

Coffee lovers enjoy 9 flavours from 4 coffee-producing countries

AS the culture of drinking pure coffee continues to gain popularity in Yangon, more consumers are enjoying nine different coffee flavours sourced from four major coffee-producing countries at Tower 7 Yangon Speciality Heart Coffee Bar, located within the Secretariat in downtown Yangon.

At the coffee bars inside the Secretariat, Arabica coffee beans from Myanmar, Thailand, Ethiopia and Colombia are freshly ground in front of customers and served either as hot or cold coffee. The coffee bars also display high-quality Arabica beans produced in PyinOoLwin, Myanmar; **SEE PAGE 4**



This photo captures a coffee bar at Yangon's historic Secretariat (former Minister's Office.)



Plans to expand direct air services by linking Bagan in Myanmar and Siem Reap in Cambodia as sister cities.

Myanmar, Cambodia boost air links, twin Bagan-Siem Reap

MYANMAR and Cambodia are planning to expand direct air services between the two countries, with discussions under way to link Bagan in Myanmar and Siem Reap in Cambodia as sister cities and introduce additional direct flights between the two destinations.

Deputy Minister at the Office of the President Dr Khine Khine Soe said direct flights expansion would bring immediate benefits to the hotel and tourism sectors.

“Siem Reap and Bagan are sister cities, and we will continue working to strengthen this link. We also plan to continue implementing the ‘Two Countries, One Destination’ initiative. In connection with expanding direct flights, we have discussed exporting some agricultural and industrial products from Myanmar to Cambodia,” she said. — ASH/MKKS

Passport Extensions: Warning About Unethical Applications

THE Myanmar Embassy in Malaysia has warned that unethical or careless applications are causing delays in the verification process for PJ passport extensions. As a result, these applications may face initial postponements and could be denied or blocked in future submissions.

The embassy offers a passport extension service that can be completed in just one day for PJ passport holders, as well as those whose work permits and special passes are nearing expiration. Appointments can be arranged through WhatsApp or email. **SEE PAGE 3**



The Myanmar Embassy in Malaysia.

Myanmar businesses invited to Oct Show in Hong Kong SAR

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) has invited Myanmar businesspeople to attend the October Show, to be held at Asia World-Expo in Hong Kong SAR from 11 to 14 October. **SEE PAGE 3**



A previous exhibition held at Asia World Expo in Hong Kong SAR.

OPINION

Practising democracy in the national interest

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Japan Eyes Tourism, Training, Economic Revival with Myanmar

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MSY Village Project activities inspected in Nyaungshwe

NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Announcement 56/2026

3rd Waxing of Tawthalin 1388 ME
14 September 2026

Substitution of 7 Defence Services Personnel
Representatives for Pyithu Hluttaw

FOLLOWING a request to change the seven Defence Services Personnel Representatives for Pyithu Hluttaw nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the multiparty democratic general election held in phases starting on 28 December 2025, in accordance with Section 33 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law, the Union Election Commission scrutinized the request and replaced the following seven Defence Services Personnel Representatives for Pyithu Hluttaw, as set out in Announcement 32/2026 of the Commission dated 7 February 2026, with the replacements shown in the accompanying list:-

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| (a) BC 33466 | replaced with | BC 35428 |
| Brig-Gen Nyan Thein Oo | | Colonel Thurein Han |
| (b) BC 20683 | replaced with | BC 27213 |
| Colonel Aung Kyaw Oo | | Colonel Soe Tun |
| (c) BC 22353 | replaced with | BC 28274 |
| Colonel Win Ko Ko | | Colonel Thein Lwin |
| (d) BC 23676 | replaced with | N 659 |
| Colonel Daw Soe Moe Khaing | | Lt-Col Daw Ohnma Myint |
| (e) BC 23675 | replaced with | N 831 |
| Lt-Col Daw Khin Ohnma Kyaing | | Major Daw Aye Aye Mon |
| (f) BC 25515 | replaced with | N 824 |
| Lt-Col Daw Khaing Khaing Su | | Major Daw Aye Thet Thet Khaing |
| (g) N 637 | replaced with | N 707 |
| Major Daw Khin Thuza | | Major Daw Thida Lwin |

Sd/Than Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Announcement 57/2026

3rd Waxing of Tawthalin 1388 ME
14 September 2026

Substitution of 5 Defence Services Personnel
Representatives for Amyotha Hluttaw

FOLLOWING a request to change the five Defence Services Personnel Representatives for Amyotha Hluttaw nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the multiparty democratic general election held in phases starting on 28 December 2025, in accordance with Section 33 of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law, the Union Election Commission scrutinized the request and replaced the following five Defence Services Personnel Representatives for Amyotha Hluttaw, as set out in Announcement 33/2026 of the Commission dated 8 February 2026, with the replacements shown in the accompanying list:-

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| (a) BC 20834 | replaced with | BC 25065 |
| Brig-Gen Win Ko Ko | | Brig-Gen Khin Maung Soe |
| (b) Air 1962 | replaced with | Air 2214 |
| Brig-Gen Myint Thaung | | Brig-Gen Zaw Zaw Tun |
| (c) BC 34711 | replaced with | BC 55398 |
| Major Tint Lwin Aye | | Major Zin Ko Win |
| (d) BC 36518 | replaced with | BC 28654 |
| Major Zeyar Win | | Major Zaw Min Thein |
| (e) BC 52789 | replaced with | BC 54935 |
| Major Kyaw Zin Win | | Major Naing Win |

Sd/Than Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Announcement 58/2026

3rd Waxing of Tawthalin 1388 ME
14 September 2026

Substitution of 3 Defence Services Personnel
Representatives for Region Hluttaw or State
Hluttaw

FOLLOWING a request to change the three Defence Services Personnel Representatives for Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the multiparty democratic general election held in phases starting on 28 December 2025, in accordance with Section 33 of the Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw Election Law, the Union Election Commission scrutinized the request and replaced the following three Defence Services Personnel Representatives for Region Hluttaw or State Hluttaw, as set out in Announcement 35/2026 of the Commission dated 11 February 2026, with the replacements shown in the accompanying list:-

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| (a) Kachin State Hluttaw | | |
| BC 51433 | replaced with | BC 33914 |
| Captain Yan Aung Khaing | | Captain Tin Ko Ko |
| (b) Kayah State Hluttaw | | |
| BC 25790 | replaced with | BC 30216 |
| Colonel Aung Kyaw Myint | | Colonel Zin Min Htut |
| (c) Chin State Hluttaw | | |
| BC 35419 | replaced with | BC 47508 |
| Major Arkar Kyaw Moe | | Major Yan Aung Phyo |

Sd/ Than Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

UEC resolves election objection appeal
No 2/2026

THE plenary session consisting of Union Election Commission Chairman U Than Soe along with Union Election Commission members U Aung Moe Myint, U Aung Lwin Oo, U Myint Oo, U Khin Maung Oo, U Myint Thein, U Ko Ko Lwin, U Than Aung Kyaw, U Khin Zaw, U Than Htut Thein, U Aung Myint Lwin, U Khin Maung Gyi, U Myo Maung, U Kyi Thein and Daw Khin Thin Wai held its session at the Union Election Commission Office, Office 22 and made a decision (order) on Election Objection Appeal No 2/2026 yesterday. — MNA/MKKS

Sitagu Sayadaw donates US\$10,000
to flood victims in Nepal

THE Sitagu Sayadaw donated US\$10,000 to people affected by devastating flash floods in Nepal, presenting the donation to the Nepali Ambassador to Myanmar at the Sitagu International Buddhist Academy in Yangon on the evening of 13 September.

The donation was the second round of assistance for people who suffered loss of life and property in the flash floods that struck Nepal on 26 August.

The Sayadaw had also



The Sitagu Sayadaw presents a donation of US\$10,000 for flood-affected people in Nepal to the Nepali Ambassador to Myanmar at the Sitagu International Buddhist Academy in Yangon.

donated US\$30,000 to assist astating earthquake in Nepal in 2015. — TWA/MKKS

NATIONAL

Japan Eyes Tourism, Training, Economic Revival with Myanmar

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi received a delegation led by Honourable Mr Takei Shunsuke, a member of the House of Representatives of Japan, at the Pyithu Hluttaw building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker stated that the Pyithu Hluttaw of Myanmar has been forming parliamentary friendship groups and working to promote friendship and closer relations with the parliaments of other countries. He said that a Myanmar-Japan Parliamentary Friendship Association has already been formed in the Pyithu Hluttaw to promote friendly relations with Japan's House of Representatives.

He said that the parliamentary sector could take the initiative in promoting relations and cooperation between the two countries. He stated a desire to promote parliamentary exchanges and interactions, cooperation between parliamentary committees, and collaboration in the areas of youth, women and technology.



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi receives the delegation led by Honourable Mr Takei Shunsuke, a member of the House of Representatives of Japan.

The Speaker expressed his belief that efforts to further strengthen relations between the two countries, which have maintained longstanding good relations based on friendship, would not face significant difficulties.

In response, Japanese House of Representatives member Honorable Mr Takei Shunsuke said that he would make efforts to promote cooperation between the parliaments of the two countries. He said that upon arriving in Myanmar, he had observed peaceful and pleasant conditions, which differed from the news being reported ex-

ternally. Therefore, he would make efforts to resume tourism between the two countries so as to promote people-to-people friendship, which is important for strengthening bilateral relations, and to enable Japanese people to explore Myanmar's beautiful natural and cultural heritage.

He also stated that more than 100,000 Myanmar workers are currently working in Japan and have earned a good reputation for their diligence and good conduct. Japan is also working to recruit foreign workers under the new Specified Skilled Worker (SSW)

system. He explained the purpose of his current visit that was to help resume tourism between the two countries, promote cooperation in human resources development and the economy, and further strengthen bilateral relations and people-to-people exchanges.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker was accompanied by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn, Chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw Transport, Digital and Science Technology Committee Dr Nanda Hla Myint and officials from the Pyithu Hluttaw Office. — MNA/TTA

MoFR Union Minister receives Russian Economic Counsellor

UNION Minister for Finance and Revenue, Dr Kan Zaw received Mr Andrei Iunak, Economic Counsellor of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Yangon, at the Ministry of Finance and Revenue in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Mr Andrei Iunak paid a farewell courtesy call on the Union Minister as his tenure as Economic Coun-

sellor at the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Yangon has come to an end. During the meeting, they cordially discussed on matters of mutual interest and potential areas of cooperation between the two countries in the banking and investment sectors. It was also attended by the permanent secretary and heads of departments under the ministry. — MoFR



The Russian Economic Counsellor calls on Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw.

Passport Extensions: Warning About Unethical ...

FROM PAGE 1

However, some applicants have been making multiple submissions via WhatsApp and email, contacting various phone numbers, or sending voice messages. Additionally, some submissions are unrelated to passport extensions or contain false information, such as claims that work permits are expiring or that passports have been lost.

The embassy has identified these issues during the verification process. Applicants are advised to submit their appointment requests no more than three months before their work permits expire.

Furthermore, the embassy has stated that group submissions sent by email will be considered, while individual submissions will not be accepted, as of 14 September. — MT/ZN

MNPIFER Union Minister receives Russian Counsellor on Economic Affairs

UNION Minister for National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Aung Kyaw Hoe received Mr Andrei Iunak, Counsellor on Economic Affairs at the Embassy of Russia in Yangon, yesterday at Office 1 of the Ministry of National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw.

The two sides held



The Counsellor on Economic Affairs at the Embassy of Russia calls on Union Minister U Aung Kyaw Hoe.

cordial and open discussions regarding the longstanding friendly re-

lations between Myanmar and Russia, as well as cooperation in trade,

economy, and investment. Furthermore, they discussed the promotion of bilateral economic and investment cooperation between the two countries.

Senior officials and responsible officials from the Ministry of National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations also attended the meeting. — MNPIFER

Myanmar businesses invited to Oct Show in Hong Kong ...

FROM PAGE 1

Business associations and their members can register through their respective organizations. Registered entrepreneurs attending the show will receive a US\$100 allowance each.

Participants will

also receive free shuttle services, guided tours, complimentary food and beverage vouchers, VIP lounge access, refreshments, and the opportunity to join business matching meetings. Those interested can apply directly. — ASH/KK

NATIONAL

Meeting discusses promoting tourism between Myanmar, Vietnam

UNION Minister U Maung Myint for Culture, Hotels and Tourism said that Familiarization Trips (FAM Trips) could be organized for Vietnamese travel companies and media representatives and that they could be invited to visit Myanmar’s prominent tourist destinations. By experiencing these destinations firsthand, visitors would be able to see for themselves the beauty and scenic attractions of Myanmar’s tourist destinations, their safety and security, and the country’s abundant natural resources, thereby gaining a better understanding of Myanmar’s actual situa-



A coordination meeting on promoting tourism between Myanmar and Vietnam is underway.

tion and feeling confident about visiting the country. He made the remarks at a coordination meeting on promoting tourism between Myanmar and Vietnam, held at the Jade Hall of the Ministry yesterday afternoon.

Deputy minister U Phyo Zaw Soe discussed measures to further promote tourism between Myanmar and Vietnam, opportunities for greater cooperation between tourism entrepreneurs from the two countries, and

ways to raise awareness among Vietnamese travelers and encourage more of them to visit Myanmar. Honorary Consul of the Embassy of Vietnam in Myanmar Ms Le Nguyen Ngoc Trinh, who attended the meeting online, together with representatives from Vietnamese travel companies and Vietnam Airlines, shared suggestions and discussed ways to promote tourism cooperation between the two countries. Departmental officials and business people, discussed measures related to their respective sectors. — MNA/KTZH

Former Myanmar striker, heading specialist Win Aung passes

ACCORDING to sources close to the family, former Myanmar national football striker Win Aung passed away at the age of 60 at the Aryu Hospital in Yangon at 4:30 pm on 13 September.

He had been receiving medical treatment since early September due to a condition involving fluid in his lungs. He scored crucial goals in major tournaments such as the 1991 SEA Games, the 1993 SEA



Striker Win Aung.

Games, the 1994 Asian Games, and the 1996 Tiger Cup. Uniquely for a Myanmar team where headers were rare, he was known for scoring numerous headers. He won a silver medal

at the 1993 SEA Games and secured many domestic championship titles with clubs – the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of Finance and Revenue. He played together with other famous players such as Myo Hlaing Win, Than Toe Aung, Tin Myint Aung, and Kyi Lwin. “He was more like a close brother to me, having played together since we were very young. We have so many memories

together. He played his best and scored goals to win many trophies. It is a great loss for football,” said former Myanmar player and coach U Myo Hlaing Win. Win Aung retired from his playing career at 33, following the 1997 SEA Games. Since then, he has coached young players at local clubs and football academies, and actively participated in various sporting activities. — TWA/ZN

Kangyidaunt’s MSY Village Project loans disbursed

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held a ceremony to disburse revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Kanyinngu Village, Kangyidaunt Township, Ayeyawady Region, yesterday. Kangyidaunt Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Thinzar Nyunt explained that the revolving funds were provided under the MSY Village Project with the objectives of creating employment opportunities and increasing family incomes for rural residents, as well as implementing village development activities with the increased revolving

funds. Officials explained project activities, interest rates, loan periods and rules and regulations to be followed, and handed over K30 million in revolving funds to members of the project implementation groups. Kanyinngu Village is implementing family income-generating activities using K30 million from the MSY Village Project. Under the supervision of the township department, members of the project implementation groups disbursed revolving loans at low interest rates to a total of 93 members from the village engaged in agricultural, livestock breeding and trading activities. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)



Village representatives accepts the fund in Kangyidaunt Township.

Coffee lovers enjoy 9 flavours from 4 coffee-producing countries

FROM PAGE 1
Chiang Mai, Thailand; Yirgacheffe, Sidamo and Harar in Ethiopia; and Huila in Colombia. Because coffee grown in different geographical and climatic conditions has distinct aromas and flavours, customers tend to choose coffee from the country that best matches their personal preferences.

Arabica coffee beans from the four countries offer a wide range of distinctive aromas and flavours, including fruity and floral notes, caramel, chocolate, apple, lemon and orange, honey, cocoa and nutty flavours. These characteristics vary depending on the country and growing region, allowing consumers to select their preferred coffee based

on its particular aroma and taste. “Drinking pure coffee without adding anything to it is quite common in European countries. Nowadays, as people have become more aware of the potential health benefits of freshly ground coffee beans, coffee-drinking culture has also flourished in Yangon. There are even people who

have turned their dreams into reality and achieved success through a cup of coffee. Myanmar coffee is now developing its own market, just like Ethiopian and Colombian coffee. If we can go beyond coffee bars and create value-added coffee products for export, it could bring significant benefits to both the country and coffee growers,” said Daw

Myat Noe Khin, manager of Coffee Room. Myanmar Arabica coffee offers flavours such as blackcurrant, yoghurt, cream and cocoa. Thai Arabica coffee features orange blossom, honey, cream and cocoa notes, while Ethiopian coffee includes peony, orange blossom, white peach and Jin Xuan flavours. Colombian coffee, mean-

while, offers a wide variety of flavours, including vanilla, whiskey, maple syrup, butter, lychee and white flower, among a total of 29 identified flavour profiles. Moreover, popular black coffee varieties include Long Black and Espresso, while White Coffee selections include Coffee Latte, Cappuccino and Flat White. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

NATIONAL

MSY Village Project activities inspected in Nyaungshwe

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection yesterday of the implementation of the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Kankhaung Village, part of the Kyaypawkhon Village-Tract in Nyaungshwe Township, Kalaw District, southern Shan State.

The project, managed by the Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, aims to create employment opportunities and increase family income for rural residents, thereby reducing poverty.

Township Officer Daw Yu Yu of the Nyaungshwe Township Department of Rural Development, along with her staff, examined the



This image displays a village development project in Nyaungshwe Township.

status of agricultural and trading activities funded by the project's K63.35 million budget. They also verified the completeness of the required monthly record-keeping forms.

Following an inspection, Daw Yu Yu, Township Officer of the Nyaungshwe Township De-

partment of Rural Development, coordinated the necessary arrangements.

Loans totalling K63.35 million have been disbursed to 199 borrowers in Kankhaung Village, comprising 175 individuals engaged in agriculture and 24 involved in trading. — Hein Htet Soe (Mahlaing)

VDP orientation and committee formation ceremony held in Yenangyoung



A group photo session of the ceremony in Yenangyoung Township.

THE introduction of the Village Development Project (VDP) and the formation of its committee were conducted

yesterday at the village monastery in Beseik Village, Yenangyoung Township, Magway Region. It was organized by

the Yenangyoung Township Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Daw Khin Mar Kyi the Head of the Yenangyoung Township Department of Rural Development provided a detailed presentation on the objectives and benefits of implementing the project, the criteria to follow when selecting committee members, and the project procedures step by step.

Afterwards, the staff officer and officials supervised the consensual election of seven Village Development Project Committee members by the attending village elders and residents.

Local development initiatives in Beseik Village will be implemented by the villagers themselves during the 2026-2027 financial year, utilizing a VDP project fund of K15 million. — Naw Lu (DRD)

Twantay's MSY village project loans disbursed



A village representative receives the MSY fund in Twantay Township.

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held a ceremony to disburse revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung

(MSY) Village Project in Kathapaung Village, Twantay Township, yesterday.

Twantay Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Yin Yin Htay explained that the revolving funds were provided under the MSY Village Project with the objectives of creating employment opportunities and increasing family incomes for rural residents, as well as implementing village development activities with the increased revolving funds. Officials explained project activities, interest rates, loan periods and rules and regulations to

be followed, and handed over K47.7 million in revolving funds to members of the project implementation groups.

Kathapaung Village is implementing family income-generating activities using K47.7 million from the MSY Village Project. Under the supervision of the township department, members of the project implementation groups disbursed revolving loans at low interest rates to a total of 194 members from the village engaged in agricultural, livestock breeding and trading activities. — Karan (Rural)

Mongyang's VDP project oriented; committee formed

A ceremony to conduct an introductory briefing on the Village Development Project (VDP) and form a project committee took place in Mongkhun Village, Mongyang Township, Shan State (East), yesterday morning.

Mongyang Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Aye Moe Khine met village elders and villagers in the village and explained the objectives, processes and expected benefits of the Village Development Project (VDP). The project officer explained sector by sector the rules and regulations to be followed in selecting and forming the

Village Development Committee, as well as the tasks to be carried out by the village. Villagers formed a seven-member Village Development Committee by consensus to effectively carry out village development activities.

Villagers will undertake village development activities selected by local communities using K15 million in support funds from the Village Development Project (VDP) and contributions from residents, with technical assistance and close supervision from officials of the Department of Rural Development. — Sein Lwin (Rural)

2 killed, 1 injured in Sangyoung's beer bar fire

A fire broke out at a beer bar located on Sangyoung Road in Yangon Region's Sangyoung Township on the night of 13 September. Two people died, and one person was injured in the incident, which lasted more than 20 minutes, according to the Fire Services Department and local rescue teams.

Along with the Sangyoung Township fire station, firefighters from neighbouring townships and social and rescue

teams jointly worked to put out the fire.

During the fire, electric wires and some nearby shops were also burned down, and two men inside the bar were killed, according to initial reports. A woman was also injured and sent to the Yangon General Hospital by a social and rescue team.

The fire was under control at 8:41 pm and completely extinguished at 8:45 pm. — TWA/ZS



Firefighters carrying the body of a man.

NATIONAL

Octane price rises, diesel price slumps

THE Octane price increased a bit to K3,825 per litre for Octane 92 and K3,950 for Octane 95, whereas the fuel price decreased to K4,150 for diesel and K5,050 for premium diesel.

The regulated fuel price caps were set at K3,710 for Octane 92 and K3,815 for Octane 95, K4,240 for diesel and K5,140 for premium diesel for the past two weeks ending 10 September.

The price index set by Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS), the pricing basis for many refined products in South-East Asia, influences the domestic fuel prices, according to the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.



Vehicles are seen refuelling at the petrol station.

The committee is governing the market to ensure stable price and secure supply. Under the guidance of the Supervisory Committee, the Petroleum Products Regulatory Department has been issuing daily reference wholesale prices to ensure price stability for energy consumers.

The committee is inspecting the fuel stations to see whether they are over-

charging. Authorities are taking an action against those retailers of fuel stations under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law 2017 if they are found overcharging rather than the set reference rate.

As per the statement, 90 per cent of fuel oil in Myanmar is imported, while the remaining 10 per cent is produced locally. Domestic fuel prices are highly correlated with interna-

tional prices. The State is steering the market to mitigate the loss experienced by the importers, sellers and energy consumers. Consequently, the government is trying to distribute the oil at a reasonable price compared to those of regional countries.

Some countries levied higher tax rates and hiked oil prices than Myanmar's. However, Malaysia's oil sector receives government subsidies, and the prices are about 60 per cent lower than those of Myanmar. Every country lays down different policy patterns to fix oil prices, the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil stated. — NN/KK

MCHT invites tender for long-term lease of Golden Triangle Paradise Resort Hotel

THE Ministry of Culture, Hotels and Tourism has invited open tender proposals for the longterm lease of the Golden Triangle Paradise Resort Hotel owned by to the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, located on a 1,000-acre plot of land in Mongphon Ward A in Tachilek Township, Shan State. The property has been reclaimed from Golden Triangle Paradise Resort Co Ltd, which had previously operated the hotel under lease. The new lease will be for

a term of 30 + 5 + 5 years. Investors are invited to submit open tender proposals. Tender forms will be available by 29 September at the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism in Office 33 in Nay Pyi Taw. The submission deadline is 10 am on 30 September, with bids to be opened at 10:30 am the same day. Interested business entities can make further details at 067 406250 or 067 406080, according to the Tender Committee. — NN/KK

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 14 September 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,664.60~3,667.50	558.10~558.50	125.50~125.60	43.60
Trading amount in the market	14,608,020.40	40,000,000.00	60,175,711.89	-

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 2 pm Monday, 14 September 2026

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS RECORDED FROM YESTERDAY MORNING 9:30 am MST TODAY MORNING 9:30 am MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or thundershowers have been widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Kayin, Mon, Southern Shan States, isolated in Yangon, Mandalay, and Ayeyawady Regions and weather has been partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were 1.02 inches in Paung, 0.86 inch in Chaungzon, 0.52 inch each in Dawei and Kya-In-Seikkyi, 0.20 inch in Kawkareik, 0.16 inch each in Mandalay and Thazi (Hlaingtat), 0.08 inch each in Yangon (Kaba Aye) and Ye.

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is moderate over the Andaman Sea and the South Bay of Bengal and weak elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and the South Bay of Bengal and a few clouds elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF 15 September 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region, fairly widespread in Bago Region and Kayin and Mon States, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and southern Shan States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood isolated heavyfalls

in Taninthayi Region and Kayin and Mon States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Upper Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Kayin, Mon and southern Shan States. In areas along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, 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 of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in the Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 5-7 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase in rain in Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15 September 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15 September 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 15th September 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

MCDC invites tenders for diesel, Octane 92, premium diesel

THE Mandalay City Development Committee's Factory and Motor Vehicle Department has invited open tenders for the purchase of 85,000 gallons of diesel, 20,000 gallons of Octane 92 and 45,000 gallons of premium diesel for committee operations. Tender forms will be available from 15 September at the Factory and Motor Vehicle Department on 62nd Street in Mandalay city. The submission deadline is 18 September, with bids to be opened on 28 September at the MCDC office on 26th Street, be-

tween 71st and 72nd streets. Tender form fees are set at K15,000 for Diesel and Premium Diesel and K10,000 for Octane 92. Bidding companies must hold a valid fuel import license and must be direct importers of the fuel products. The successful bidder will be responsible for all applicable taxes under existing laws. Individuals can enquire for further details through the Factory and Motor Vehicle Department at 02 4080157, 02 4081316, or 09 444015071. — NN/KK

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Pope restores Vatican salaries cut during COVID

POPE Leo XIV has restored the salaries of cardinals and senior Vatican officials to pre-COVID levels, reversing pay cuts introduced by his predecessor Francis during the pandemic, according to a decree published Monday.

In 2021, Pope Francis cut the salaries of cardinals by 10 per cent and those of senior Vatican officials by eight per cent to ease pressure on the Holy See's finances during the COVID-19 crisis and amid chronic budget deficits.

In a papal decree issued on Monday, his 71st birthday, the US pontiff said the measure was



Pope Leo XIV arrives to inaugurate the first chapter of the exhibition cycle "Catastrophe and Wonder" entitled "AQVA", at the Vatican Apostolic Library on 14 September 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

abolished from 1 September 2026.

The pay cuts, which had been "necessary to face the exceptional challenge of the pandemic", could now be lifted, Leo

said, adding that Vatican institutions would continue efforts to ensure their "economic sustainability".

The decree said the decision would not be applied retroactively.

A cardinal working in the Roman Curia, the Catholic Church's central administration, is estimated to earn between 4,500 and 5,000 euros (\$5,200-\$5,800) a month.

The Holy See's finances are showing signs of improvement. In its annual report published in May, the Vatican bank reported net profit of 51 million euros.

In a separate decree released Monday, Leo cancelled a plan by the last pope to transfer some of the Vatican archives outside of the tiny city state. It said a new building would be erected in the Vatican.

— AFP

India's wholesale inflation rises to 9.92% in Aug

INDIA'S wholesale price index rose marginally to 9.92 per cent in August, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Monday.

The index for all commodities stands at 110.8 in August, up from 110.0 in July.

According to the ministry, year-on-year inflation rates for primary articles, fuel and power, and manufactured products are 7.76 per cent, 22.93 per cent, and 8.37

per cent, respectively.

Across groups, mineral oils (containing petroleum products), food articles, manufacture of food products, manufacture of basic metals, non-food articles, and manufacture of chemicals and chemical products have been major drivers of WPI inflation in August 2026, the ministry said.

The Food Index, which consists of food articles from primary articles group and manufacture of food products from the



Labourers work at a wholesale grain market in Amritsar on 7 September 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

manufactured products group, recorded a year-on-year inflation of 7.05 per cent in August, compared to 6.65 per cent in July. — Xinhua

Nepal's flood warning network crippled as key monitoring stations swept away: govt report

NEPAL'S ability to monitor sudden rises in river levels suffered a major setback after the 26 August flood swept away several hydrological monitoring stations, a government report said.

The report released on Sunday by the Centre

for Hydrology and Water Resources Research (CHWRR) under the Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS) said the loss of these stations highlights the extreme nature of the flood and poses challenges for future monitoring in the

region.

The report has found that monitoring stations located at Rasuwagadhi and Syaphru Besi in Rasuwa district, Betrawati in Nuwakot and Phurke Khola in Dhading were destroyed or rendered inoperative as the flood moved

rapidly through the Bhote Koshi and Trishuli river corridors.

The destruction of the stations meant that water levels could no longer be continuously recorded at several critical points as the flood intensified downstream. — Xinhua

IAEA General Conference opens amid growing nuclear proliferation concerns



Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Rafael Grossi (R) speaks during the Board of Governor's Meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) at the agency's headquarters in Vienna, Austria, on 14 September 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE 70th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) opened in Vienna on Monday, with calls to strengthen multilateral cooperation and efforts to uphold the global nuclear non-proliferation regime amid heightened geopolitical tensions.

In a message delivered by Monica Juma, director-general of the United Nations Office at Vienna, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said this conference comes at a time of profound global turbulence and uncertainty. Attacks on nuclear facilities are rising. The drivers of nuclear proliferation

are accelerating while the guardrails against it are falling.

"The world is on the cusp of a revolution in nuclear power generation, a revolution that requires careful management and monitoring. More than ever, the world needs the IAEA's professionalism, impartiality and technical excellence," Guterres said in the message.

IAEA Director-General Rafael Grossi told the conference that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) remains the cornerstone of the global non-proliferation regime.

— Xinhua

Italian airport suspends flights due to volcanic activity

SICILY'S Catania airport shut down temporarily on Monday due to volcanic activity on Mount Etna that spewed ash into the sky.

"Arrivals and departures at Catania Airport are suspended," the airport said in a statement on its website.

The airport, that usually services around 12 million passengers a year, was also closed for a week in August in peak summer season.

There have been growing calls in Italy for Catania airport to be closed and for other hubs in Sicily to be expanded because of the proximity to Etna, about 40 kilometres (25 miles) away.

The eruption in August drew crowds of visitors to Mount Etna where spectacular lava flows could be observed close up. At 3,324 metres (nearly 11,000 feet), Etna is the tallest active volcano in Europe and erupts frequently. — AFP

OPINION

Practising democracy in the national interest

Governance systems can create meaningful opportunities for people to influence the decisions that affect their lives. Through dialogue, collaboration, and working to understand different points of view, we ensure that no one is left behind. The International Day of Democracy provides an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world.

Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right, enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But around the world, there are governments and those wielding power who find many ways to obstruct it. In this regard, it is necessary to examine why these governments restrict freedom of expression. Everyone should consider whether those exercising the right to freedom of expression abide by the prescribed rules, regulations and disciplines, as well as universal human rights principles, which fundamentally emphasize the need to respect the rights of others.

Those who wish to practise democracy should build a peaceful and prosperous society by respecting the majority decision, which is the essence of democracy, while giving due consideration to the views of the minority. It is important that decisions made by the majority should not amount to imposing their will on the minority. The minority should not always oppose the majority. Rather, they should point out ways to improve the decisions of the majority and reduce their shortcomings, and then abide by and implement those decisions. Everybody must uphold and practise the true essence of democracy and work for the interests of themselves and their country.

and settled within society, certain behaviours may be beyond an individual's ability to forgive or overlook, even from their own perspective and according to their personal beliefs.

Those who wish to practise democracy should build a peaceful and prosperous society by respecting the majority decision, which is the essence of democracy, while giving due consideration to the views of the minority. It is important that decisions made by the majority should not amount to imposing their will on the minority. The minority should not always oppose the majority. Rather, they should point out ways to improve the decisions of the majority and reduce their shortcomings, and then abide by and implement those decisions. Everybody must uphold and practise the true essence of democracy and work for the interests of themselves and their country.

That is why everyone wishing to enjoy the fruits of democracy must cultivate a spirit of consideration for others. They must abide by the laws, rules and regulations enacted for all, especially by refraining from violating the rights of others. In fact, those who violate universal human rights do not deserve democracy. The essence of democracy lies in following disciplines that do not harm others and in taking responsibility and accountability for one's own actions.

Hence, everyone needs to reflect on how they truly understand and accept the essence of democracy and how they wish to practise democratic principles. Everyone should understand that no one is perfect. Therefore, everyone has certain weaknesses in their physical and mental behaviour and conduct. Although some actions may be forgiven

The Epitome of Strong Myanmar-Cambodia Relations: From Cultural and Historical Ties to a Bright Future of Cooperation

The Myanmar Narrative Think Tank

Introduction

In the realm of international relations, cooperation among Southeast Asian nations plays a crucial role in regional stability and economic development. Among these, the relationship between Myanmar and Cambodia stands as a model partnership, deeply rooted in cultural, religious, and political mutual understanding. The recent State Visit by the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Min Aung Hlaing, to Cambodia marks a significant step toward further solidifying bilateral ties and enhancing comprehensive cooperation.

1. Historical Connections and Past Relations

The foundation of Myanmar-Cambodia bilateral relations is built upon a long, robust history and shared cultural ties. Geopolitically, although the two nations do not share a land border, their strong connections in religion, traditions, and culture have brought them closer together.

- Myanmar and Cambodia share a long historical background.
- There are notable similarities in their culture, traditions, and religious beliefs.
- Politically, both nations share common experiences, including struggles for independence and arduous efforts to build internal peace and stability.
- As historically steadfast friends, leaders of both nations have maintained close and cordial relations throughout successive eras.
- The President's previous visit to Cambodia in 2017 further ensured the continuous vitality of these bilateral ties.

2. Present Cooperation and Mutual Support



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Samdech Hun Sen, Acting Head of State of Cambodia and President of the Senate in Cambodia.

At present, Myanmar-Cambodia relations have expanded broadly beyond diplomacy to include political, humanitarian, and legislative cooperation. Cambodia remains a trusted and reliable partner for Myanmar. The significant indicators of current cooperation are observed as follows:

Political and Diplomatic Stances

- During the multiparty democratic general elections in Myanmar (first and third phases), Cambodia, through its Election Commission, sent delegations to observe the process.
- The Cambodian side officially remarked that they observed a free and fair election.
- Cambodian leaders sent congratulatory messages regarding the successful holding of the election and the election of the President.

- Cambodia also dispatched a special envoy to attend the Presidential swearing-in ceremony.
- Cambodia has consistently supported the positive developments in Myanmar. In return, Myanmar highly values this cordial relationship and has pledged to remain a reliable good friend to Cambodia.
- Both countries mutually support each other in regional and international arenas. Notably, Myanmar deeply appreciates Cambodia's constructive and brotherly assistance during its tenure as the ASEAN Chair in 2022.

Humanitarian and Crisis Support

- When a major earthquake struck Myanmar (Mandalay) in 2025, Cambodia, driven by a humanitarian spirit, provided emergency funds,

relief supplies, and humanitarian assistance for rescue and rehabilitation efforts.

Legislative and Parliamentary Cooperation

- A Myanmar-Cambodia Parliamentary Friendship Association has been formed to promote parliamentary cooperation.
- The two parliaments will share their legislative and oversight experiences.
- To enhance this cooperation, there is potential for reciprocal exchange visits by parliamentary representatives.
- Efforts to elevate the roles of women and youth in Myanmar were also discussed during the meeting between President U Min Aung Hlaing and the President of the National Assembly of Cambodia, H.E. Mrs. Samdech KHUON Sundary.

Official Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs)

During the recent goodwill visit, crucial agreements were signed to legally consolidate strategic cooperation:

- An agreement on the mutual promotion and protection of investments.
- An agreement on the avoidance of double taxation.
- An agreement on cultural cooperation.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on information cooperation.

3. Future Prospects and Strategic Cooperation

The future prospects of Myanmar-Cambodia cooperation are remarkably bright. Backed by the strong political will of the leaders from both nations, cooperation is expected to accelerate in the following major sectors:

Economy, Trade, and Investment Promotion

- Discussions were held to resume the "Joint Commission for Bilateral Cooperation (JCBC)" mechanism to boost multifaceted bilateral cooperation.
- Investments in the Dawei deep seaport and Special Economic Zone currently being implemented in Myanmar hold great future potential and could yield massive success.
- Both nations have a strong desire to elevate cooperation in trade, manufacturing, Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), agriculture, and livestock sectors.
- Furthermore, they pledged deep cooperation in tourism, religion, culture, education, employment opportunities, and human resource development. The President's visit to the ancient cultural sites of Angkor in Cambodia (Angkor Wat and Bayon temples) serves as a positive omen for bilateral tourism and cultural exchange.

Security, Defence, and Combatting Transnational Crimes

- Relations are improving not only between government agencies but also between the armed forces, with expectations to boost cooperation in the defense and

security sectors.

- Both the Myanmar and Cambodian governments are actively taking effective measures to eradicate online scams and illegal online gambling, which have become regional concerns.
 - Leaders have committed to enhancing cooperation among Cambodia, Myanmar, and regional countries to more effectively combat transnational crimes such as human trafficking, drug trafficking, and cybercrime.
- Regional Integration and Strategic Mechanisms**
- Both nations agreed to continue cooperating optimally within the ASEAN framework.
 - They are fully cooperating in regional mechanisms like Mekong-Lancang, CLMV (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam), and ACMECS (Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy).
 - Particularly this year, with Myanmar chairing the ACMECS meetings under the theme "Towards a Modern and Sustainable ACMECS through Enhanced Socio-economic Development," prioritizing the socio-economic and sustainable development of the region's people, Cambodia's active participation is of

special significance.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Myanmar-Cambodia relations have transitioned from standard diplomatic ties to a strategic partnership founded on deep historical and cultural understanding. Shared past experiences in independence struggles and peacebuilding have fostered a brotherly empathy between the leaders and peoples of both nations.

In the present, mutual political trust, humanitarian support during crises, and close collaboration across legislative and executive branches testify to the strength of this relationship. Looking ahead, through new agreements like investment protection and double taxation avoidance, immense economic prospects like the Dawei deep seaport, and joint measures to combat transnational crimes, Myanmar-Cambodia cooperation possesses tremendous potential to significantly contribute not only to the socio-economic development of both peoples but also to the stability, peace, and sustainable development of the wider region.

(This article reflects the views and opinions of MNTT.)

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SCI/TECH WORLD

China to create more friendly environment for childbearing with better childcare services

CHINA will take further steps to support childbearing, including making childcare more accessible and affordable, a senior health official announced Monday, as the country seeks to ease costs of raising children and boost its birth rate.

Lei Haichao, head of the National Health Commission, told a media conference that continuous efforts will be made to promote the integrated development of services at kindergartens and nursery centres and to support communities and employers in setting up childcare facilities.

The aim is to ensure that families can access childcare services close to their homes or workplaces and at relatively affordable prices, Lei said.

The commission will work to raise coverage of childcare services among young children to effectively reduce families' costs of having, raising and educating children, the official said.



Children of a nursery class exercise at a kindergarten in Zouping City, east China's Shandong Province, 6 November 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

The country will also work to improve access to pediatric care at grassroots medical institutions, according to Lei.

By the end of this year, 1,000 more community-level medical and health institutions will be capable of offering pediatric care compared with last year, Lei said, adding that by that time, more than 95 per cent of the country's township-level clinics and community health service centres are expected to have the capacity to provide relevant services.

Over 3,000 pedia-

tricians have been sent from higher-level hospitals to grassroots medical institutions to strengthen pediatric services at the community level, Lei said.

China has developed a full-cycle maternity support system covering pre-pregnancy, pregnancy and childbirth, and child-rearing, with measures that include maternity allowances, childcare subsidies, medical insurance reimbursement and affordable childcare services to ease the financial burden on families with children.

The country introduced a nationwide childcare subsidy programme in 2025, offering an annual tax-free subsidy of 3,600 yuan (about US\$530) for each child under the age of three. It also began waiving childcare and education fees for the final year of kindergarten in the 2025 autumn semester.

As of August, more than 25 million infants and toddlers have received childcare subsidies for 2026, and about 24 million children enrolled in kindergartens have benefited from the fee-waiving policy.

Also, 260 million people are currently covered by maternity insurance, and many regions are expanding coverage to allow flexible workers to enrol in maternity insurance alongside employee medical insurance.

These policies are among China's broader efforts to build a birth-friendly society amid declining birth rates and an aging population. — Xinhua

Third measles death recorded in US in 2026

A 40-year-old woman in the US state of Pennsylvania has died of measles, authorities said Sunday, bringing this year's death toll from the highly contagious, preventable disease to three, amid declining vaccination rates.

The resident of Jefferson County died Saturday from complications associated with measles, the county's coroner's office said in a statement posted on Facebook.

The Washington Post, citing Coroner Greg

Furlong, reported that the woman was unvaccinated.

"While cases of severe illness remain uncommon, this tragedy highlights that measles should not be taken lightly," Jefferson County Chief Deputy Coroner Jason Stiver said. Two measles-related deaths were recorded in August in the state's Lancaster County, the first such deaths in the United States in 2026 and the first in Pennsylvania in 35 years. — AFP



This picture taken on 13 August 2026 shows elderly people playing with a robot dog during a government-organized digital survival training at a senior community centre in Suwon. **PHOTO: AFP**

S Korea aims to save seniors lost in digital age

A little cheer rose for 79-year-old Hwang Sun-hee after she managed to place an online order at a training session in South Korea, which has one of the world's starkest digital divides for seniors.

Age gaps in digital literacy are a global concern, yet the gulf has widened massively in the hyper-connected and fast-ageing country, prompting national campaigns to bridge it.

"You can't do anything without smartphone apps or a kiosk machine... It's too much for old folks," Hwang said at a senior community centre in Suwon, south of Seoul, during government-organized digital

survival training.

The so-called grey digital divide has provided some striking examples in the nation of about 52 million, home to world-leading smartphone and memory chip-makers.

Last year, several baseball clubs began reserving a small number of tickets for on-site sales after reports that older fans, cash in hand, approached younger people at stadiums and pleaded with them to buy tickets from machines. Nearly 90 per cent of taxi drivers use ride-hailing apps, yet more than 80 per cent of South Koreans over 60 still hail cabs by hand, a survey showed. — AFP

S Africa confirms herpesvirus most likely cause of 2,600 km sardine die-off

SOUTH Africa's environment department said Sunday that a herpesvirus was the most likely cause of widespread sardine mortality spanning 2,600 kilometres of coastline, as investigations into the event continue.

In a statement, the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) said laboratory testing had confirmed pilchard herpesvirus (PHV) in affected sardines from both the Western Cape and the Gqeberha area, supporting a link between the mortality events.

The deaths were first

reported in the Western Cape in late July and later extended eastward along the coast. Similar strandings have been reported in Namibia, although laboratory comparisons are still needed to determine whether they are linked.

The department said the reported locations span about 2,600 kilometres, but mortality was not recorded continuously along the entire stretch. It has received no further reports of dead or dying sardines since 3 September, and no strandings have been reported along the KwaZulu-Natal coast.

"Taken together, the consistent detection of high levels of PHV in affected sardines, its confirmation in Western and Eastern Cape samples, and the observed mortality pattern indicate that PHV is the most likely primary cause," the DFFE said.

Investigations have not supported harmful algae or the marine biotoxins screened for as the primary cause, although oceanographic and other environmental conditions cannot yet be excluded as contributing stressors.

"The event cannot yet be regarded as concluded,"

the department said.

The scale of the mortality remains uncertain. Preliminary estimates depend on assumptions about fish density, the extent of affected coastal areas and the degree to which local observations can be extrapolated.

The DFFE's Small Pelagic Scientific Working Group found no evidence that the mortality had reduced the sardine population enough to warrant a complete closure of the fishery, but recommended a temporary precautionary limitation on catches. — Xinhua

At 92, China’s Lyu showcases vitality of senior sports enthusiasts

IN light rain at the men’s M90 long jump final of the 2026 World Masters Athletics Championships in Daegu, South Korea, 92-year-old Lyu Mingpu stepped onto the runway, took off and landed at 2.05 metres to claim the title.

First held in 1975, the World Masters Athletics Championships are a biennial competition for athletes aged 35 and above. At this year’s edition, Lyu won two gold medals, one silver and one bronze.

“Sport is not reserved for the young people. We are old, but our passion for sport never fades,” he said.

In his younger days, Lyu did not stand out athletically. His 100-metre time was just over 13 seconds, an unremarkable result in his class. Yet his enthusiasm for physical activity has endured for decades.

“I hope everyone can find a sport they love and keep at it. When we grow older, we may train a little less, but we must never give up easily,” he said.

At 71, Lyu took part in a track and field competition for the first time and won a bronze medal, an achievement that further fuelled his enthusiasm for athletics. “My body aches during training, but proper warmup helps ease the discomfort if I hang in there,” he said.

Lyu trains with a group of local athletics enthusiasts whose ages range from 35 to 92.

“My teammates celebrated my birthday with me on the track. I can’t even describe how happy I was,” Lyu said.

In Daegu, Lyu entered the 100metre, 200metre, 400metre, 4x100mmetre relay, long jump and triple jump, finishing in the top eight in every event. — Xinhua



Lyu displays his medals from the 2026 World Masters Athletics Championships. PHOTO: XINHUA

World’s first museum devoted to prehistoric flying reptiles opens in NW China’s Xinjiang

A science museum focused on pterosaurs, a winged reptile closely related to dinosaurs, opened on Sunday in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region in northwest China.

The world’s first of its kind, this museum is located in a national geopark in Xinjiang’s Hami region, a location renowned for abundant pterosaur fossil discoveries.

With an exhibition area of about 4,600 square metres, the Hami Pterosaur Museum consists of six oval-shaped halls in a staggered layout. Seen from above, it resembles a clutch of pterosaur eggs resting in the desert.



Visitors view pterosaurs replicas at a science museum in Hami, northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, 13 September 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

Fossils on display include specimens recovered during more than two decades of rescue excavations by researchers from the Institute of Vertebrate

Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). Also on display are the world’s first 3D preserved fossilized pterosaur eggs and

embryos, along with large pterosaur specimens making their public debut.

This is the first time all of these specimens have been displayed together. The exhibits present a panoramic recreation of pterosaur life and evolution during the Cretaceous period roughly 130 million years ago, the museum said.

Xu Xing, head of the CAS institute, said the museum not only highlights China’s leading role in global pterosaur research but also offers the public a window to experience scientific discovery up close and appreciate the wonders of ancient life. — Xinhua

Fast-food brand loyalty linked to poorer diet quality: study

PEOPLE who feel strongly attached to well-known fast-food and sugar-sweetened beverage brands may have poorer overall diets, despite nutrition warnings, a new study suggests.

The study found that psychological loyalty to fast-food brands was a strong predictor of people’s saturated fat and sugar intake, according to a statement recently released by Australia’s University of Technology Sydney (UTS).

Researchers con-

ducted two studies involving adults in Australia and the United States, assessing their attitudes towards fast-food and beverage brands, perceptions of their healthiness and overall dietary habits.

A poor diet can fuel obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart disease and some cancers, while aggressive fast-food marketing may contribute to diet-related diseases, according to the study published in the Journal of Health Communication. — Xinhua

Danish WWII drama wins top prize at Venice festival

THE Venice Film Festival awarded its top prize on Saturday to a Danish-made drama about a woman trying to hide a wartime relationship with a Nazi — the only feature film with a female director in the competition.

“Woman Unknown” had been a major talking point of the festival due to its subject matter, which has rarely been explored in film, and because director May el-Toukhy was almost alone as a woman director in

the event.

Only one other woman — Israel’s Rachel Szor, co-director of the chilling documentary “NAZA” about Israel’s war on Gaza — was behind the 21 films vying for prizes at the star-studded closing ceremony in Venice.

“Woman Unknown” is about the female body as a battleground and a public matter. And at the same time, the film tells the tale of women who are invisible, unseen and voiceless,” el-Toukhy told

‘Widow’s Bay’ and ‘The Pitt’ tipped for success at Emmy Awards

THE brightest stars in television are set to walk the red carpet Monday at the Emmy Awards, with horror-comedy series “Widow’s Bay” and gritty hospital drama “The Pitt” expected to win big.

Apple TV’s “Widow’s Bay,” which stars Matthew Rhys as the leader of an isolated New England island that appears to be

haunted, has emerged as one of the most talked-about debut series of the year.

“People just love that show,” Christopher Rosen, deputy editor of Hollywood news outlet The Ankler, told AFP.

It scooped up eight awards in the pre-gala ceremonies, and is in position to become the most

awarded comedy series in a single year, surpassing the 13 trophies won last year by Seth Rogen’s Hollywood satire “The Studio”.

Rosen said he believes that Rhys — a winner for best drama actor for “The Americans” in 2018 — could now earn his first comedy Emmy.

A strong night for

“Widow’s Bay” does not bode well for “Hacks,” the tale of a stand-up comedian trying to revive her career and the dysfunctional millennial assistant who helps her.

Its one solid bet left in the running — and may be its only statuette, says Rosen — is a best actress prize for Jean Smart.

“That’s a great way to

honour the final season,” Rosen told AFP. “She’s never lost from playing this part. I don’t see why she would lose for the final season.”

Smart, who turned 75 on Sunday, has won four Emmys for the show so far.

A win on Monday would give her eight acting Emmys, tying her with Julia Louis-Dreyfus and Cloris Leachman for the most ever by a performer. Allison Janney is also vy-

ing for her eighth Emmy, for “The Diplomat”.

“The Pitt”, last year’s winner for best drama, follows the stressed-out workers in a Pittsburgh emergency room, with each episode unfolding in real time. Tackling everything from abortion rights to immigration crackdowns to mass shootings, the show is the odds-on favourite to sweep several drama prizes including best series. — AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

New Zealand's intl visitor arrivals surpass pre-pandemic levels

NEW Zealand tourism continued to strengthen in July, with international visitor arrivals exceeding pre-pandemic levels, a government agency said on Monday.

The country recorded 256,600 overseas tourist arrivals in July 2026, up 8.5 per cent from the same month last year and surpassing July 2019 levels, according to figures released by Stats NZ.

New Zealand welcomed 3.69 million international visitors in the year to July, an increase of nine per cent from the previous year, Tourism



This photo taken on 30 September 2023 shows Lake Wakatipu in Queenstown, New Zealand. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

and Hospitality Minister Louise Upston said in a statement.

Australia remained New Zealand's largest

visitor market, with a record 134,900 Australians arriving in July, up six per cent from a year earlier, Upston said.

Visitor arrivals from China increased by 5,400, or 25 per cent, from July 2025, while arrivals from the United States rose 12 per cent to 1,700, the statistics department said.

Upston said the latest figures showed international tourism was continuing to build momentum and helping drive economic growth across the country.

New Zealand is aiming to double the value of its tourism exports by 2034, supporting businesses, jobs and local communities, she said. — Xinhua

S Korea's August ICT exports hit record high on AI boom

SOUTH Korea's August exports of information and communications technology (ICT) products hit a record high on the back of an unprecedented boom in global artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure investments, government data showed Monday.

The ICT products shipment surged 162.6 per cent from a year earlier to US\$59.98 billion in August, shattering records once again and topping \$50 billion for a third consecutive month, according to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources.

ICT exports continued to go up for 19 straight

months since February 2025.

Semiconductor exports spiked 209.0 per cent to reach an all-time high of \$46.67 billion, marking a triple-digit increase for eight months in a row.

Display panel shipments fell 7.0 per cent to \$1.69 billion, but mobile phone exports jumped 23.2 per cent to \$1.64 billion thanks to solid demand for premium smartphones.

Shipments of computers and peripherals skyrocketed 383.1 per cent to \$6.40 billion amid robust demand for solid-state drives (SSDs), and com-



Samsung products are seen on a salesroom floor on 8 July 2025 in Miami, Florida. **PHOTO: AFP**

munications equipment exports advanced 11.5 per cent to \$210 million.

Imports of ICT products soared 48.8 per cent from a year earlier to \$18.61 billion in August,

sending the trade surplus in the ICT industry to \$41.37 billion.

The trade surplus surpassed \$40 billion for the first time in the country's history. — Xinhua

German investment in China rises by a third in H1: report

GERMAN companies increased their investment in China by around a third in the first half of 2026, while investment in the United States plunged 65 per cent, according to analyses by the German Economic Institute (IW).

German companies' direct investment in Chi-

na increased by around 5.6 billion euros (US\$6.5 billion) in the first six months of the year, about a third more compared with the same period last year, IW said in a report on Monday, citing data from the German central bank.

The report found that German companies' rein-

vested profits amounted to 7.8 billion euros (\$9 billion) in 2025, during which year the companies, according to IW's earlier analysis, invested around seven billion euros (\$8.1 billion) in China.

Over the longer term, German investment in China has remained broadly stable

at a relatively high level, with the average half-year figure between 2020 and 2025 also standing at around 5.6 billion euros, the report showed.

Most German companies remain committed to the Chinese market, said Juergen Matthes, an IW expert and author of the report. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan PM calls on IEA for cooperation in ensuring stable energy supplies

JAPANESE Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi on Monday called on the International Energy Agency to cooperate in ensuring stable energy supplies across the world as the Middle East conflict continues to threaten energy shipping.

"We want to strengthen the resilience of the global supply-demand structure, so let's work together to that end," Takaichi told IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol in their meeting in Tokyo.

Birol expressed respect for Japan's leading role in Asia in the field of energy security, stressing that the 32-member Paris-based body is always ready to support its related efforts.

Takaichi and Birol last met in March in Tokyo after IEA member nations decided to release strategic oil reserves totalling over 400 million barrels earlier that month.

The move followed the effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz, a key artery for global energy transport, in the wake of the US-Israel war with Iran launched in late February. — Kyodo

Kazakhstan to more than double oil refining capacity by 2040

KAZAKHSTAN plans to more than double its annual oil refining capacity from 18 million metric tonnes to 39 million metric tonnes by 2040 under a new development plan for the country's oil refining industry, the Kazakh Energy Ministry said Monday.

The ratio of oil production to refining is expected to improve from 5:1 to 2.5:1, Nazym Bekbatyrova, head of the ministry's oil refining and petroleum products production department, said on the sidelines of the 13th Downstream Central Asia & Caspian Summit in Astana, capital of Kazakhstan.

The plan focuses on six key areas: ensuring the domestic supply of petroleum products, increasing petrochemical output, developing applied science, strengthening the industry's workforce, adapting the oil industry to modern technologies, and expanding export opportunities, Bekbatyrova said.

The plan requires US\$15 billion to US\$19 billion in investment to expand refining capacity, raise the ratio of oil processing from 89 to 94 per cent, upgrade motor fuels to a higher environmental standard, and increase benzene and paraxylene production, she said. — Xinhua



An aerial drone photo taken on 1 August 2025 shows the China-Germany Equipment Manufacturing Industrial Park in Shenyang, northeast China's Liaoning Province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Fujitsu to sell Japan-made AI chip globally from Nov

FUJITSU Ltd said Monday that it will begin in November global sales of “Monaka”, a Japan-made central processing unit for artificial intelligence processing, as it seeks to expand its presence in an AI market where overseas companies have taken the lead.

The telecommunications and computer maker also said it will sell domestically produced servers equipped with Monaka in Japan and Europe, while the United States and China intensify efforts to lock in related technologies as military use of AI expands.

Demand is growing in Europe for reli-

able, Japanese-made products from a security perspective, prompting Fujitsu to provide integrated offerings ranging from semiconductors to servers.

Current AI chips are primarily graphics processing units, or GPUs, with US semiconductor giant Nvidia Corp dominating the market.

But GPUs require large amounts of electricity for AI processing. Fujitsu says Monaka improves processing performance and power efficiency for a method known as inference, in which AI generates answers based on what it has learned. — Kyodo

Major trade fair deepens consensus on global services cooperation

THE 2026 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS), held in the Chinese capital of Beijing from 9 to 13 September, has deepened consensus on strengthening cooperation in the services sector.

Fruitful outcomes were achieved during the fair, which saw the holding of nearly 100 conferences and forums as well as over 100 matchmaking and promotion events, said Zhu Guangyao, an official with China’s commerce ministry, at a press conference on the conclusion of the fair.

Zhu said the successful event sent a clear signal to the world that China will unswervingly expand high-standard opening up and promote high-quality development.



Visitors tour the 2026 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) at Shougang Park in Beijing, capital of China, 12 September 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

According to Lu Huiling, deputy head and spokesperson of the Beijing municipal commerce bureau, the 2026 CIFTIS has achieved more than 1,200 outcomes in seven categories, effectively promoting resource matching,

exchanges and cooperation. As the guest country of honour, Norway signed six cooperation agreements with Chinese enterprises and institutions, she said.

This year’s fair gained rising popularity, drawing

an increasing number of visitors to Shougang Park, the event’s venue. As of Sunday noon, the core areas of CIFTIS had received nearly 420,000 visits, up 36.6 per cent year on year, Lu said.

Themed “Global Services, Shared Prosperity”, the event saw more than 1,800 enterprises exhibit on site, including over 470 Fortune Global 500 companies and industry-leading enterprises. Exhibitions showcased new technologies, solutions, and achievements in services trade, including information and communication, fintech, digital and intelligent healthcare, smart education, energy conservation and environmental protection. — Xinhua

Oil gains on Mideast supply fears, AI warnings rattle tech firms

OIL prices jumped on Monday as Saudi Arabia closed a key pipeline amid the Middle East war, fueling worries about high inflation that is set to push the US Federal Reserve into hiking interest rates this week.

As crude futures rose once more — they began the week with gains of three per cent — US average diesel prices were also shooting higher, reaching a new record high above \$6.0 a gallon.

The widely expected Fed hike at a policy meeting set for Wednesday



People walk past an electronic quotation board displaying the Nikkei Stock Average on the Tokyo Stock Exchange in Tokyo on 14 September 2026. PHOTO: AFP

compounded a fresh sell-off in technology stocks across Asia but helped strengthen the dollar.

European stock mar-

kets were mostly lower around midday, though London managed to advance, helped by gains for heavyweight oil firms

Shell and BP as well as its lack of exposure to the technology sector.

Double headache

Tech bosses have backed calls for a slowdown in the development of artificial intelligence amid warnings that the technology could pose a threat to humanity.

Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei was the latest to sound alarm, calling Saturday on AI firms to slow the development of the powerful technology, saying that “addressing the risks requires even more prudence”. — AFP

Russia and China discuss cross-border unmanned road freight transport routes

AT the end of May this year, the first cross-border freight transport using unmanned trucks between Russia and Kazakhstan was carried out, head of Russia’s Ministry of Transport Andrey Nikitin said on the sidelines of the World Youth Festival.

“We are currently

discussing an unmanned route to China, and we will definitely implement this project with our Chinese colleagues,” he said.

The World Youth Festival is running from 11 to 17 September 2026 in Yekaterinburg, with Sputnik being its general information partner. — SPUTNIK

Nigerian oil refinery Dangote launches IPO

NIGERIAN billionaire Aliko Dangote on Monday launched what is slated as Africa’s biggest initial public offering (IPO), which aims to raise \$1.6 billion to expand his mega

oil refinery to become the world’s largest.

The Lagos-based refinery, which began operations in 2024, has a capacity of 700,000 barrels per day, exceeding domes-

tic demand in Nigeria, Africa’s most populous country.

It began exporting its fuel abroad a few months ago.

The Dangote Petrole-

um Refinery aims to raise funds to double its capacity to 1.4 million barrels a day by 2028, which would make it the world’s largest refinery, surpassing Jamnagar in India. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V LINN LATT VOY.NO. (LLT003)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V LINN LATT VOY.NO. (LLT003)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **15-9-2026** 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 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M 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 KAN LINN THU TRADING & LOGISTIC COMPANY LIMITED

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Storm-driven erosion batters Southern California coast



A person takes photos of huge waves at Newport Beach, California, the United States, 20 August 2023. PHOTO: XINHUA

POWERFUL surf generated by the remnants of former Hurricane Marie battered Southern California's coast last week, stripping sand from beaches, damaging homes and walkways, and exposing once again the vulnerability of oceanfront commu-

nities. "With global warming, superstorms and ocean current shifts, I'm afraid it's only going to get worse," former Malibu resident SA Baker told Xinhua. "Las Vegas might be beachfront property one day if this keeps up".

The worst damage was reported along the Alamitos Peninsula in Long Beach, where days of large breaking waves overwhelmed sand berms and pounded a seawall protecting homes packed tightly between the Pacific Ocean and narrow streets. At least 24 oceanfront homes were placed under evacuation orders while officials assessed structural damage and possible foundation undermining. The immediate trigger was the swells generated by Hurricane Marie, which remained far offshore but sent long-period waves towards south- and southwest-facing beaches. Such swells can carry substantial energy over long

distances and produce powerful breaking waves when they reach the coast. The combination of high surf and high astronomical tides increased the risk of coastal flooding and erosion. A strengthening El Nino could bring wetter and stormier conditions to Southern California later this year and into the winter, potentially increasing coastal flooding and erosion risks. "Unfortunately, this is just a preview," climate scientist Daniel Swain said in a public discussion last week, warning that coastal flooding risks could grow in the fall and winter if El Nino conditions intensify. — Xinhua

Indonesia searches for missing passengers after ferry capsizes off Java

INDONESIAN rescuers searched Monday for more than 100 people missing after a ferry capsized in rough seas, with aircraft, naval vessels and divers deployed to find survivors, the country's top rescue official said. The Virgo Transport 8, which authorities said carried 213 passengers and 30 crew, lost contact with its shipping company early on Sunday after departing Surabaya, Indonesia's second-largest city, in East Java. National search and rescue agency chief Mohammad Syafii said Monday that six people had been confirmed dead and 129 others were missing.

At least 108 others had been rescued the previous day. Five aircrafts and 17 vessels, including navy warships, were deployed to assist with the search, which will be focused in areas around the capsized ferry, he added. "We will maximise the search operation in six sectors that we have divided by prioritising the search for floating victims," Syafii said. "Hopefully, we can find the victims in safe condition." He added that divers and underwater drones will be deployed to search for the victims in and around the wreck, which rescuers have located. — AFP



A woman (C) reacts as police officers display a list of the victims of the Virgo Transport 8 passenger ferry, which capsized the previous day while en route from Banjarmasin to Surabaya, at the port in Banjarmasin, South Kalimantan, on 14 September 2026. PHOTO: AFP

Trump's Irish unification remarks draw opposition in Britain

THE remarks by US President Donald Trump on the unification of Ireland and Britain's Northern Ireland have sparked strong opposition from Britain. During a two-day visit to Ireland, Trump said on Saturday he would "love to see" the unification of Ireland and Northern Ireland. "I don't want to cause any problems, but I will tell you, I'd love to see it unified," Trump said at a joint press conference with Irish Prime Minister Micheal Martin in Dublin. He said he believed unification would "happen eventually"



Taoiseach of Ireland Micheal Martin speaks at the opening ceremony of the Irish presidency of the Council of the European Union (EU) in Dublin, Ireland, 1 July 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

and "may as well happen now".

Trump later acknowl-

edged that the issue was controversial, saying there was "no good answer" to

the question of Irish unification. Martin urged politicians to "keep a calm perspective" on Trump's comments, saying that there was no need for an overreaction. He added that Trump's view on the issue was consistent with remarks he had made previously. British Conservative Party leader Kemi Badenoch said on X Saturday that Trump was "shooting from the hip as usual, just like he did with Greenland and Canada becoming the 51st state". — Xinhua

S African President Warns of Dangers of Using AI to Develop Biological Weapons

SOUTH African President Cyril Ramaphosa on Sunday warned of the risk that artificial intelligence could be used in the development of biological weapons and called for developing measures to protect against AI-related risks.

The 18th BRICS summit took place in New Delhi on 12-13 September. On Saturday, the leaders adopted the New Delhi Declaration, outlining the direction for future cooperation among the member nations. "We must listen care-

fully to what those who are developing the most powerful AI systems are themselves telling us. They are warning against systems that are capable of advanced cyber operations, assistance in biological weapons development, au-

tonomous action, manipulation, mass surveillance, disruption of employment, and ultimately systems whose capabilities may become difficult for human beings to control," the president said at the BRICS summit in India. — SPUTNIK

DPRK military conducts joint firepower attack drill: KCNA

THE military of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) has conducted a joint firepower attack drill involving its long-range artillery and missile units, the official Korean Central News Agency said Monday. Subunits selected from the five artillery and missile joint units participated in the drill on Saturday, the report said, adding that the

drill "involved new combat systems such as attack drones of various kinds, tactical cruise missile, large-caliber thermal-pressure multiple rocket launcher and tactical ballistic missile". All strike weapon systems demonstrated the huge destructive power of concentrated fire during the drill, ensuring the unity and simultaneity of the firepower attacks, it said. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Asian Games: Myanmar women's team suffers heavy defeat to S Korea



A Myanmar player (white) vies for the ball with a Korean player during the women's football match at the 20th Asian Games on 14 September. **PHOTO: MFF**

ON the first day of the women's football Group F stage at the 20th Asian Games, hosted by Japan on 14 September, the Myanmar women's football team lost 0-5 to South Korea.

Facing Asian powerhouse South Korea, the Myanmar

team mainly focused on earning points and conceding as few goals as possible, but allowed five goals. Although Myanmar managed to keep a clean sheet until around 25 minutes, they conceded the opening goal in 28 minutes,

followed by three goals in the first half and two in the second half.

Myanmar Women's starting lineup was led by veteran players — captain Khin Marlar Tun and striker Win Theingi Tun.

For South Korea, Midfielder Kim Min-ji scored a hat-trick in 28, 32 and 59 minutes, while defender Jang Selgi scored in 37 minutes and Choe Yuri in 77 minutes.

Myanmar goalkeeper Myo Mya Mya Nyein prevented South Korea from scoring another goal by saving a penalty.

In the other Group F match, North Korea trounced Bangladesh 10-0.

Myanmar will play their second group match against North Korea on 17 September.

— Nyi Myat Thawda

Zverev beats Shelton to claim men's singles title at US Open

TOP seed Alexander Zverev of Germany beat home favorite Ben Shelton 6-3, 7-6 (2), 5-7, 6-2 in the US Open men's singles final on Sunday.

The victory marked Zverev's second Grand Slam singles title after his triumph at Roland Garros earlier this year.

Zverev had won all five of his previous meetings with Shelton and made a strong start, taking the opening set 6-3.

Eighth-seeded Shelton responded in the second set and forced a tiebreak, but Zverev prevailed 7-6 (2). The American then won 90 per cent of points on his first serve to take the third set 7-5.

In the fourth, the 29-year-old Zverev gave Shelton few opportunities to break and sealed



Alexander Zverev holds the trophy during the award ceremony after the men's singles final at the 2026 US Open tennis championships in New York, 13 September 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

the victory 6-2.

"We went 30 years without winning a Grand Slam and now we won two in the span of three months," Zverev said to his team after the match. "I think 2026 is the outcome of all the years that happened before." — Xinhua

Cambodia sends 106-member delegation to 2026 Asian Games

CAMBODIA will send a 106-member delegation to compete in 14 sports at the 2026 Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, the country's Olympic chief said Monday.

Senior Minister Thong Khon, president of the National Olympic Committee of Cambodia, said Cambodian athletes will compete in swimming,

athletics, boxing, jiu-jitsu, judo, karate, taekwondo, triathlon, wrestling, esports, teqball, mixed martial arts, sailing and soft tennis.

"Among the 14 sports, we have identified six with high potential for winning medals: jiu-jitsu, taekwondo, triathlon, karate, mixed martial arts and esports," Khon said. — Xinhua

New Generation Traditional Myanma Lethwei Competition set for 20 Sept

THE New Generation Traditional Myanma Lethwei Competition, organized by the Traditional Myanma Lethwei Federation to honour outstanding athletes who represented Mandalay Region at the Region and State Traditional Myanma Lethwei Competition, will be held in Mandalay on 20 September (Sunday), said reports.

The competition aims to preserve and promote traditional Myanma Lethwei and encourage the emergence of talented new-generation Lethwei athletes.

The competition will begin at 1 pm at the small Mandala Thiri Gymnasium. Lethwei en-



A ground poster for the New Generation Traditional Myanma Lethwei Competition.

thusiasts will be able to attend and support the event free of charge. — TWA/KNN

Asian Games: Japan hockey teams eye repeat of 2018 Jakarta success

AFTER winning both men's and women's gold in 2018 in Jakarta, Japan's hockey teams are aiming to reclaim the titles on home turf at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games and earn automatic qualification to the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

The men's team finished runners-up at the previous Asian Games in 2023 in Hangzhou, China, following a 5-1 defeat to India in the final and they will face each other again, this time in the group stage.

"We want to go into the tournament on the back of the best preparation possible," manager Yoshihiro Anai said as Japan aim to return to Los Angeles, where

the men's team made their Olympics debut in 1932 and won their only medal to date with silver.

While the team could not reach the Paris Games even via the final qualifiers, it hopes to book its Olympic ticket this time with the backing of a home crowd in the familiar surroundings of the national team training base in Kakamigahara, Gifu Prefecture.

"The only way is to devote our body and soul to charge towards our goal," captain Raiki Fujishima said. "I want people who are not familiar with hockey to come over too. I hope they get to feel something from our performance." — Kyodo



File photo shows Japan players celebrating after beating South Korea in a women's hockey international friendly match in Gifu Prefecture on 15 April 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**



WORLD

India approves electricity exports to flood-hit Nepal



The Nepali Army conducts a search-and-rescue operation inside the Chilime Hydropower Station tunnel days after deadly flash floods and mudslides in Nepal's Rasuwa district on 10 September 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

India approved the export of electricity to Nepal on Monday to help its neighbour overcome shortages caused by extensive damage to its hydropower projects from catastrophic floods last month.

The 26 August flood, triggered by a glacial mountain collapse on the China-Nepal border, killed more than 1,400 people in Nepal and Tibet.

Hundreds of workers at a series of hydropower projects are among more

than 5,300 people still missing in Nepal.

India will transmit up to 600 megawatts of electricity for 18 hours daily until the end of the year, the ministry of power said in a statement.

"The approval will

help Nepal meet its power requirements during this difficult period and further strengthen the close and longstanding energy cooperation between India and Nepal," it said.

The amount of electricity to be supplied from January 2027 onwards will be reviewed in December.

Four in five Nepalis did not have access to electricity at the turn of the century, according to the International Energy Agency, but a dam-building spree has since helped connect nearly all its 30 million people to the grid.

Hydropower has also emerged as a key driver of its exports to India and Bangladesh.

However, authorities suspended electricity exports after the floods hit at least 12 hydropower projects. — AFP

Meeting between Iran, Gulf states scheduled for Monday in Oman postponed

A meeting between Iran and Gulf states scheduled to take place in the Omani city of Salalah on Monday has been postponed, according to a social media post by Omani Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi on Sunday.

"In the interests of consensus the regional meeting set for tomorrow in Salalah has been postponed," Al Busaidi said on X.

"We remain committed to fostering dialogue that supports stability and lasting cooperation in our region," he added.

Confirming the meeting's deferral in an interview with Iran's official news agency IRNA, Mohammad Ali Bak, director general of the Persian Gulf at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, said it was postponed to another date at some re-

gional countries' requests and based on a joint decision by Iran and Oman.

The official stressed that Iran is in close consultations with Oman to ensure the necessary arrangements and coordination regarding the appropriate time for holding the meeting.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei announced on Friday that Gulf littoral states' foreign ministers were scheduled to meet in Oman on Monday to exchange views on regional issues, including the Iran-Oman talks on designating safe routes in the Strait of Hormuz.

Speaking to Al Jazeera on Saturday, Baghaei said the gathering would "hopefully" be attended by foreign ministers from Gulf states as well as Iran and Iraq. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 20 June 2026 shows the Strait of Hormuz near Khasab, a small town in northern Oman. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

S Korea ready to provide medical equipment to N Korea: report

SOUTH Korea has secured United Nations approval and funding to provide 166 types of medical equipment to a hospital in North Korea and is ready to proceed as soon as Pyongyang agrees to accept the assistance, Yonhap News Agency reported Monday.

In a unification ministry report submitted to Kim Dai Sik, a lawmaker from South Korea's main opposition People Power Party, the ministry said that the equipment, intended for diagnosis, surgery and treatment, would be delivered to Kangdong County Hospital in Pyong-

yang, according to Yonhap.

The hospital was completed in November 2025 as part of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's push to build modern medical facilities across the country.

The ministry said it had obtained a sanctions exemption from the UN

Security Council sanctions committee and plans to use the Inter-Korean Cooperation Fund to finance the project, describing it as a "ready to go" approach so that assistance can begin immediately once dialogue resumes, according to the Yonhap report. — Kyodo



This photo taken on 14 January 2026 shows the city centre of Nuuk, capital of Greenland, an autonomous territory of Denmark. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

EU leaders call for stronger Arctic role at summit in Finland

EUROPEAN leaders on Monday called for stronger, coordinated European Union (EU) action in the Arctic, highlighting the region's growing importance for European security and economic development.

Finnish Prime Minister Petteri Orpo, who hosted the two-day European Arctic Summit in

Rovaniemi, said its main message was that there was "a high demand for concrete action by the EU in the Arctic".

Speaking at a press conference following the summit, Orpo said participants agreed on the need to strengthen their shared assessment of threats and risks and their understand-

ing of the Arctic's strategic importance.

"We need strong and coordinated EU leadership," he said.

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz called for greater EU attention to the Arctic, citing its security significance and substantial economic opportunities in raw materials, en-

ergy and shipping.

He also highlighted the region's importance for space capabilities, referring to a recent rocket launch from Norway.

Merz stressed the importance of involving partners outside the EU in Arctic discussions, naming Iceland, Norway, Britain and Canada. — Xinhua