, while Mr Ryabkov highlighted the role of emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), in addressing global biosecurity threats and requirements.

A video message from UN Under-Secretary-General Ms Izumi Nakamitsu was played, in which she emphasized the importance of technology in global biosecurity efforts.

During the subsequent plenary session, Mr Frederico Meyer, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), discussed international cooperation among BWC members and preparations to prevent future threats from biological and toxic weapons.

Uganda's Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health Ms Diana Atwine shared her country's cooperation with Russia in controlling domestic biological epidemics, including the



The opening ceremony of the fifth Global Biosecurity Conference underway in Sochi, Russia, on 10 June, attended by Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya.

deployment of mobile research laboratories and collaboration with Russian scientists.

European Representative to the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) Mr Budimir Plavsic, addressed international standards for countering biological threats. Director at the Russian Ministry of Defence Mr Sergey Kuznetsov elaborated on Russia's implementation efforts in line with the BWC. Deputy

Director General at China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Department of Arms Control and Disarmament) Mr Wang Daxue stressed the risks of manipulating biological data with AI, while Director at Rospotrebnadzor Mr Vadim Govorun, urged that AI-driven bioengineering should be used only after thorough scientific scrutiny and only when truly necessary.

Deputy Foreign Minister

Mr Ryabkov concluded the plenary session by summarizing key points and adding further remarks.

After the session, the deputy minister visited both indoor and outdoor exhibitions showcasing advanced laboratory equipment and mobile research labs from Russian biosecurity organisations, where he observed and discussed relevant technologies on display. — MNA/KZL



NATIONAL

Myanmar shares education vision at international ministers' forum in Russia

MYANMAR delegation led by Union Minister for Education Dr Nyunt Phay, who is currently in Kazan to attend the International Forum of Ministers of Education “Shaping the Future” on 11 and 12 June, received Russian Education Minister Mr Sergey Kravtsov at the meeting Hall of IT Park and discussed bilateral cooperation in the education sector.

The Union minister met journalists and observed the practical training session of a digital application for children at the IT Park building.

On 11 June morning, the Union minister observed the displays of digitalization of education in Russia.

During the occasion of the International Forum of Minis-



Union Minister Dr Nyunt Phay participates in the International Forum of Ministers of Education in Kazan on 11-12 June 2025.

ters of Education “Shaping the Future”, Russian President Mr Vladimir Putin and Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Sergey Lavrov

made speeches online.

The Head of Tatarstan and the Education Minister explained on the history of Russia, the im-

portant role of history in the curriculum and international cooperation in the education sector; and the participants discussed

the educational development measures.

After the forum, the Union minister held an informal meeting with Education and Science Minister Mr Pozdnyakov Valery Anatolyevich of Buryatia, met officials of Altai State Pedagogical University and signed the Road Map to implement collaboration between the universities.

In the evening, the Union minister joined the dinner hosted by the Russian Education Minister at Topaz (Crystal) Hall of Kazan Palace Hotel.

On 12 June morning, the Union minister attended the formal breakfast event of education ministers and observed the Adymnar Secondary School at noon. — MNA/KTZH

Donations for earthquake victims



Union Minister Dr Soe Win accepts the donation for quake survivors.

TO support necessary assistance and rehabilitation efforts for the victims of the Mandalay earthquake, U Soe Nyunt and Daw Khin Kyi (Kyanyopan Family) from Yangon Region donated K50 million to the Disaster

Management Committee (DMC) under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement. Union Minister Dr Soe Win received the donation, expressed gratitude, and presented a certificate of honour. — MNA/MKKS

Global aid pours into Myanmar as quake toll hits 3,749

AS of 13 June, a total of 3,749 people died, 5,104 were injured, and 57 remain missing in six regions and states of Myanmar that were severely affected by the powerful earthquake that struck on 28 March.

Search and rescue teams

from the Myanmar Fire Brigade, along with local and international rescue organizations, have been carrying out emergency operations in the affected areas without delay. So far, 653 people have been rescued alive from collapsed buildings,

and the bodies of 830 deceased persons have been recovered.

Local and foreign donors have been providing financial and material support to the affected people, with further announcements on donations forthcoming. — MNA/MKKS

Flash floods inundate Shwenyaung areas

IT has been flooding in most wards of Shwenyaung in northern Shan State, according to residents.

Due to a mountain stream flood resulting from continuous rain starting on 10 June, it has been flooding in Taunggyi, Shwenyaung and Yaksawk cities.

“It has rained non-stop. Shwenyaung encounters floods every year, and it happened earlier this year,” said a resident.

With heavy rain, the stream has flooded, leading to houses and streets covered in water in Yadana ward, Shwelibontha ward, Taryaw ward, Mingalar Shwebo ward, Kwanbon and Hesei.

It has also rained heavily in Nyaungshwe, Kalaw and Inlay, and a slight flood has happened too. Fire Services Department’s members and social workers have helped evacuate residents from flooded wards and villages in

Shwenyaung to a temporary flood relief camp set up at monasteries.

“Water hasn’t decreased in Shwenyaung today, even going up more. It has still been raining. We heard the road between Taunglaylone and Shwenyaung has flooded now,” said a resident. Flood happens in Shwenyaung in every monsoon season, but normally in September and October; however, it has started earlier in June this year. — Htun Htun/ZS

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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

## Aid reaches Sagaing, Mandalay communities amid ramp-up rehab efforts

RECOVERY and rehabilitation activities are energetically carried out in areas affected by the recent strong earthquake, with various organizations cooperating closely with local communities to restore religious structures and civilian buildings.

On 11 June, Lt-Gen Thet Pon from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and relevant officials inspected restoration activities at religious buildings in Sagaing that had sustained damage due to the earthquake. The team visited the Razamani Suhla Kaungmudaw Pagoda, Yadana Zedi Hsinmyashin Pagoda and the SunU Ponnyashin Pagoda to observe reconstruction progress and cleanliness efforts within the compounds. Refreshments were provided to volunteers, and assistance was coordinated to fulfil their needs.

Lt-Gen Thet Pon and officials also inspected debris clearance efforts using heavy machinery at earthquake-damaged religious buildings and civilian structures in Swanchakyak Ward and surrounding areas of Sagaing, including Shwezaydi Pariyatti Monastery, Affiliated Basic Education High School and other religious sites. Coordination was made on the necessary arrangements.

Furthermore, the delegation paid respects to the abbot of Dhammasila Monastery in Sagaing and donated 100 bags of cement for the reconstruction of religious buildings damaged by the earthquake.

In a similar effort to ensure the safety and success of students preparing to retake the 2025 matriculation examination, which was postponed due to fire damage caused by the 28 March earthquake, a coordination meeting was held at the Central Command headquarters in Mandalay. The meeting was attended by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung, Lt-Gen Myo Moe Aung and Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Commander of the Central Command Brig-Gen Kyaw Ko Htike, regional ministers and departmental officials.

The meeting discussed the storage and safeguarding of examination papers and answer sheets, readiness of exam centres, security and healthcare arrangements and inter-departmental cooperation to ensure smooth and safe exam conduct for all students. The meeting concluded with agreements on collaborative implementation.

Following the meeting, Lt-Gen Myo Moe Aung, accompanied by officials from the Mandalay Region Education Office, Mahaaungmye District and Township Education Officers, inspected examination centre preparations in Chanayethazan and Maha Aungmyay townships. They reviewed readiness for safe and smooth examination conditions, as well as healthcare support plans, and coordinated necessary adjustments.



Lt-Gen Thet Pon is pictured during his inspection tour in Sagaing on 11 June.

sonnel.

The team also visited the U Pwa Pagoda and the Ananda Buddha Image in Kyunlone Ooshaung Ward, Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay, focusing on the environmental cleanliness of exam centres, proper storage of examination documents, student safety and comfort and assistance with timely transportation during the exam period. Coordination was carried out with the responsible personnel.

Similarly, Lt-Gen Soe Tint Naing and officials inspected preparations in Amarapura Township, Mandalay, focusing on the environmental cleanliness of exam centres, proper storage of examination documents, student safety and comfort and assistance with timely transportation during the exam period. Coordination was carried out with the responsible personnel.

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## Artillery strike claims six lives in Kawkbaw, Kayin State

SIX innocent civilians, including two children aged four and nine, were killed when members of the KNLA and PDF terrorists launched an unprovoked heavy weapon attack on Kawkbaw Village in Kyondoe, Kawkaik Township, Kayin State, according to reports.

The incident occurred at around 5:30 pm on 12 June, when the insurgents fired heavy weapons from a location approximately 2,700 metres northeast of Kawkbaw Village. Artillery shells landed and exploded inside the village, instantly killing three civilians, including a four-year-old child. Three more villagers, including

a nine-year-old child, sustained critical injuries from shrapnel.

These three injured victims were transported to Hpa-an General Hospital for medical treatment, however tragically succumbed to their wounds on the way, bringing the death toll to six.

Reports indicate that such indiscriminate attacks by insurgents are frequently targeted at towns, villages and communities that do not support their violent campaigns. As a result, civilian casualties continue to rise. Local communities have condemned the attacks, and security personnel are reportedly working with

residents to implement necessary security measures in the area. — MNA/KZL



The location map of the attack perpetrated by the KNLA and PDF terrorists.

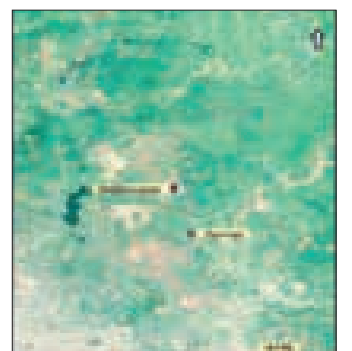
## 4 civilians injured in car bomb explosion in Mon State

KNU and PDF terrorists exploded a vehicle carrying one male and two female passengers driven by Myo Min Khant heading to Kyaikto from Theinzayet of Mon State on 12 June morning.

The explosion occurred near Baikkar village on the Yangon-Mawlamyine Road, and four civilians were injured. They were taken to Kyaikto People's Hospital for medical treatment.

The malicious media outlets intentionally spread false information claiming that during the mine attack on the Tatmadaw convoy, a vehicle that carried civilians exploded and the civilians were wounded. The terrorists frequently planted various homemade mines and

remote-controlled mines on public roads, resulting in casualties and injuries. The security forces conducted mine clearance operations and security measures to ensure the safety of the people. — MNA/KTZH



This image shows the incident location in which four civilians were injured in a car bomb explosion in Mon State.



# CBM sells US\$1.3M to fuel oil importing companies on 12 June

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$1.3 million that were bought from companies working on a Cutting-Making and Packaging basis, to fuel oil importing companies on 12 June 2025.

CBM sold over 290,000 yuan and one million baht on 11 June. Moreover, CBM sold US\$1.096 million that were bought from CMP companies, to fuel oil importing companies on that day.

CBM announced on 10 June that it would sell US\$32 million to fuel oil importers. CBM sold 600,000 yuan, 694,750 baht and over US\$730,440 from CMP companies to fuel oil importers on that day.

CBM pumped over 400,000 yuan on 9 June, over \$501,000 on 6 June and 364,400 yuan on



A tanker ship is seen docking at the terminal of Thilawa Port.

5 June into the FX market.

CBM announced on 4 June that it would sell US\$30 million to fuel oil importers. CBM

pumped US\$422,000, 345,850 yuan and over 2.1 million baht on that day into the forex market.

CBM injected over 600,000 yuan and 2.6 million baht on 3 June, 579,900 yuan and 4.7 million baht on 2 June, over

610,000 yuan and 2.4 million baht on 30 May after sales of 4.3 million baht on 28 May into the financial market.

CBM announced on 27 May that it would sell US\$30 million to fuel oil importers.

CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM’s notification on 15 March, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

## Lashio Development Committee invites bids for sanitation facility projects

LASHIO Township Development Committee invited interested local businesses to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to wholly invest in managing and collecting private waste disposal and sanitation facilities (urine and faeces).

Those interested must present their proposal to the EOI evaluation team within the set timeline. Only selected proposals will be proceeded with in line with the tender rules and regulations.

EOI form and documents can be purchased at the Lashio Township Development Committee’s Cleaning Division on 12-15 June 2025. The proposal must be submitted by 4:30 pm on 25 June.

Individuals can enquire about details through the contact number of the Lashio Township Development Committee at 09 5233042. — NN/KK

## Myanmar’s biggest food & drink expo returns to YCC, 27-29 June

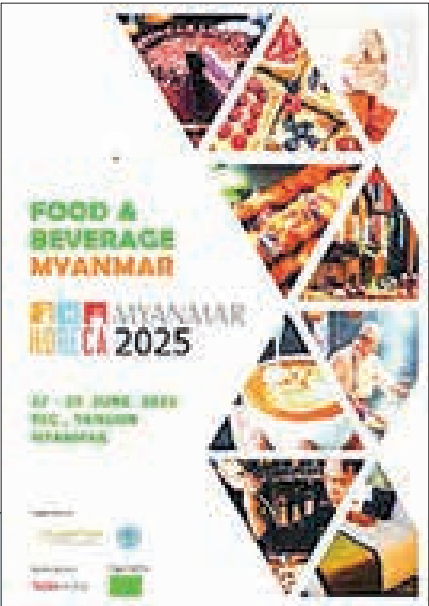
THE Food and Beverage Myanmar trade show will take place at the Yangon Convention Centre (YCC) in the complex of Inya Lake Hotel, Yangon, from 27 to 29 June 2025.

It will be a platform for companies to showcase their food and beverage products and services and offer a variety of food and beverages, meat, fish, dairy products, fruits, and

ready-to-eat food products for buyers.

This is a key event for the F&B industry, featuring the culinary artistry of famous chefs and other fun activities.

Those interested can enquire about details of the event through 09 43125185, 09 409400055, 09 409400066, and 09 409400077. — NN/KK



An invite poster for the food & drink expo.

### Public Notice

THE Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to curb corruption effectively.

The ACC used SMS on mobile phones to ask the public who sought services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via short code No “1111” for feedback, including the public feedback programme (PFP).

According to the PFP, the proper replies of the citizens via short code No “1111” will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.

Therefore, the public should reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at short code “1111”. Such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

Anti-Corruption Commission



# Admirably honour blood donors for their noble acts

ALL families of patients face bitter experiences whenever their patients become in an emergency in urgent need of blood infusion if they do not have links to blood donor groups. Fortunately, if their patients are ready to be blood donors, those families are so happy that they can hardly express it.

In everyday life, people often overlook the vital role blood plays in the human body. Yet, in medical emergencies, its importance becomes clear, along with the value of blood donation — a selfless act performed by donors without expectation of reward. To honour these lifesaving individuals around the globe, countries celebrate World Blood Donor Day (WBDD) each year. This event raises awareness about the need for safe blood and blood products and expresses gratitude to voluntary, unpaid donors for their life-saving contributions.

In Myanmar, there is one National Blood Centre and seven associated blood banks located in public general hospitals in Mandalay, Magway, Mawlamyine, Myitkyina, Taunggyi, Pathein, and Nay Pyi Taw. Blood banks have also been expanded and established in 200-bed and 100-bed hospitals, where they are operated in conjunction with laboratories. The Blood Management System (BMS) software is currently being installed and used. Emphasis is also being placed on ensuring patient safety (Blood Safety) in the administration of blood transfusions.

operated in conjunction with laboratories. The Blood Management System (BMS) software is currently being installed and used. Emphasis is also being placed on ensuring patient safety (Blood Safety) in the administration of blood transfusions.

Indeed, blood donors are often happy to give their blood to others in need. Whenever they have the opportunity to donate, they feel a deep sense of satisfaction. Their genuine willingness to help is both admirable and inspiring. By donating blood, they save the lives of patients in critical need. Their selfless and charitable actions offer hope and the chance for a longer life to many. This kind of fulfilment cannot be measured or replaced by material possessions. Blood donors can erect milestones along their lives in saving the lives of humans with their blood as they never hug their actions of donating blood for patients regardless of citizen and gender. Truly, blood donors are noble individuals who fulfil a vital duty to the human community.

ACCORDING to the nature of the world, there are both good and bad aspects of human society. Every person, at some point in their life, is likely to encounter something unpleasant. In such moments, instead of holding on to hope for the future, people often dwell more on the painful experiences of the past. This is what we call “pessimism”. Rejecting hope and filling both the body and mind with negativity — inside and out — can lead a person to become emotionally and socially disconnected.

Pessimism is not something that must be completely eradicated. Sometimes, it can simply be a perspective. However, that view should not be tightly held onto and allowed to cloud our vision. This article presents why that is something worth keeping in mind.

One of the reasons this happened is that those who uphold an extremist pessimism have had to go through life bitterly. Since their childhood, they may suffer from the impacts of too much bullying, poverty, pressure, coercion, scolding, severe punishment, more than faults, and the pessimism attitude of seniors in society.

Moreover, those holding on to pessimism intentionally organize followers with the dissemination of their pessimism. While talking about some topics based on pessimism, they support their pessimistic discussions with each other and draw conclusions based on pessimism. Hence, their talking points and critical thinking cannot break through the pessimism. Consequently, they cannot see or consider anything beyond pessimism.

## What is Pessimism?

Pessimism is the belief that nothing good can be expected in the future and that everything happening now is likely to result in negative outcomes. The content we often see in newspapers, social media, and on TV tends to reinforce this pessimistic outlook. Whether it's the economy, politics, or physical or mental health, people tend to focus only on the negative aspects.

Pessimism can harm a person's mindset and emotions. When people stop expecting anything positive from the future, they are more likely to experi-

# Don't cling too hard to pessimism

By April Son



Those who hold on to a negative mindset will always be troubled, while the optimists will live with joy and happiness. PHOTO: FREEPIK

ence discouragement, a decline in morale, and a growing sense of disconnect from the world around them.

## Why Should We Avoid Holding onto Pessimism?

- It damages mental health**  
Constantly embracing a pessimistic mindset can lead to depression and anxiety. When a person is repeatedly overwhelmed by negative thoughts and hopelessness, it becomes hard to see any light in their life, leaving them feeling emotionally exhausted and stuck.
- Loss of opportunities**  
When hope for good things fades, the drive to create a better future diminishes. The mindset of “It’s impossible” can destroy even the possibilities that are achievable, simply through negative thinking.
- Breakdown of Social Relationships**  
People tend to avoid those who are constantly dissatisfied, distrustful, and lack hope for the future. This creates distance and tension in relationships, leading to social isolation and weakened connections.

## Sometimes, what does pessimism help with?

Actually, it's not always a bad thing. In some situations, it simply acts as a step up — a kind of expectation that prompts us to be more cautious about the future.

- It helps ensure safety and better management by encouraging risk awareness.
- It can lead to thoughts that value happiness

see everything with an optimistic essence. If so, they can see most of the events which happen in society with the essence of optimism. In this regard, those who see everything in a negative sense will first suffer from the bad impacts of their thoughts. Those holding up the optimism will have the chance to enjoy peace of mind.

With regard to pessimism, I have a true story. While serving duties at a governmental department, a friend of mine worked together with me in the same workplace. But he joined such a workplace after me. So, he was a junior in my section automatically. He could show off his outstanding skill at work due to his higher concentration on the functions of the workplace. Despite the duties of a junior, he was more skilful than me as well as other seniors. In our workplace, we did not discriminate between the posts of junior and senior, although these were not set by the departmental rules.

However, my friend forgot the provisions related to the hierarchical rules of the department. All of us worked at night, so we all raised relations with one another, setting aside the strict departmental rules. At that time, as he was skilful in working, he had to be assigned to a higher post. He deserved to secure the senior post. Albeit not a personal attack on me, I knew he was never satisfied with the criteria for junior and senior posts. As such, he always scolded higher seniors and searched for faults in their work. He never talked about optimistic topics and did not praise others for their work results.

Indeed, I was very sorrowful to know the root causes of sparking his attitude. Since his childhood, he had lived in a staff quarter of an organization where his father served duties. He had known that some officers assigned his father heavily. If his father failed to accomplish the assignments, his father was scolded by those officers. My friend had bitterly seen such occurrences since his childhood. Such occurrences became scars on his soul. Moreover, their family was very poor due to the low income of his father. Consequently, my friend sought the best outlet for the mind to take a dependent environment. Furthermore, he was never satisfied with the

scolding of those officers and took revenge on them.

When he became an adult, he did not meet with those officers, but his revenge did not disappear from his mind. Therefore, he sought a third-party person on whom he would take his revenge. When he joined the workplace, he searched for prey to utilize his trauma. However, the organizational setup of relevant organizations did not allow bullying someone as prey. As such, he unintentionally disseminated his pessimism to others in the workplace.

First, his pessimism was useful in analyzing some events. His assessments of some occurrences were right, but these ideologies were based on pessimism. However, he forgot all occurrences and all things can be reviewed with two or more perspectives. The truth can be sought in the right things or in the wrong things, or in both right and wrong things. Except for four universal truths discoursed by

the Lord Buddha, even truths identified by society can change depending on the situation and time.

Gradually, my friend could not accept everything as he assessed these with pessimism. So, his soul was very tired. In the worst situation, the heads of the department who had handled the organization did not trust my friend because his attitude was not usual in the society of coworkers. Those officials accepted that my friend was dangerous to the workplace due to holding up productivity in all work processes. It was a time of failure in my friend's life. Officials of the organizations in successful eras did not count the successful work of my friends. Consequently, he lost all measures, including promotion of ranks in the workplace. His pessimism brought a great loss to his life. Finally, he left the workplace and waved to us, leaving a valuable lesson.

SEE PAGE 10

## Ode to the Rain-Kissed Sapling

By Min Zan

Beneath the monsoon's silver veil,  
The earth drinks deep, and the skies prevail.  
With every root, with every leaf,  
We sow the hope, we stem the grief.

Green guardians rise where storms once tore,  
Their branches weave a tranquil shore.  
For every child, for every dawn,  
A forest's hymn is softly drawn.

Oh, plant the seed, let life take wing  
A gift for time, an offering.  
For in this soil, both fierce and fond,  
Lies the future of the land we bond.



# NATIONAL/ARTICLE

## Botahtaung Pagoda to hold sacred Buddhist scripture recital & monk alms offering

THE Botahtaung Pagoda will host a ceremony to recite five Vinaya volumes, as well as to offer alms to 227 monks, on 17 and 18 June, according to the Botahtaung Pagoda Board of Trustees.

The recitation of five Vinaya volumes will take place from 12 to 18 June in the NanOo Pagoda area, located on the square of the Botahtaung Pagoda. The successful completion ceremony for the recitation will be held on 17 and 18 June, along with alms offerings to the 227 monks who participated in the Tipitakadhara Selection Examination.

The Vinaya's Five volumes were donated by well-wishers from Vietnam. On the morning of 12 June, the treaties were ceremonially carried by monks, who walked clockwise around



The successful ceremony was held for reciting five Vinaya volumes.

the pagoda on a chariot.

The ceremony was attended by three Tipitaka Sayadaws and 24 Venerable Sayadaws, led by the Chairman of the Yangon Region

Sangha Nayaka Committee, Aggamaha Pandita Aggamaha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Aggamaha Ganthavacaka Pandita Dr Bhaddanta Aggasami. — ASH/MKKS

## “Yat Yarzar” film launch ceremony held at Kyaikkasan Pagoda

THE launch ceremony for the feature film titled Yat Yarzar (Good day) took place at Kyaikkasan Pagoda in Thingangyun Township, Yangon, on 12 June, according to director Thar Nyi, who will take charge of directing the film.

The story and screenplay for the movie were written by Phyo Thinzar Kyaw, and the

film will be directed by Thar Nyi for Mhee Mhee Mhway Production.

“This is a horror-comedy film. It will make audiences laugh and enjoy themselves, but also feel scared at times. Not every spirit is terrifying—some are pitiable, and some are actually quite funny. We also want to share the mes-

sage that one should rise up with a kind heart. After all, every day is a Yat Yarzar,” said director Thar Nyi.

The film will feature a cast including Kyaw Htet Aung, Lin Thit Aung, Supan Htwa, Htet Htet Htun, Wailari, Myayar, May Mi Lin and many other artistes. — ASH/KZL

## Myanmar’s top Chinese learners shine at 2025 ‘Chinese Bridge’ finals

THE award ceremony to honour the winners of the 2025 “Chinese Bridge” Chinese Language Proficiency competition took place on 10 June in Yangon.

This competition was held in three categories (university, high school, and primary school), led by the Centre for Language Education and Cooperation and the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar and co-organized by Fuxing Confucius Classroom and the Myanmar Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

Luo Jiajia, Qiu Jingjing and Zheng Kaixu secured the first prize in their respective categories.

Ms Ma Jia, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr Li Qianguo, Minister-Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy, U Tin Oo, chairman of Myanmar-China Friendship Association, U Aik Tun, chairman of Myanmar Chinese Chamber of Commerce and

over 200 representatives from different industries were present at the ceremony.

Ms Ma Jia remarked that China-Myanmar diplomatic relations have marked their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The ceremony occurred coincidentally with International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations. The “Chinese Bridge” competition also contributes to the implementation of the Global Civilization Initiative (CGI). It will also attract young people to learn Chinese. I hope they explore the historic tradition and culture behind the language and can become China-Myanmar friendship diplomats.

U Tin Oo and U Aik Tun also delivered the remarks, respectively, highlighting the important role of the Chinese language proficiency competition in strengthening China-Myanmar friendship. — ASH/KK



This photo captures Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma Jia to Myanmar presenting prizes to the winners of the Chinese language proficiency competition.

## Don’t cling too hard to pessimism

FROM PAGE 9

### Uphold both optimism and pessimism in analyzing something

Practically, most people avoid relationships with pessimists, and they do not dare to seek suggestions and consultation from pessimists. This is because the idea of depending on pessimism may lead to failure

in initiating any project. It is necessary to review any incidents based on both optimism and pessimism; too much pessimism can not only prevent the best solution but also prevent an acceptable answer. Generally, pessimists never have a good opinion of anyone. Everyone those pessimists see becomes prey to their gossip. As such, many people are in fear of occurrences for their dignity,

so even if they unavoidably seek advice from a pessimist, they do not prefer the gossip of the pessimist about them.

Pessimism is a feeling that no one can be blamed for. Everyone can have perspectives that don’t align with hope. However, if you tightly cling to those negative views and willfully ignore other possibilities, it can cause serious harm throughout your life. An approach to address a problem with pessimism has the lowest percentage of securing success. It is because pessimists are never satisfied with everything and everybody. As they cannot keep a

clear soul, they do not have a fine facial appearance. Hence, they cannot keep abreast of optimists in facial appearances. Consequently, they have rare times of happiness and pleasure as well as smiling. That’s why the message “Don’t hold on tightly to pessimism” is a reminder that everyone should take to heart.

I don’t emphasize that anyone holds up pessimism. However, everyone must hold up both optimism and pessimism. They have to analyze and assess everything, applying both optimism and pessimism to have the best result in all issues. Especial-

ly, everybody needs to consider that in approaching a problem, using just optimism cannot reveal the truth. Likewise, pessimism alone cannot be useful in analyzing a problem in a correct manner. Only when everybody approaches any problem with both optimism and pessimism will they have the most appropriate and correct solution. One thing is certain: those who hold on to a negative mindset will always be troubled, while the optimists will live with joy and happiness.

# London museum opens vast ‘on-demand’ storehouse to public

*Princess Catherine was among the first visitors, describing the collection as eclectic.*

THE V&A Museum in London has launched an innovative exhibition space called the V&A Storehouse, allowing visitors to explore a vast collection of around 250,000 objects. Opened on 31 May, this revolutionary concept enables guests to order items for private viewings in a specially converted warehouse, free of charge. Senior curator Georgia Haseldine emphasized that the museum’s collection belongs to everyone and should be accessible to all.

The Storehouse features one-fifth of the museum’s total

collection, including ceramics, tapestries, and even a 15<sup>th</sup>-century gilded wooden ceiling. Notably, there is no protective glass, allowing visitors to engage directly with the artifacts. The space resembles a large warehouse, providing an informal atmosphere for exploration.

Among the first visitors was Princess Catherine, who described the collection as eclectic. The system allows guests to reserve objects for private viewings, with staff assisting them while they don purple gloves. — AFP



Britain’s Catherine, Princess of Wales talks with V&A director Tristram Hunt as he shows her round the V&A East Storehouse, a brand-new cultural destination in east London. **PHOTO: POOL/AFP**

## Date for Grammy Awards show 2026 announced, new categories unveiled

GRAMMY Awards are getting some changes. Yes, you read it right.

On Thursday, the Recording Academy revealed the key

dates for this 2026 ceremony and also announced a few updates to its rules and categories, as per The Hollywood Reporter.

The 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Grammy

Awards will be held on 1 February 2026, at Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles, with nominations set to be announced on 7 November 2025.

Perhaps most interesting among these new awards is best album cover, which, like the introduction of a best songwriter award three years ago, was a surprisingly long-time omission, especially considering the longtime presence of best liner notes and “packaging” awards (the two separate packaging awards have been combined into one).

“The Academy’s top priority is to represent the music people that we serve each year,” said Harvey Mason jr, CEO of the Recording Academy. “That entails listening carefully to our members to make sure our rules and guidelines reflect today’s music and allow us to accurately recognize as many deserving creators as possible. — ANI



The 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Grammy Awards will be held on 1 February 2026 at Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles, with nominations set to be announced on 7 November 2025. **PHOTO: ANI**

## New T-Rex ancestor discovered in drawers of Mongolian institute

FORGOTTEN fossils tucked away in a Mongolian institute for 50 years have turned out to be a newly identified ancestor of the T-Rex, offering fresh insights into the predator’s tangled lineage.

Misidentified bones that languished in the drawers of a Mongolian institute for 50 years belong to a new species of tyrannosaur that rewrites the family history of the mighty T-Rex, scientists said Wednesday.

This slender ancestor of the

massive Tyrannosaurus Rex was around four metres (13 feet) long and weighed three quarters of a tonne, according to a new study in the journal Nature.

“It would have been the size of a very large horse,” study co-author Darla Zelenitsky of Canada’s University of Calgary told AFP.

The fossils were first dug up in southeastern Mongolia in the early 1970s but at the time were identified as belonging to a different tyrannosaur, Alectrosaurus. — AFP

## Rick Moranis to reprise his role in ‘Spaceballs’ sequel

ACTORS Bill Pullman and Rick Moranis are set to reprise their respective roles as Lone Starr and Dark Helmet in the new ‘Spaceballs’ movie from Amazon MGM Studios, reported Deadline.

Actor Keke Palmer (One of Them Days) will also join the cast, as per the sources as quoted by Deadline. The addition of Moranis is one of the big highlights of the ‘Spaceballs’ sequel, as the actor hasn’t

been seen much on the screen for decades. The original film’s director and star, Mel Brooks, will feature in the cast again, reprising his role as Yogurt.

Slated for release in theatres in 2027, the film has been described by those who have not yet read the script as “A Non-Prequel Non-Reboot Sequel Part Two but with Reboot Elements Franchise Expansion Film,” reported Deadline. — ANI



# ECONOMY WORLD

## Driven by AI and Cloud computing, Digital Economy of India is projected to grow by 13.4%

*Broadband connections surged by 1452 per cent, increasing from 61 million (6.1 crores) in March 2014 to 949.2 million (94.92 crores) in August 2024.*

INDIA has made remarkable progress in last 11 years in its journey to becoming a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy, according to release by Press Information Bureau.

According to the release, the digital economy, which contributed 11.74 per cent to the national income in 2022-23, is projected to grow to 13.42 per cent by 2024-25, fuelled by advancements in AI, cloud computing, and digital infrastructure.

Over the past 11 years, India has experienced a significant expansion in mobile networks and improved internet connectivity, particularly in rural areas. Total telephone connections increased from 93.3 crores in March 2014 to over 120 crores in April 2025.

Additionally, Internet connections saw a remarkable 285.53



In India, residents in rural areas are increasingly using smartphones and tablets, highlighting the remarkable expansion of mobile networks and improved internet connectivity across these regions. **PHOTO: FREEPIK**

per cent growth, jumping from 25.15 crores in March 2014 to 96.96 crores in June 2024. Broadband connections also surged by 1452 per cent, from 6.1 crores in March 2014 to 94.92 crores in August 2024. The cost of wireless data has plummeted from ₹308 per GB in 2014 to just ₹9.34 in 2022, making digital services more affordable.

Furthermore, the BharatNet project has connected over 2.18 lakh Gram Panchayats with high-speed internet as of January 2025.

The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has emerged as the backbone of digital transactions over the last 11 years, with over 1,867.7 crore transactions worth ₹24.77 lakh crore in April 2025 alone. India accounted for 49 per cent of global real-time payments in 2023. — ANI

## Development projects inaugurated in Afghanistan to improve economy

AFGHAN authorities have inaugurated development projects in eastern Laghman and Khost provinces to improve the economy and create employment, state-owned Bakhtar news agency reported on Friday.

The projects, which cost

more than US\$743,000, include the construction of a canal, check dams, a bridge, and other infrastructure facilities, the report said, adding that the projects have been inaugurated with financial support from private and government organizations. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 29 April 2024 shows the construction site of a major road in Kabul, capital of Afghanistan. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

## How \$100T debt time bomb fuels America's looming fiscal crisis

THE \$34 trillion US debt is just the tip of the iceberg — unfunded obligations make the insolvency crisis far worse, Marc Ostwald, chief economist at ADM Investor Services International, told Sputnik.

The unfunded liabilities —over \$100 trillion — from Medicare and Social Security don't show up on traditional debt balance sheets, but they are very real long-term obligations, he emphasized, noting: "No one wants to talk about it in political circles, because the problem is so large and no one has a clue how to resolve it."

**Unsustainable pay-as-you-go**

There is no pool of funds for these programmes, as payments going into them by workers are used to pay out the benefits for retirees, Action Economics Principal Director Michael R. Englund explains.



A protestor holds a sign during a demonstration opposing the repeal of the Affordable Care Act. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

In the past, this system worked because:

- There were more workers per retiree.
- People didn't live as long.
- The population was younger overall.

Changed demographics mean this imbalance is creating a structural deficit feeding into the broader insolvency threat.

Since then-President George W Bush's aborted attempt in 2001, no major reforms have been attempted, Englund noted. "Democrats want to increase the tax payments and Republicans want to delay the retirement age, and neither side is willing to budge," he said. — SPUTNIK

# Airlines halt many Middle East flights after Israel hits Iran

GLOBAL airlines on Friday cancelled flights to Tel Aviv, Tehran and other Middle East destinations, or rerouted planes, as airspaces shut following Israeli strikes on Iran.

Israel, Iran, Iraq, Jordan and Syria closed their airspaces after Israel hit military and nuclear facilities in Iran. Israel said Tehran launched drones in retaliation.

Air India's New Delhi-Vienna and Mumbai-London flights were about to enter Iranian airspace when Israel launched its attack, forcing the planes to turn



Many flights in or across the Middle East were suspended or rerouted because of the Israeli attacks on Iran, and Tehran's likely retaliation. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

back to their origin, according to aircraft tracker Flight Aware.

Its London-New Delhi flight had just entered

Iranian airspace and was rerouted over Iraq before arriving in India one hour late, according to Flight Aware.

Air India diverted or called back a total of 16 flights between India and London and cities in Canada and the United States "due to the emerging situation in Iran".

Emirates, the Middle East's largest airline, cancelled flights to and from Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Iran after Israel launched the strikes.

Qatar Airways, the country's national carrier and one of the Middle East's largest, said it had "temporarily cancelled flights to Iran and Iraq due to (the) current situation in the region". — AFP

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NJ MOON VOY.NO. (02/2025)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NJ MOON VOY.NO. (02/2025)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-6-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.  
Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

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M.V SITC HAIPHONG VOY.NO. (2514S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC HAIPHONG VOY.NO. (2514S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-6-2025** 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. (0UVDQS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PADIAN 3 VOY.NO. (0UVDQS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-6-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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 PTE LTD**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (153W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (153W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-6-2025** 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V VINASHIP GOLD VOY.NO. (05/2025)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V VINASHIP GOLD VOY.NO. (05/2025)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **14-6-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **YIGTL** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.  
Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V BAOLI VOY.NO. (105675)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BAOLI VOY. NO. (105675)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-6-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT-4** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.  
Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S CHUNG AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISITCS CO LTD**

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ACHILLEUS VOY.NO. (02/25)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ACHILLEUS VOY.NO. (02/25)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-6-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MKH** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.  
Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department  
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

**M/S WILSELMSSEN PORT SERVICE (S) PTE LTD**



# GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS:

## FEATURED REPORTS FOR THIS WEEK



**I**SRAEL on Friday carried out dozens of airstrikes in Iran, hitting nuclear and military sites and killing several commanders and nuclear scientists.

Iran immediately responded by launching drones against Israel, and called the Israeli attack “a declaration of war”.

US President Donald Trump — although saying his country was not involved — warned Iran there will be more “death and destruction”.

International calls for restraint are multiplying, as fears grow the Middle East could be on the threshold of a broader conflict.

Here is what we know:

### What was hit?

The attacks started in the early hours of Friday — a day of rest and prayer in Iran.

Israel hit a key underground nuclear site in Natanz several times, Iranian state television said, reporting that most damage was at “surface level”.

Other key nuclear sites at Fordow and Isfahan were not immediately struck, said the UN nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency, citing Iranian authorities.

Additional strikes were reported against sites in Iran’s northwest.

The head of Iran’s Revolutionary Guards, Hossein Salami, and the chief of staff of its armed forces, Mohammad Bagheri, were killed, with replacements

# Israel strikes Iran: what we know

*Iran launched drones against Israel in retaliation and labelled the Israeli attack as “a declaration of war”.*



Buildings in Tehran were hit in the wave of Israeli airstrikes. **PHOTO: TASNIM NEWS/AFP**

swiftly named by supreme leader Ali Khamenei. The Revolutionary Guards said that its aerospace commander, Amirali Hajizadeh, was also killed. He was in charge of Iran’s ballistic missile forces.

Iranian media said several nuclear scientists were killed. Iran said 95 people were wounded.

State television said senior

Khamenei adviser Ali Shamkhani was hurt in one of the strikes.

The Israeli raids will “continue as many days as it takes”, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said.

### Iran’s response?

Iran launched some 100 drones in retaliation, according to the Israeli military, which said

“most” were intercepted outside Israeli territory.

The bigger concern is Iran’s sizeable arsenal of ballistic missiles.

Khamenei warned Israel faces a “bitter and painful” fate over the attacks.

Iran’s foreign minister called the Israeli attacks “a declaration of war” and urged UN Security

Council action.

Iran had previously warned it would hit US military bases in the Middle East if conflict occurred. The United States pulled out non-essential personnel from several sites days ahead of the Israeli attack.

Internet restrictions were imposed across Iran, the country’s communications ministry said, adding they would be lifted “once normalcy returns”.

### US involvement?

Trump said Israel warned him of its raids ahead of time, but insisted the United States was not involved. He warned Iran that the “next planned attacks” will be “even more brutal” and said Tehran should cut a deal to roll back its nuclear programme “before there is nothing left”. The US leader has repeatedly said he will not allow Iran to develop nuclear weapons.

Tehran has long denied seeking atomic bombs, but had been enriching uranium to a level very close to be able to make them.

The United States and Iran had been holding talks on the issue. The next round, scheduled for Sunday in Oman, now looked to be cancelled. — AFP

# Anthropic says looking to power European tech with hiring push

AMERICAN AI giant Anthropic aims to boost the European tech ecosystem as it expands on the continent,

product chief Mike Krieger told AFP Thursday at the Vivattech trade fair in Paris.

The OpenAI competitor wants to be “the engine behind some of the largest startups of tomorrow... (and) many of them can and should come from Europe”, Krieger said.

Tech industry and political leaders have often lamented Europe’s failure to capitalize on its research and education strength to build heavyweight local companies — with many young found-

ers instead leaving to set up shop across the Atlantic.

Krieger’s praise for the region’s “really strong talent pipeline” chimed with an air of continental tech optimism at Vivattech.

French AI startup Mistral on Wednesday announced a multibillion-dollar tie-up to bring high-powered computing resources from chip behemoth Nvidia to the region.

The semiconductor firm will “increase the amount of AI computing capacity in Europe by a factor of 10” within two years, Nvidia boss Jensen Huang told

an audience at the southern Paris convention centre. Among 100 planned continental hires, Anthropic is building up its technical and research strength in Europe, where it has offices in Dublin and non-EU capital London, Krieger said. Beyond the startups he hopes to boost, many long-standing European companies “have a really strong appetite for transforming themselves with AI”, he added, citing luxury giant LVMH, which had a large footprint at Vivattech.

### ‘Safe by design’

Mistral — founded only in 2023 and far smaller than American industry leaders like OpenAI and Anthropic — is nevertheless “definitely in the conversation” in the industry, Krieger said. — AFP



As the AI race heats up, so does the race to find talent in the sector.  
**PHOTO: AFP**

SPORTS

ONE championship:  
Myanmar fighters deliver  
knockout spectacle

ONE Friday Fights 112 took place on 13 June in Bangkok, Thailand, where three Myanmar fighters stepped into the ring. Among them, Thway Linn Htet and Saw Min Min both secured knockout victories, while Moe Htet Aung suffered a decision loss.

In the co-main event, Thway Lin Htet faced Thai fighter Kritpet and won by knockout just one minute and 43 seconds into the first round. Although both fighters tested each other in the early moments, Thway Linn Htet's decisive spinning elbow found its target, forcing Kritpet to accept defeat. This victory marked

Thway Linn Htet's fourth win in five ONE appearances, including three consecutive wins. He was awarded a 350,000-baht bonus from ONE CEO Chatrri Sityodtong for his performance.

Saw Min Min also impressed with a knockout win against young Australian fighter Trowbridge. He finished the bout at two minutes and 53 seconds in the third round. From the start, Saw Min Min dominated with clean punching combinations, gradually overwhelming his opponent. His strikes consistently landed throughout all three rounds, culminating in a deci-



Myanmar fighter floors Australian opponent with devastating combo. PHOTO: ONE

sive knockout near the end of the bout.

Meanwhile, Moe Htet Aung faced an experienced Thai fighter, Khunponnoi. The fight went the distance, and the decision

was made based on points. Moe Htet Aung started strong in the first round with effective punches, but Khunponnoi soon took control using his ring experience. He neutralized Moe Htet

Aung's attacks with leg kicks and relied heavily on knee strikes to dominate the later rounds. This marked Moe Htet Aung's second consecutive loss in ONE. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Liverpool agree  
club-record deal  
to sign Wirtz

LIVERPOOL have made a major statement in the transfer market by securing a sensational deal for Florian Wirtz that could rewrite the British transfer record.

Liverpool have agreed a club-record deal worth up to £116 million (\$157 million) to sign attacking midfielder Florian Wirtz from Bayer Leverkusen, it was widely reported on Friday.

British media reported that the Premier League champions would pay an initial £100 million, comfortably surpassing

their own record outlay, but the performance-related add-ons, if achieved, would make it a potential British record.

Reports in Germany suggested the potential fee could rise to 150 million euros (£127 million, \$172 million).

Liverpool's total spend on the 22-year-old Germany international could surpass the £115 million Chelsea agreed to pay Brighton in 2023 for Moises Caicedo, who turned down Anfield. — AFP



Germany midfielder Florian Wirtz is reportedly on his way to Liverpool. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

'I have left a big piece  
of my heart at  
Brentford', says new  
Spurs boss Frank

THOMAS Frank said on Friday he had "left a big piece of my heart" at Brentford after taking on the daunting task of reviving Tottenham's Premier League fortunes.

Spurs announced the Dane as their new head coach on a three-year deal on Thursday, as a replacement for the sacked Ange Postecoglou.

Frank, 51, won 136 of his 317 matches across a seven-year spell at Brentford, taking them into the Premier League in 2021.

In an emotional message



Thomas Frank has left Brentford to become Tottenham manager. PHOTO: AFP

posted on Brentford's website Frank said: "The time has come for me to move on. But, even as I leave, I know I have left a big piece of my heart

at Brentford, not just at the football club but with the community and, of course, the incredible and loyal supporters. — AFP

Scheffler opens with birdie as US Open  
leader Spaun starts late

Top-ranked Scottie Scheffler opened with a birdie while Spain's Jon Rahm began with a bogey in Friday's US Open second round with leader JJ Spaun was set for an afternoon start.

Spaun's four-under par 66 opening round on Thursday matched the lowest first-round score in a US Open at Oakmont and was only

the eighth bogey-free first round ever conjured at the iconic layout.

The American's career-low major round put him one stroke ahead of South African Thriston Lawrence with five-time major winner Brooks Koepka and South Koreans Im Sung-jae and Kim Si-woo sharing third on 68. — AFP





# WORLD

## Iran says Israel attack ‘declaration of war’

*Iran described the strikes as a “declaration of war,” with Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warning of severe consequences for Israel.*

**IN** A major escalation in the Middle East, Israel has launched strikes on Iran targeting nuclear and military sites, killing senior commanders and scientists, as both sides warn of imminent retaliation.

Iran called Israel’s wave of strikes on Friday a declaration of war, while US President Donald Trump warned Tehran of “even more brutal” attacks if it does not make a deal on its nuclear programme.

Israel said its air strikes had killed most of the senior leadership of the Revolutionary Guards’ air force, while hitting about 100 targets including nuclear facilities.

Iran’s supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warned Israel it faced a “bitter and painful” fate over the attacks, while Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi described the attack as a “declaration of war”. The Israeli military said Iran launched around 100 drones, with air de-

fences intercepting them outside Israeli territory, while neighbouring Jordan said it intercepted drones and missiles that violated its airspace.

Trump urged Iran on Friday to “make a deal”, warning that there will be more “death and destruction” after Israel launched deadly strikes targeting Iranian nuclear facilities.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel struck at the “heart of Iran’s nuclear enrichment programme”, taking aim at nuclear scientists and the main uranium enrichment facility in Natanz.

The strikes killed Iran’s highest-ranking military officer, armed forces chief of staff Mohammad Bagheri, and the head of the Revolutionary Guards, Hossein Salami, Iranian media reported.

Iran confirmed the Guards aerospace commander had been killed, along with “a group of brave and dedicated fighters”. — AFP



This handout photo released by Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) official Sepah News Telegram channel on June 13, 2025 reportedly shows a building in Tehran hit in an Israeli strike. **PHOTO: SEPAH NEWS/AFP**

## King Tut gold mask to leave Cairo museum after nearly 100 years

**AFTER** nearly a century in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo, King Tutankhamun’s iconic gold mask and remaining treasures are set to move to the new Grand Egyptian Museum near the Giza Pyramids.

Visitors have just days left to see the boy king’s world-famous gold funerary mask before it joins more than 5,000 artefacts from his tomb at the GEM, a \$1-billion megaproject opening on July 3.



The golden funerary mask of King Tutankhamun is displayed at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. **PHOTO: AFP**

“Only 26 objects from the Tutankhamun collection, including the golden mask and two coffins, remain here in Tahrir,” said museum director Ali Abdel Halim.

“All are set to be moved soon,” he told AFP, without confirming a specific date for the transfer.

The government has yet to officially announce when or how the last artefacts will be relocated.

Still on display are the innermost gold coffin, a gilded coffin, a gold dagger, cosmetic box, miniature coffins, royal diadem and pectorals.

Tutankhamun’s treasures, registered at the Egyptian Museum on Cairo’s Tahrir square in 1934, have long been its crown jewels. — AFP

### SAFETY FIRST FOR ISRO

## Elon Musk raises concerns over ISS safety, urges de-orbiting within 2 years

ELONMUSK has voiced serious concerns over the long-term safety of the International Space Station (ISS), citing the ageing condition of its components, and called for its de-orbiting within two years despite SpaceX’s ongoing involvement.

“There are potentially serious concerns about the long-term safety of the @Space\_Station. Some parts of it are simply getting too old, and that risk grows over time.

“Even though @SpaceX earns billions of dollars from transporting astronauts & cargo to the ISS, I nonetheless would like to go on record recommending that it be de-orbited

within 2 years,” Musk posted on X.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is collaborating with Axiom Space, NASA, and SpaceX to address safety concerns related to the ISS Zvezda module, which has caused a delay in the Ax-4 mission.

ISRO Chairman V Narayanan emphasized that safety and mission integrity are top priorities. SpaceX announced the postponement of the Falcon 9 launch for Ax-4, originally scheduled for June 11, 2025, due to a liquid oxygen leak that requires additional repair time. — ANI