



MYANMAR WEEKLY

29 June – 04 July 2026

BY Shrishti Chauhan



Vientiane state visit

Min Aung Hlaing's Laos state visit

7 2 9 50m kyat
4

AA launches 'Laong Pao'

Arakan Army launches its own lottery



~half of kids out of school

War keeps millions of kids out of school

POLITICS

- Min Aung Hlaing arrives in Vientiane on July 3 for a state visit to Laos, a calculated diplomatic turn as the regime courts ASEAN neighbours ahead of planned elections.
- The Arakan Army launches its own 'Arakan Lottery' (Laong Pao) on July 1 as a high-stakes state-revenue engine, awarding a 50-million-kyat first prize and asserting judicial sovereignty in Rakhine.
- Analysts frame the AA as a de facto sovereign power, building banks, courts and tax systems across the townships it controls.
- The post-June-16 Beijing summit continues to shape the regime's positioning between China, Russia and ASEAN.

ECONOMY

- The AA's lottery and plans to recruit banking professionals signal a push toward a Rakhine financial system independent of the junta's kyat.
- The Rakhine blockade keeps basic-goods prices roughly five times central-Myanmar levels as shortages deepen.
- The parallel-market kyat weakens further toward ~4,480/USD against the pegged official 2,100.
- The military and allied Border Guard Force move to reclaim lucrative Myawaddy criminal networks on the Thai border.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

- Min Aung Hlaing's Laos state visit marks a bid to normalise ties with ASEAN core members.
- China-India-Bangladesh triangular tension over Rakhine sharpens as the AA consolidates control.
- Bangladesh's border fence draws AA warnings that real security requires engaging Rakhine's de facto authorities.
- The regime continues to lean on Beijing and Moscow for diplomatic and material support.

INTERNAL SECURITY

- A second KNU/KNLA-PC officer is arrested amid a military-Border Guard Force push to reclaim Myawaddy's criminal economy.
- Crime thrives along the China border even as the regime urges Chinese expats to vouch for tourist-site safety.
- Conscription strains persist; the junta says deserters won't be punished for minor crimes amid troop shortages.
- Marauding regime troops loot homes across Hpakan's Lone Khin tract.

DEFENCE

- The Arakan Army's pincer closes on Sittwe against heavy fortifications and civilians held as human shields; warships mass closer to shore.
- The regime steps up airstrikes on civilian targets in northern Rakhine as its map shrinks.
- The military presses its Chin/Magwe corridor campaign toward Hakha and the Tedim-Kale route to secure India-border trade.
- The AA holds 14 of Rakhine's 17 townships plus Paletwa while extending offensives into Ayeyarwady and Bago.

HEALTH

- The Rakhine blockade keeps over two million people at risk of severe food insecurity, with prices multiples of central-Myanmar levels.
- Fleeing marauding troops and airstrikes, villagers urgently need food, medicine and shelter, aid groups say.

EDUCATION

- Violence and poverty keep nearly half of school-age children out of school as the regime continues deadly air raids on schools.
- The AA builds parallel civil administration, including education, across the territory it controls.

SOCIETY

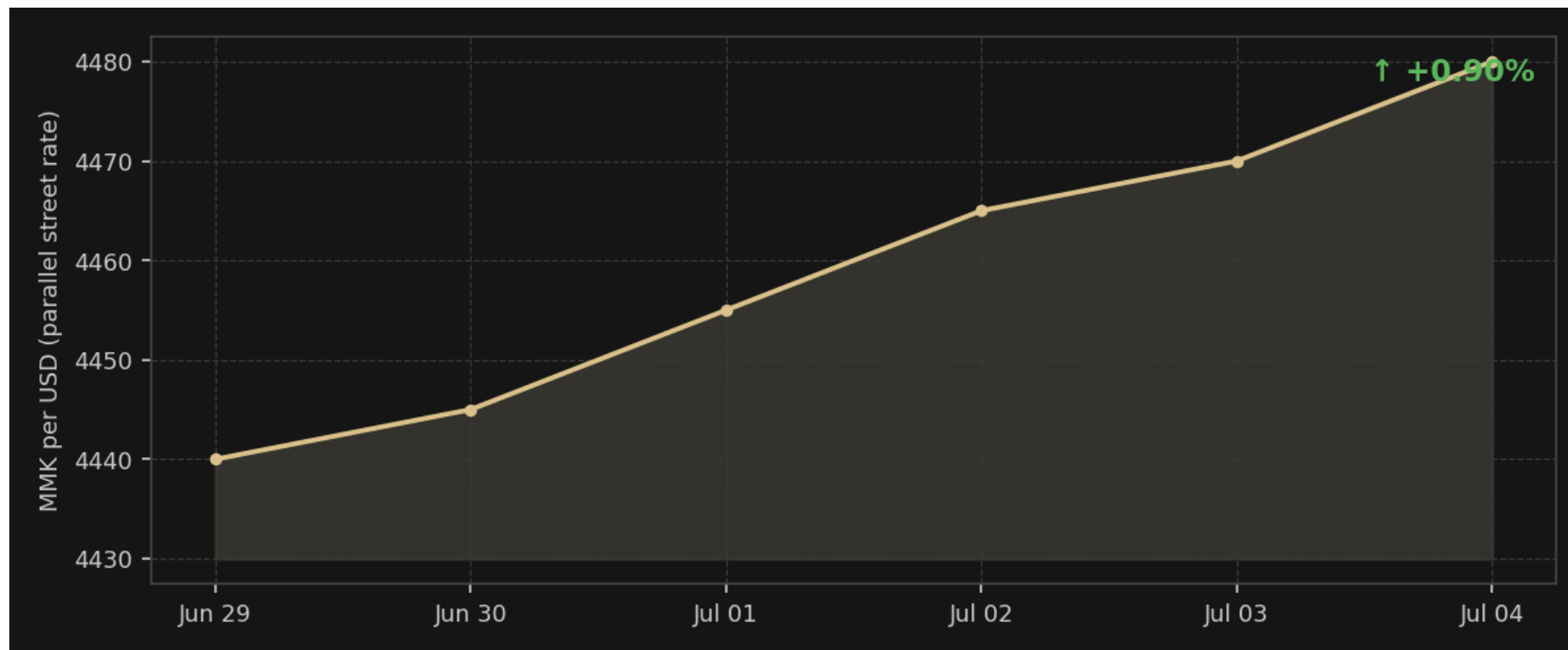
- The AA's Laong Pao lottery debut, held with traditional Rakhine ceremonies, signals a maturing administration.
- Alan Nichols (1937-2026), a lifelong advocate for Myanmar refugees and dissidents, is mourned.
- Displacement mounts across multiple fronts as villagers flee raids and airstrikes.
- Statue removals and symbol changes continue as the regime reshapes public space.

Sr No	Date	Sector	News Headlines	Source
1	29 Jun 2026	Defence	AA's pincer closes on Sittwe against heavy fortifications and human shields	The Irrawaddy
2	30 Jun 2026	Defence	Regime steps up airstrikes on civilian targets in northern Rakhine as its map shrinks	The Irrawaddy
3	30 Jun 2026	Internal Security	Marauding regime troops loot homes across Hpakan's Lone Khin village tract	The Irrawaddy
4	1 Jul 2026	Politics	Arakan Army launches its own 'Laong Pao' lottery with a 50-million-kyat first prize	Shan Herald
5	1 Jul 2026	Economy	AA recruits banking professionals to build a Rakhine financial system independent of the kyat	Shan Herald
6	2 Jul 2026	Education	Violence and poverty keep nearly half of school-age children out of school	The Irrawaddy
7	2 Jul 2026	Internal Security	Second KNU/KNLA-PC officer arrested amid a push to reclaim Myawaddy criminal networks	The Irrawaddy
8	3 Jul 2026	Foreign Affairs	Min Aung Hlaing arrives in Vientiane for a state visit to Laos	Shan Herald

Sr No	Date	Sector	News Headlines	Source
9	3 Jul 2026	Politics	Analysts frame the AA as a de facto sovereign power building banks, courts and taxes	Shan Herald
10	3 Jul 2026	Defence	Military presses its Chin and Magwe corridor campaign toward Hakha	The Irrawaddy
11	3 Jul 2026	Foreign Affairs	Bangladesh's border fence draws AA warnings that security needs engagement	The Irrawaddy
12	4 Jul 2026	Economy	Rakhine blockade keeps basic-goods prices roughly five times central-Myanmar levels	The Irrawaddy
13	4 Jul 2026	Internal Security	Regime says deserters won't be punished for minor crimes amid troop shortages	The Irrawaddy
14	4 Jul 2026	Economy	Parallel-market kyat weakens toward ~4,480/USD against the pegged official 2,100	The Irrawaddy
15	4 Jul 2026	Health	Villagers fleeing raids and airstrikes urgently need food, medicine and shelter	The Irrawaddy
16	4 Jul 2026	Society	Refugee advocate Alan Nichols (1937-2026) is mourned across the Myanmar diaspora	The Irrawaddy

Sr No	Date	Sector	News Headlines	Source
17	4 Jul 2026	Society	AA's ceremonial lottery debut signals a maturing Rakhine administration	Shan Herald

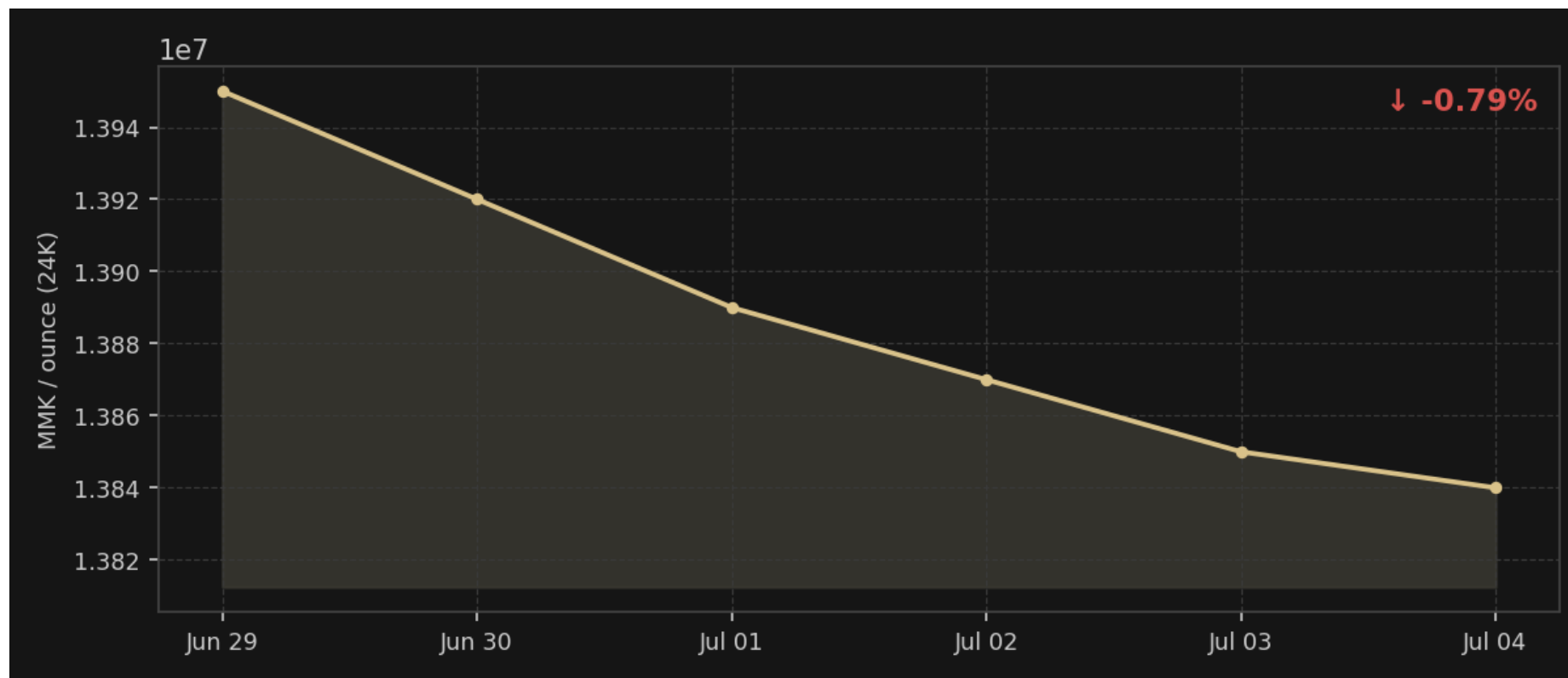
USD/MMK Exchange Rate (Parallel Street Rate)



The street rate weakened toward ~4,480/USD; the official CBM rate stays pegged far stronger at 2,100.

Indicative weekly series compiled from reported market data; interim points are approximations where official daily closes were unavailable.

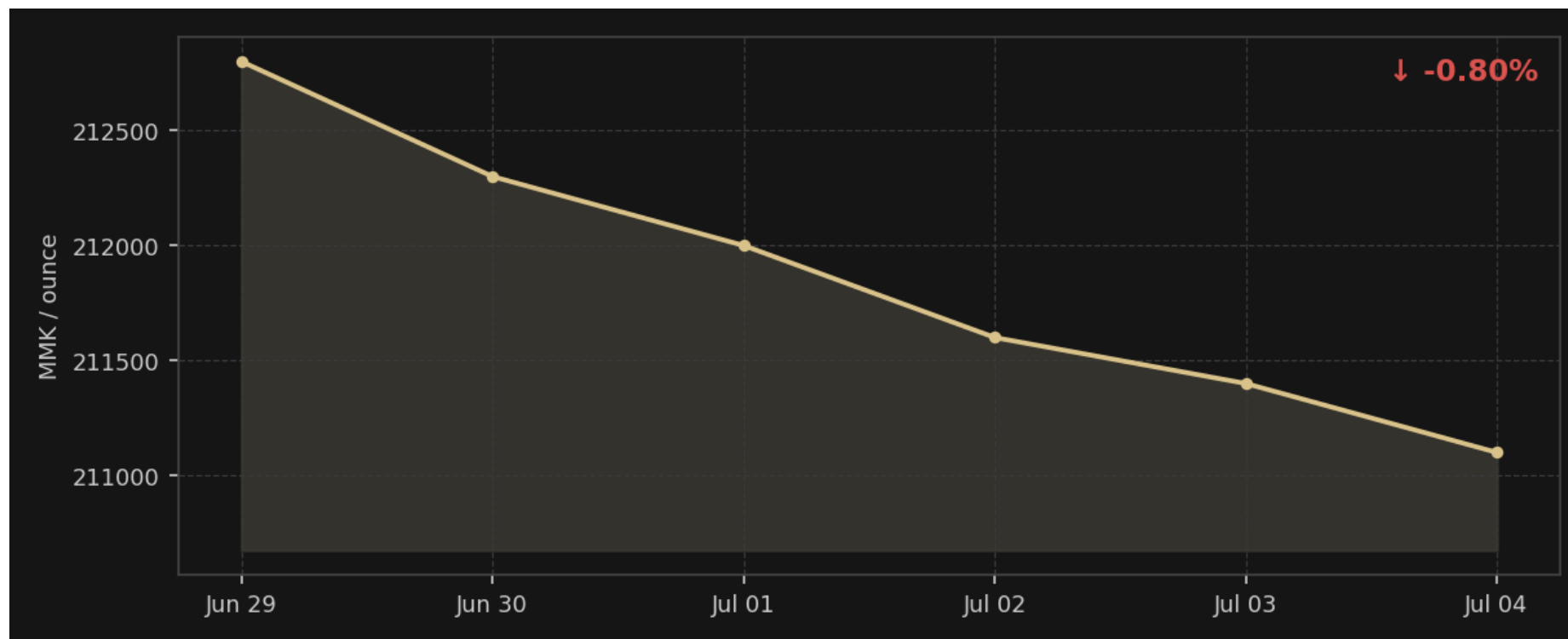
Gold Prices (in Myanmar Kyat/Ounce)



Kyat gold eased modestly with softer world prices (24K, ≈market quotes).

Indicative weekly series compiled from reported market data; interim points are approximations where official daily closes were unavailable.

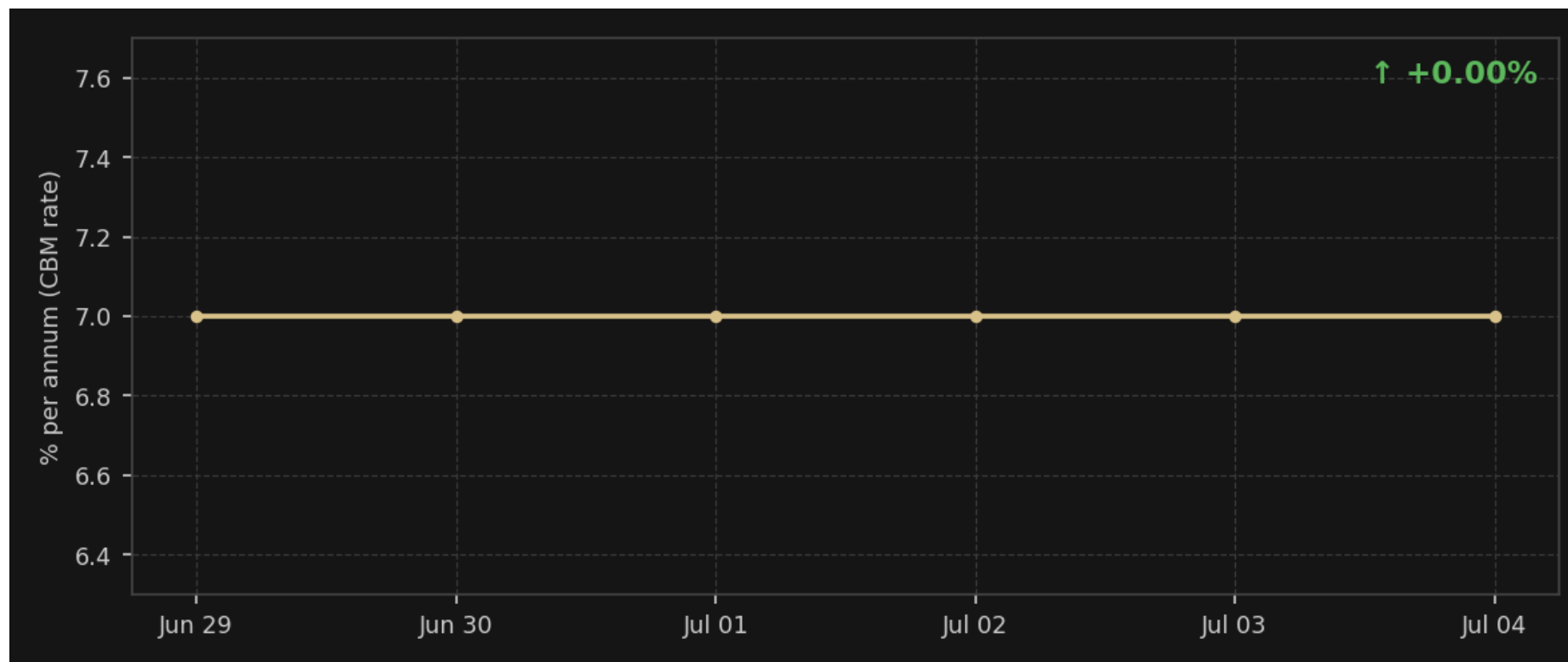
Silver Prices (in Myanmar Kyat/Ounce)



Spot-derived silver slipped in kyat terms, tracking world prices.

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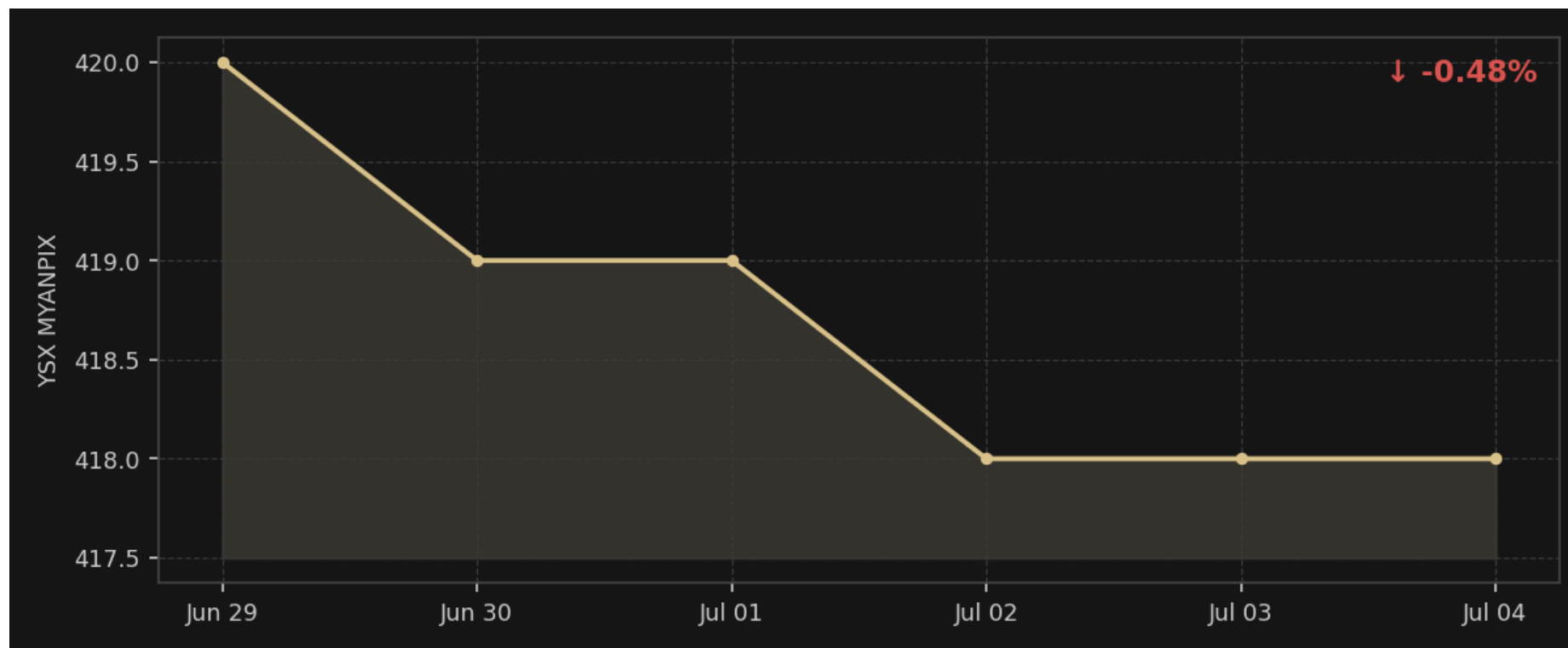
Central Bank of Myanmar — Central Bank Rate



The CBM's key rate was unchanged at 7.0% through the week, where it has stood since 2020.

Indicative weekly series compiled from reported market data; interim points are approximations where official daily closes were unavailable.

Yangon Stock Exchange — MYANPIX Index



The thinly traded MYANPIX drifted marginally lower amid minimal turnover.

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