

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

1. To steadfastly strive for emergence of political forces and the people’s representatives who can implement a genuine, disciplined multi-party democratic system while constantly emphasizing on the national interests of the State.
2. To persistently strive for promoting the socio-economic life of the people through the development of agro-based industries in improving the agricultural sector; the vital foundation of the economic growth of the State.
3. To put emphasis on enhancing the national education and health sectors for sustainable development of the State.
4. To implement multi-party democratic system, with the participation of the people, to ensure the success of multi-party democratic general election process and successfully moving towards with the multi-party democratic system aspired by the entire people.

Peace and Development Urged for Swift Restoration in Kayin State

The nation can achieve true development only when every ethnic individual enjoys the full benefits of socioeconomic progress.

ACTING President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Thadoe Maha Thray Sithu Thadoe Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing sends a message to the ceremony to mark the 70th Anniversary of Kayin State Day, which falls on 7 November 2025. The full text of the translated message is as follows: -

[SEE PAGE 5](#)

MRCS provides K218.4M in cash aid to support quake-hit families in Nyaungshwe



Myanmar Red Cross Society distributes recovery cash aid in a village of Nyaungshwe Township affected by the Mandalay earthquake.

Before providing the assistance, trained Red Cross volunteers and staff visited the affected villages to conduct thorough household assessments in accordance with MRCS standards and procedures.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) provided a total of K218.4 million in recovery cash assistance to 546 households in several villages of Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State (South), which were affected by the Mandalay earthquake, according to the MRCS headquarters. The assistance covered 123 households in Nyaungwun Village, 135 in Thaleoo Inn Village, 99 in Mongthauk Inn Village, 187 in Inn Pawkhon Village, and two in Nandawun Village. Each household received K400,000 in recovery cash support. The Myanmar Red Cross Society carried out this financial assistance programme with support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Trained Red Cross volunteers and staff conducted field visits to the affected villages and carried out detailed household assessments in line with MRCS standards and procedures before providing the aid. — ASH/KZL

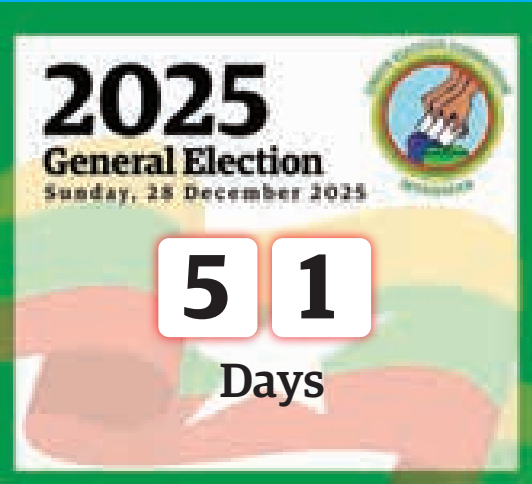
NATIONAL



2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

- Domestic election observers who wish to monitor the multiparty democratic general election, which will begin in phases on 28 December 2025, may apply for election observation permits at the Union Election Commission (UEC), as well as the relevant Region/State, District, and Township Election Subcommissions from today until 5 December 2025.
- The Union Election Commission announced on 16 September 2025 that domestic election observers must follow the Code of Conduct for Observers, issued under Notification 68/2025, and adhere to the procedures set out for their observation activities under Notification 69/2025. These notifications are available for viewing and can be downloaded from the Union Election Commission's official website <https://www.uec.gov.mm>.
- The Union Election Commission has also announced that international election observers will be allowed to monitor the multiparty democratic general election. Invitations will be extended directly to representatives of relevant countries and international organizations. In addition, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, invitations will be sent to representatives of foreign embassies, consulates, and permanent missions that maintain diplomatic relations with the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Union Election Commission



- Let us encourage production for prosperity of the Nation.
- Let us ensure education sector for the development of the Nation.
- Let us protect our environment for the prosperity of the Nation.

People's Pioneer Party (PPP) delivers campaign speech

THE electoral speech of the People's Pioneer Party (PPP) is featured on page 10 of today's issue of The Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar National Defence and Security Council Office

Order 48/2025

2nd Waning of Tazaungmone 1387 ME
6 November 2025

Appointment and Duty-Assignment of Deputy Ministers

THE National Defence and Security Council has appointed and assigned the following individuals to the duties of Deputy Ministers of the ministries, shown against each of their names under Subsection (b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

Name	Appointment
(1) Maj-Gen Aung Myo Thant	Ministry of Defence
(2) U Thant Sin Lwin	Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations
(3) U Thaik Soe	Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development

By order,
Aung Lin Dwe
Executive Chief

MPT lights lamps at three pagodas and donates to pilgrims for Tazaungdine Festival

MPT offered lit lamps at three prominent pagodas in Yangon on the full moon day of the Tazaungdine festival with donation items to pilgrims.

“We are delighted to be able to share merit with the pilgrims during the Tazaungdine festival. We are proud to have the opportunity to celebrate this lovely traditional festival with our staff and the pilgrims,” said Mr Yoshinori YAGI, Advisor, Business Department, MPT JO. — Oktha/MKKS



This image captures the MPT lit lamps offering event yesterday. **PHOTO: KOLWIN**

20th Kalaw Lighting Festival kicks off with torch lighting and ceremonial rituals



The launch of the 20th Kalaw Lighting Festival underway, unveiled by Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung and officials yesterday.

THE 20th Kalaw Maha Tazaungdine Traditional Lighting Festival and Torch Lighting Ceremony opened yesterday, attended by Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung and his wife, state ministers, the Kalaw station commander, state legal officers, departmental officials, local ethnic residents, and festival spectators.

At Mawmyay Oo Park, the traditional torch ceremony was inaugurated by cutting the ceremonial rope. The chief minister then officially opened the

festival by releasing 200 small lanterns and lighting ceremonial torches and lamps. Competing lighting tower teams and traditional dance troupes performed, followed by song and entertainment by local singers and renowned artistes.

The competition involves 21 lighting posts from 11 wards and villages in Kalaw, running from 5 to 8 November, with four posts displayed each night.

Earlier in the morning, 22 staff from the Department of General Administration commemorated the department's 37th anniversary at Taunggyi Women's and Children's Special Hospital, with the Chief Minister, ministers, legal officers, and officials observing and providing refreshments. — Maung Maung Than (TGI)/KZL

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

(An excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

Myanmar hosts 49th meeting of ASEAN Ports Association

MYANMA Port Authority of the Ministry of Transport and Communications hosted the 49th meeting of the ASEAN Ports Association at Wyndam Grand Yangon Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

Union Minister U Mya Tun Oo, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and regional ministers, the permanent secretary of the ministry, the managing director of Myanma Port Authority and officials of the departments concerned, the chairperson and executive members of the ASEAN Ports Association and other relevant officials attended the opening ceremony.

The Union minister separately received the chairman and executive members of the ASEAN Ports Association and representatives of member countries.

In his opening speech, Union Minister U Mya Tun Oo expressed that Myanmar was greatly honoured and delighted to host the meeting as the host country. He warmly welcomed all distinguished guests and extended his sincere gratitude to the majority of member states for attending the meeting in person. He continued that the meeting was being held under the theme “Navigating Together, Sustainable Forever” of the



The 49th meeting of the ASEAN Ports Association in progress yesterday, addressed by Union Minister U Mya Tun Oo.

ASEAN Ports Association, in line with ASEAN’s motto “One Vision, One Identity, One Community,” to work together toward common prosperity and long-term sustainable development within the ASEAN Port Community. The ports play a crucial role as major driving forces in the economic development of the ASEAN region. During this meeting, participants would have the opportunity to discuss practical strategies and collaborative initiatives to strengthen

maritime trade networks, enhance port performance, and promote sustainable development.

He added that member states have been implementing Digital Transformation, Innovation, Decarbonization, and Human Resource Development to improve connectivity and performance among ports in the region. By sharing positive experiences from each country, the meeting will bring mutual benefits and understanding.

ASEAN Ports Association Chairman Captain Basza Alexzandar Basri of Brunei remarked, and Managing Director U Zaw Tun Lwin of the Myanma Port Authority briefed on the occasion.

The ASEAN Ports Association was established in 1974, and Myanmar became a member in 2005. The association includes nine member countries: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. — MNA/KTZH

MoFR Union Minister receives UNOPS A-P Regional Director

UNION Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Kan Zaw received Mr Sanjay Mathur, Regional Director of the United Nations Office for Project Service (UNOPS) for the Asia-Pacific Region, at Office 46 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They cordially discussed the projects, humanitarian assistance and technical assistance provided by the United Nations for the development of Myanmar.

Senior officials from the Ministry of Finance and Revenue also attended the courtesy call. — MNA



UNOPS Asia-Pacific Regional Director Mr Sanjay Mathur calls on Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw yesterday.

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

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

NATIONAL

MoFA Union Minister receives UNOPS A-P Regional Director

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe received Mr Sanjay Mathur, Regional Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) Asia-Pacific Region based in Bangkok, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

They exchanged views on matters related to the existing cooperation between Myanmar and the UNOPS.

Also present at the meeting were respective officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ms Sara Austin Netzer, Country Director and Representative of UNOPS in Myanmar. — MNA

UNOPS Asia-Pacific Regional Director Mr Sanjay Mathur calls on Union Minister U Than Swe yesterday.



MSWRR Union Minister attends 2025 Belt and Road Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction & Emergency Management

THE 2025 Belt and Road Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management is being held in Hainan, People's Republic of China, from 5 to 7 November; with Dr Soe Win, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, attending.

The meeting was attended by ministers and officials responsible for disaster management across the Belt and Road countries. In the meeting, the members of the Council for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management of the Belt and Road Countries delivered country-specific speeches, and the Union minister stated that the Council provides an excellent platform for member countries to discuss and develop solutions for disaster risk reduction, occupational safety, and emergency relief, as well as share best prac-



The 2025 BRI Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction & Emergency Management in progress in China yesterday, attended by Union Minister Dr Soe Win.



tices. He noted that the Council's motto, "People First, People's Livelihoods as the Top Priority," aligns with his ministry's goal of creating a safe and disaster-resilient society, welcomed the theme of BRIDRREM 2025, "A Community with a Shared Future: Building a Rapid and Efficient Emergency Rescue

Mechanism," and emphasized that Myanmar will collaborate with member countries to implement practical activities in line with this theme.

Yesterday afternoon, the Union minister met separately with Mr Wang Xiangxi, Minister of Emergency Management of the People's Republic of China and

Chairman of the Council for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management of the Belt and Road Countries, to discuss ways to enhance cooperation in emergency response, search and rescue, early warning systems, information sharing, and broader disaster risk management. The Union minister expressed his

gratitude to the government and people of the People's Republic of China for their assistance in the Mandalay earthquake response and recovery efforts, emphasizing the longstanding Pauk-Phaw friendship between the two countries. After the meeting, the Union Minister answered questions from Chinese media. — MNA/TH

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gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Peace and Development Urged for Swift Restoration in Kayin State

FROM PAGE 1

Esteemed national brethren in Kayin State,

I extend my heartfelt greetings with best wishes for physical and mental well-being, with prosperity of all national brethren in the Kayin State, and all Union-born ethnic people across the country be on the significant occasion of the 70th Anniversary of Kayin State Day today.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been a sovereign country which has been preserving its own culture, literature and languages for thousands of years. Historical evidences firmly showcase that all national brethren have been residing in various areas of the country in unison and co-existence.

Kayin ethnic groups have been living in the Kayin State together with other ethnic nationalities in harmony since yore. Our country lost its independence in 1885 and fell under the rule of colonialists. After losing their independence, all ethnic people residing in all parts of the Union drove out the colonialists and invaders through the spirit of not accepting enslavement. After regaining independence, the country formed the divisions and states. In this regard, a plan was initiated to designate the areas where the majority of Kayin ethnic people live as the Kayin State.

According to Section 62 of the Amendment to the Constitution 1951, the Papun area of Thanlwin District was designated as the Kayin State. Afterwards, the establishment of the Kayin State was expanded with six townships, namely Kya-in-Seikkyi Township, Kawkareik Township, Hlaingbwe Township, Hpa-an Township and Thandaunggyi Township, along with the Thanlwin District and its adjoining areas, as the second stage expansion of the Kayin State in accord with the 1952 Kayin State Expansion Act No 14. On 1 March 1960, the township list of the Kayin State was added with the town of Myawady as a township, totalling seven townships. The day marking the birth and emergence of the Kayin State was designated as a pleasant period of the early winter season. Beginning on 7 November 1955, the Kayin State Day has been proudly and grandly celebrated every year, and today marks its 70th anniversary.

Shan, Pa-O, Bamar, Mon and other ethnic nationalities co-exist peacefully and harmoniously Kayin people in the Kayin State. The Kayin State is located in the southeastern part of the country. It enjoys a moderate and pleasant climate and is endowed with abundant natural resources such as rivers, waterfalls, streams, lush green mountain ranges, and fertile forests. The natural beauty of Mount Zwegabin also stands as one of the prominent symbols of the Kayin State. In addition, the state possesses invaluable ancient heritages, including stupas and temples, beautiful natural caves, and cherished traditional customs and cultural practices – truly matters of pride. The lively and graceful Kayin Don Dance, performed to the beat of the traditional frog drums, is renowned not only within the country but

also abroad, particularly in the region where Mount Zwegabin stands as a landmark.

After regaining independence, due to the legacy of the colonialists’ policy of divide and rule, misunderstandings arose among the national brethren, leading to armed conflicts that disrupted peace and stability within the Kayin State, which is a situation that has persisted until today. In order to achieve and sustain internal peace and the internal peace outcomes, which are the true essence of the State, efforts have been made with great emphasis in accordance with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA). As a result, ethnic armed organizations have signed the agreement and cooperated in implementing peace efforts together.

However, following the 2020 election irregularities, Tatmadaw assumed state responsibilities in accordance with the Constitution. Since then, some ethnic armed organizations, ignoring the truth, have intensified acts of violence, including in the Kayin State. As a result, certain areas of the Kayin State that were once peaceful and stable, where local ethnic people had lived freely and securely, have now become unstable. The people are suffering from hardships and insecurity, which is deeply regrettable. Therefore, I would like to urge the relevant stakeholders to view the situation based on the truth and to prioritize efforts for the peace, stability, and prosperity of the state.

Despite challenges, the State will continue striving to ensure full peace, stability, and the rule of law, while further promoting national development. In addition, in line with the Objective of the National Defence and Security Council, to implement a multiparty democratic system, with the participation of the people, to ensure the success of the multiparty democratic general election process and successfully move towards the multiparty democratic system aspired by the entire people, efforts are being made to successfully hold the upcoming elections. The Union Election Commission issued Announcement 55/2025 on 18 August 2025 to hold the first phase of the multiparty democratic general election in 102 townships for the relevant Hluttaw on 28 December 2025. Moreover, the announcement has been issued to hold the second phase of the general election in 100 more townships on 11 January 2026, with a plan to release the dates of relevant election phases.

The Union Election Commission is preparing the electoral processes to hold the multiparty democratic general election successfully, in accordance with laws and rules, to ensure it is free, fair, transparent, and conducted with integrity. These preparations aim to protect the rights of all eligible voters and to guarantee that no one’s rights are infringed. For the election to be successful, peace and stability in the relevant regions are essential. So, I would like to urge all voters to actively participate and cooperate in the election process so that the multiparty democratic system, which they aspire to, can be successfully realized.

Esteemed national brethren in the Kayin State,

In promoting national economic development, efforts are being made to advance related sectors such as education, healthcare, the rule of law, and transportation infrastructures. In carrying out production activities, it is essential to focus on the development and success of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), which form the foundation of the economy. If these enterprises can integrate technology and produce higher value-added products, they will bring greater benefits and contribute significantly to national economic growth. By fully supporting MSME activities based on existing agricultural and livestock production throughout the Kayin State, the socioeconomic livelihoods of ethnic communities will improve. Therefore, the governments of states and regions, including the Kayin State, are encouraged to give priority to and actively promote national economic development.

The government, in its part, is striving to ensure peace and stability of the State as well as develop the country while emphasizing the development of the socioeconomic lives of citizens, good health of all people, and improvement of education standard to secure employment to enable all citizens to earn incomes and alleviate poverty. Only when individual ethnic groups can enjoy the fruits of socioeconomic life will the entire nation develop. As such, I would like to urge all regions and states, as well as ministries, to adopt visions to be implemented successfully in order to improve the socioeconomic life of individuals.

As the State is combating instigations, incitement and dangers of violent destruction posed by terrorist groups which oppose efforts of the State and the government and do not wish to see peace and stability of the country, I would like to deeply urge all the ethnic people to participate in its efforts. The government believes that, together with the people, all ethnic groups can overcome any difficulties, challenges, or crises that may affect the nation and its citizens by working hand in hand, guided by a genuine Union spirit and patriotism.

Esteemed national brethren in the Kayin State,

All national brethren residing in the Kayin State in harmony have to strive for the emergence of the Kayin State, which restores better peace and more development. Moreover, I would like to deeply urge all national brethren to make concerted efforts to overcome a variety of difficulties and challenges they face in order to strengthen the genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system that all the ethnic people aspire to and to build a Union based on democracy and a federal system.

I sent this message with best wishes for all ethnic people residing in the Kayin State to be able to enjoy the fruits of internal peace and stability, as well as development undertakings from this 70th anniversary occasion of the Kayin State over the years. May they all shape the Kayin State to be peaceful and developed in unity and harmony.

NATIONAL

BEd degree graduation ceremony held

THE University for the Development of the National Races of the Union held the Graduation Ceremony of the five-year Education Degree Course No 7 and issued the recruitment certificate to the graduates yesterday at the Convocation Hall of the University in Sagaing.

In his speech, State Security and Peace Commission Member Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Ethnic Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae highlighted the strategies, policies and objectives of the Ministry of Border Affairs to develop the human resources and socioeconomic status.

Since the University for the Development of the National Races of the Union was founded, there have been 175 trainees who completed the master's degrees



The graduation event of the University for the Development of the National Races of the Union in progress in Sagaing yesterday, addressed by Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae.

in education, 35 graduates for MPhil in education, 4,977 graduates in education, 932 who completed the diploma in teaching, 956 who completed the diploma in middle school teaching, 7,162 who completed the primary teacher training course, 461 who completed the special primary teacher training course, altogether 14,698

young people were graduated.

He urged graduates to continuously strive to improve their knowledge and skills in order to educate the youth under their care to embody the spirit of the Union, upholding the Three Main National Courses.

He continued that graduates should work with locals in

carrying out the development programmes of their assigned duty areas and serve duties with full accountability and responsibilities.

The Union minister and the Sagaing Region chief minister awarded the outstanding students, and the director-general of the Ministry of Border Affairs

and the Sagaing Region education officer handed over the recruitment certificates to the graduates.

After the ceremony, the Union minister and the chief minister met outstanding prize winners and extended words of honour, and cordially greeted the graduates.

At noon, the Union minister met the rector and faculty members of the university, and inspected the river water pumping project using a solar system, learning processes of students and the university compound.

In the evening, the Union minister and party hosted a dinner for the graduates, watched the performance and presented bouquets and cash prizes. — MNA/KTZH

MoE Union Minister meets teachers, students, and parents in Kyaukme and Nawnghkio



Union Minister Dr Chaw Chaw Sein is pictured during the meeting with teachers, students, and parents in Kyaukme yesterday.

UNION Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw Sein, accompanied by officials, visited No 1 Basic Education High School in Kyaukme Township yesterday and met with teachers, students and students' parents.

During the meeting, the Union minister stated that the government is prioritizing and supporting the education sector and is also providing teaching and learning aid materials.

She also highlighted the role of teachers' and parents' involvement in successfully realizing the policies of education, the responsibility of teachers regarding the teaching aspects for improving the Grade-12 pass rate, and the need for parents to provide

guidance and supervision for their children outside of school hours.

She then mentioned the opportunities for those who do not want to attend Grade 12 after passing Grade 9 to learn advanced industrial, agriculture and livestock breeding subjects.

She stated that teachers are vital in the teaching sector and will have to attend capacity-building courses for their respective subjects in the summer. Those who cannot join the courses can learn through lessons broadcast on the Myanmar education channel.

The deputy minister appreciated the efforts to cooperate in activities aimed at

reopening the schools. The teachers and parents asked questions regarding matters they wished to know about, and the Union minister and responsible officials coordinated and addressed them.

Union Minister Dr Chaw Chaw Sein and the party donated cash, school uniforms, books and stationery and backpacks to the officials of Kyaukme and Hsipaw townships' education offices and students.

They also observed the peaceful learning session of primary students, provided them with backpacks and inspected the library.

On arrival at No 1 BEHS in Nawnghkio Township, the Union minister met teachers, students and parents. She then presented cash prizes to the teachers and students.

She inspected the classrooms and presented school uniforms, books, stationery and backpacks for the primary students.

Afterwards, she visited the Nawnghkio township basic education high school (Branch, Ommathi), and inspected the reconstruction processes. — MNA/KTZH

Kayin traditional Don dance competition celebrates 70th Kayin State Day in Hpa-an

THE Kayin traditional Don dance competition was held in Hpa-an, Kayin State, yesterday to mark the 70th Anniversary of Kayin State Day.

Kayin State Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo, along with state-level officials, opened the event and gave a brief explanation on the history of the Kayin traditional Don dance. Following this, he watched the lively dance performance of the Hlaing Kaba Village Don Dance Troupe, which represented the Donyin Station, and presented the troupe with an award.

Afterwards, on the first night of the 70th Anniversary Kayin State Day Commemorative Don Dance Competition, the Chief Minister watched the competitive performance of 10

Don dance troupes and presented them with awards.

In total, 20 Don dance troupes will compete in two rounds each day throughout the competition. The best 10 troupes will be selected to compete again and awarded prizes, including the song prize, prayer song prize, Don dance prize, and all-around excellence prize.

Similarly, yesterday afternoon, the Chief Minister and officials inspected the preparations for the 70th Anniversary Kayin State Day celebration, including the ethnic literature and culture galleries, local MSME product galleries and sales booths, and issued necessary instructions. — Saw Myo Min Thein (IPRD)/MKKS



The celebration of the 70th Kayin State Day is underway in Hpa-an yesterday.

NATIONAL

Merit-sharing ceremony for 55th Tatkon Maha Kathina event

A merit-sharing ceremony for the 55th Tatkon Maha Kathina event was organized at Aung San Hall in Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

A total of 55 Sayadaws and monks led by township Maha Bon Kahtein Ovadacariya Sayadaw Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Bhaddanta Candasiri (Myo Shae Sandayon Monastery) attended the event.

Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Zeyar Lin, departmental officials and donors offered day meals to Sayadaws.

At noon, Ovadacariya Sayadaw delivered Saraniya Ovada Katha, and Maha Kathina

ceremony organizing chairman U Zaw Lwin supplicated the distribution and drawing lots for Padetha trees.

The congregation took the Five Precepts from Sayadaws and listened to the Paritta recited by Sayadaws.

The Kathina organizing committee members and donors donated the offerings to the invited Sayadaws and eligible Sayadaws for Kathina.

They shared the merit gained.

A total of 162 Padethabin structures decorated with offerings worth K273,285,900 were donated at the 55th Tatkon Maha Kathina ceremony. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn attends the merit-sharing event for the 55th Tatkon Maha-Kathina Festival in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Rakhine Chief Minister reviews Lawkananda Pagoda renovation, leads State Investment Committee meeting

RAKHINE State Chief Minister U Htein Lin, together with state ministers, visited and inspected the progress of major renovation work being carried out on the Sasana Beikman building within the precinct of the Lawkananda Pagoda in Sittway yesterday morning.

During the inspection, the chief minister instructed those responsible to carry out the renovation systematically in line with the original architectural design. He also examined the availability of construction materials and observed the ongoing major renovation works.

On the afternoon of 5 November, the chief minister also attended the 1/2025 meeting of the Rakhine State Investment Committee held at the meeting hall of the Rakhine State Government Office.

In his opening remarks, the chief minister said that key enterprises in Rakhine State — such as aquatic products processing, cold storage facilities, canning and packaging factories, the cultivation of major crops including rice, maize, beans, chillies,



The Rakhine State chief minister and officials are pictured during their inspection tours in Sittway yesterday.

ginger, turmeric, and vegetables, as well as plantation crops like sugarcane, rubber, and oil palm – had all achieved significant progress. He added that livestock breeding of buffaloes, cattle, poultry, fish, prawns, and crabs, along with salt production, logistics, hotel, and tourism services, had also been successfully implemented across the state.

He noted that during the meeting, the Rakhine State Investment Committee would discuss proposals for amendments to approved permits and requests for extension of implementation periods. He encouraged participants to

share their views and recommendations, stating that the committee would scrutinize and approve matters in line with existing laws, rules, and regulations.

Afterwards, the head of Rakhine State's Investment and Company Administration, who is also the secretary of the Rakhine State Investment Committee, presented the proposals for approval. State ministers and committee members discussed and offered their suggestions on the presentations, after which the chief minister delivered closing remarks. — Tin Tun (IPRD)/KZL

2025 General Election Guidebook launched for Myanmar media

THE launch ceremony for the 2025 General Election Guide for Myanmar Media Professionals, published by the Myanmar Press Council (MPC), took place yesterday morning at ShweU Daung Hall, News and Periodicals Enterprise, Botahtaung Township, Yangon.

Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs U Htay Aung first delivered a keynote address on the guidebook, while MPC Chairman Dr Tin Tun Oo explained the arrangements made for its production.

MPC Chairman Dr Tin Tun Oo then presented the guidebooks to Daw Khin Saw Lin, Director of the Yangon Region Information and Public Relations Department, and also presented a certificate of appreciation to officials of the Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association for their donation of 2,000 copies of guidebooks.

MPC Second Vice-Chair-

man U Khin Maung Kyaw Din explained the guidebook.

Afterwards, Yangon Region Advocate-General Daw Phyu Mar Wai, the director general of the Information and Public Relations Department, officials from the Union Election Commission, representatives of political parties, and invited media personnel attended the book launch.

The book consists of three chapters: General Election Guide for Myanmar News Media, General Election Information for Myanmar News Media, and Local and Foreign News Media's Right to Apply for News Coverage on Election Day. It also includes contact numbers for Union Election Subcommissions, as well as addresses and phone numbers of registered and existing political parties.

The guidebook will be distributed across regions and states to reach journalists throughout the country. — MNA/TH



The launch of the 2025 General Election Guidebook underway yesterday in Yangon.

Cultural activities: The image of motherland Myanmar

MYANMAR has diverse cultural heritages and properties across various regions, particularly in monuments and ancient sites. Normally, neither the people of Myanmar nor international tourists can fully recognize the significant identities of these cultural heritages. However, some cultural activities and aspects of Myanmar’s heritage become vividly visible during prominent occasions.

Ancient cultural sites and archaeological areas preserve a variety of tangible and intangible cultural properties. Generally, both domestic and international travellers visit Myanmar’s ancient sites, including World Heritage sites, migratory bird habitats, wildlife sanctuaries, and various monuments. However, they cannot fully explore or deeply appreciate the remarkable cultural heritage these sites hold.

All ethnic peoples residing in all parts of Myanmar should preserve the cultural heritages and traditions of their respective nationalities. They must recognize that today’s actions will become valuable cultural evidence for future generations. Proper and respectful conduct will bring honour to the State, whereas misconduct and shameful behaviours will tarnish the image of the motherland. That is why all Myanmar people need to choose the right path and uphold the nation’s dignity.

All generations of Myanmar should explore and learn from these tangible and intangible cultural activities. At the same time, they should showcase the finest aspects of Myanmar’s cultural identity to the international community, with a sense of pride in the nation’s brilliant cultural heritage that has endured for thousands of years.

As such, all Myanmar people need to cherish and take care of the cultural activities of the motherland, Myanmar. They should neither underestimate nor criticize these traditional events, but rather seek to understand the rich histories behind current practices. Moreover, it is their responsibility to safeguard and preserve these cultural properties as part of their national duty, ensuring the continuity of Myanmar’s cultural identity. Everyone should make efforts to record and document accessible cultural activities so that they may be preserved as archives for future generations.

All ethnic peoples residing in all parts of Myanmar should preserve the cultural heritages and traditions of their respective nationalities. They must recognize that today’s actions will become valuable cultural evidence for future generations. Proper and respectful conduct will bring honour to the State, whereas misconduct and shameful behaviours will tarnish the image of the motherland. That is why all Myanmar people need to choose the right path and uphold the nation’s dignity.

THE ‘teacher homage ceremony’ by the 8th batch BA (Law), LLB students of the teachers who taught this batch took place on 25 October 2025. Organizers (a few of my former classmates) have invited me to the ceremony. As a social obligation, I have told the organizers that I attended the ceremony and I also contributed to it.

The late history and international relations teacher, Dr Khin Maung Nyunt, stated in one of his articles that the teacher homage ceremony is unique to Burma/Myanmar. I do not know whether that claim is true or not. Do our neighbouring Buddhist countries, Thailand, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka, have teacher homage ceremonies or not?

Sayagyi (historian) Dr Than Tun’s almost contrarian view of homage ceremonies?

Somewhat in contrast to Dr Khin Maung Nyunt, the late historian Dr Than Tun (6 April 1923- 30 November 2005) once apparently or at least allegedly stated that such ‘homage ceremonies’ are somewhat like ‘bribery’. I should add that (if Sayagyi Dr Than Tun had really stated that) the homage ceremonies are not quite ‘bribery’ ceremonies for the former students have graduated years or even a few decades ago. They cannot bribe their former teachers for the pass rates or good grades. Still, in a sense, I got what Sayagyi Dr Than Tun was ‘coming from’ to revert to the colloquial.

My University teachers, almost by accident or by choice?

For me personally, it is almost by accident, so to speak, that those who taught me in my five years at the BA, LLB course. As I have written in a previous article IF I have chosen English major in its inaugural English major course THEN my teachers would have been the late Sayagyi Dr Myo Min (English Professor), the late Say-amagyi Daw Thein Nyunt (English Professor), the late Sayagyi Dr Khin Maung Nyunt referred to above and the late Saya Maung Khin Min (Danubyu) who Lectured Burmese to the inaugural English and subsequent three or four batches of the English majors. Alas, I was never their former student and only met Saya Maung Khin Min (Danubyu) and briefly Dr Khin Maung Nyunt. I have learned a lot from Saya Maung Khin Min’s books, though I never had the chance to pay my respects and obeisance (kadau). I should add that none of my 150 law freshers would have been eligible for the English major, as indeed I was certainly eligible to do so. And to be fair, all of the 17 to 20 English majors who enrolled in the inaugural course of 1970 would have been eligible to take law at the Rangoon Arts and Science University (RASU).

The year 2024 was the 50th anniversary of the inaugural English major course. I do not know whether the 1974 BA (English) graduate had a reunion and teacher homage ceremonies on the 50th anniversary of their graduation in 2024. The year 2025 is also the 50th anniversary of the 8th batch of BA, LLB graduates. Hence, the teacher homage ceremony and lunch, as well as dinner later that night on 25 October 2025, is the 50th anniversary of our graduation and also in a sense ‘reunion’ of the remaining, so to speak, classmates and teachers.

Teaching evaluations: A few of my experiences as a University student and University teacher

From my recall, I had my first chance to evaluate a teacher at the University of Michigan Law School in the Winter 1982 term. Near the end of the course on Legal Philosophy, Professor Philip Soper asked the students to fill out an evaluation form, which I filled in. I cannot recall whether or not there were other courses which asked students to do ‘evaluation forms’ at Michigan Law School.

Fast forward to the 1990s. I taught at the University of Malaya Law Faculty and the Law Faculty of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (National University of Malaysia) Law Faculty from July 1990 to May 1994. Students in both Law Faculties were not required to fill

Teacher homage ceremony v Teaching evaluation of teachers

By Myint Zan

Teacher homage ceremonies: unique to Burma/Myanmar?

out evaluation forms. Then from November 1994 to February 1997, I taught at the University of New England in Armidale, New South Wales, Australia. There, the students in all the courses that I taught were, at their option, filled out evaluation forms.

In one course, Introduction to Business Law or Law and Society, one student wrote of my teaching: ‘Lecturer illiterate and does not speak English’. But in a different course, ‘Human Rights’ in the same University, another student wrote in answer to the question in the evaluation form, ‘How could this course be improved?’ ‘This course does not need any improvement. It is the best course that I have taken.’ Two very different student evaluations in two different courses at the same University!

Fast forward to the year 2018 at the University of Mandalay Department of Law. I gave a guest Lecture on a topic which intersects with both international law and jurisprudence. A few foreigners who do not understand Burmese, including a Visiting Professor from the United States, attended my guest Lectures. Although there were only 3 or four foreigners who did not understand the Myanmar language, I gave my Lecture ‘bilingually’. I use PowerPoint notes in English. After my Lecture, the American professor told me that my Lecture/ talk was one of the best Lectures he had heard in the past ten years.

I shifted from the University of New England in Armidale to Deakin University in Burwood, Victoria, Australia. One of the classes I taught was at night. It started around 7 pm and it finished around 9 pm. Ordinarily, the procedure to distribute the evaluation sheets/ forms was that the Faculty office staff would bring the forms and distribute them in class immediately before the Lecture ended, and later they would collect and keep them. Because my classes were held at night, the staff said they did not want to stay late, so he evaluation forms were mailed to them and not distributed in person. Only those students who had a grudge against me apparently filled the form. Out of a class of 100 or more, only about ten filled the forms, and most of them are negative. There is a difference in distributing and collecting forms, which affected me negatively, I assert.

ALL student evaluation forms in all Universities where I have taught were kept (in secrecy) and were delivered to the Lecturer only AFTER the exams were over and AFTER both the Final and Supplementary exam results were issued. This is so in ALL student evaluations of teachers that I have experienced post-1993 in Universities in Australia, the South Pacific, the United States and Malaysia. This is to protect the students from being victimized by the disgruntled teachers. ALL the student evaluations were done anonymously. Students were specifically instructed NOT to write their names and student numbers in student forms, which they have to fill in their own handwriting. And the evaluation forms were delivered to the lecturers after all the exams were over.

By early 2007, when I joined Multimedia University in Malacca, Malaysia, the students’ evaluation forms were no longer pen and paper stuff (so to speak). By the time the semester teaching ended and before the students sat for their exam, emails were sent to them to access the website and fill in the evaluation forms online (only). They

were assured that it would be anonymous and they would be sent to the respective Lecturers only after both the Final and Supplementary exams are over and the results are released. Still, a few of my students expressed their concern that some lecturers might know who they are if they write negative and even slightly critical comments. I showed (a few of them) computer-generated forms of evaluations of my courses. No names or roll numbers are mentioned. But a few students told me that one particular lecturer scolded them in class about their negative comments. Some law courses are two-semester courses. After Part I of a particular Law subject is finished in the second semester, usually the same lecturer teaches Part II of the course. Hence, those lecturers who are displeased by the negative comments they received took it out and threatened (so to speak) with ‘vengeance’ in the next exam.

Anonymous nature of student evaluations of teachers

At Multimedia University in Malaysia, the students have to evaluate anonymously online, and if the number of student participants exceeds 50 per cent of the enrolled students, the evaluation is considered ‘valid’. Otherwise, it is not. In Burma/Myanmar, since about 1964, teachers graded their students’ from Grade 1 to Grade 5. Grade 1 being the lowest and Grade 5 being the best. In MMU, the students evaluate teachers from Grade 1 to Grade 5. If the student evaluations (which meet the 50 per cent participation requirement) go below Grade 3, then a ‘please explain’ or ‘reminder letter’ is sent to the particular lecturer by the respective office. If student evaluations reach ‘Grade’ 4.5 and above out of 5, then a compliments letter signed by the President of the University is sent to the Lecture. A Certificate of Merit is issued. And if I recall correctly, those 4.5/5 ‘star teachers from all Faculties were invited for dinner to honour them. In my ten-year stint at Multimedia University, I received a single certificate for ‘excellent teaching’ and attended a dinner together with others who received Grade 4.5/5 and above.

I was also for five weeks a Visiting Professor at West Virginia University (WVU) College of Law in the United States for about five weeks in September 2009. I made the mistake of devising my own ‘student evaluation forms’ and distributed them to the class of about 30 students. I taught international human rights law for about six hours a week for about five weeks at WVU College of Law. I distributed the forms a few days before the exam. Quite a few of the comments were almost savage. One wrote that ‘ I am very glad that his teaching is over, which I was looking forward to ’.

The forms were distributed to me only after I had marked the assignments and exam papers. I mentioned a few of those negative comments to a senior colleague at WVU College of Law, Professor Pat McGinley. Pat told me that he had also received negative comments in his evaluations from students. Pat mentioned that one of his evaluators (anonymously) wrote that ‘a child of eight can teach better than him’.

Now, most Universities in Malaysia, Australia, the South Pacific and the United States would have student evaluations on a sort of compulsory basis. As far as Myanmar is concerned, I am not aware whether or not there is an anonymous, online, compulsory (i.e., all the subjects have to be evaluated by students, albeit not actually forcing

the students to do the evaluations).

The Non-anonymous nature of student evaluations

I was told by a student that in one particular Law Department in Myanmar, in a class of 30 or 40 select few, say about ten or twenty, have to fill in evaluation forms. I do not know whether the evaluating students had to write their names. Perhaps not. I hope not. A monitor, a student or another teacher who does not teach the course collects the evaluation forms. I also do not know whether or not the evaluation forms were used in assessing the ‘evaluated’ law teachers’ say for their tenure or promotions.

I think some form of evaluation of teaching is perhaps advisable. And student evaluations may be necessary, but not sufficient. A three- or four-prong evaluation of teaching ability and competence may be necessary. First, evaluations could be done by the Dean or Head of the Department, secondly by senior and even junior colleagues and then by students. Indeed when I started teaching at the Faculty of Law at the University of Malaya in 1990 in a random check (so to speak) then Dean of the Law Faculty Associate Professor Wan Arfah Hamza checked in my International Law tutorial (she Lectured in international law) for about 30 minutes Decades later in 2008 the then Head of the Department of Law at Multimedia University Ms Flora Teichner also sat in my Contract Law Lecture class and my Lecture was videotaped for about 20 minutes, Later, I was requested to sit in another junior colleagues’ Lecture. I do not recall whether or not I was asked to fill in evaluation forms or at least write my comments.

‘Students as customers’ and ‘Teachers can do no wrong and all are worthy of obeisance’?

Still, going back to about 1998 when I was teaching at Deakin Law School in Victoria, Australia, then Head of the Department of Law Professor Philip Clarke said that the main pivot, so to speak, is student evaluations, not the evaluations by senior or junior colleagues. He said to the effect that if ‘two or three Contract Law Professors think that my teaching is fine, but if a majority of students think my teaching is poor, then I am not a good teacher’. This comment, I assert, is treating ‘students as customers’ and the almost corollary that ‘the customer is always right’. On the other hand, in Myanmar, largely due to cultural traditions, the teacher is always right’. Let’s not beat about the bush: some students are mean in person, mean in their evaluations. And some teachers are poor in teaching, mean in their attitudes towards students. In my fairly long experience as both a primary, middle, high school and a University student, I have seen some ineffective and mean teachers. As indeed I have seen generous, brilliant, hard-working, kind and devoted students as well as teachers.

In this age of privatization and commercialization ‘students as customers’ seems to be almost the order of the day. In Myanmar -dare I say it- the postulate or perhaps even dogma is that all the teachers deserve unquestioning deference, respect, genuflection, homage so ‘the teacher is not only always right but indeed worthy of reverence, veneration, homage’. Indeed, from what I had observed in teacher homage ceremonies here, students have to prostrate themselves on the ground and, among others, ‘beg for forgiveness if they have any transgressions against them in thought, word and deed!’ At times, from my experience, the ‘transgressions’ can also occasionally come from the other side (that is, from the teachers).

In 2017, the University of Mandalay law student team went for the International Criminal Law moot competition in Nuremberg, Germany. Absolutely free of charge, I trained them for about ten to fifteen hours in mock moot sessions. The team had to submit memorials written in English by about 3 am Myanmar standard time on a particular June day in 2017. Till about 2 am, I helped edit the memorials through emails and made phone calls between Mandalay and Yangon to help the students edit and improve the contents and style of the memorials.

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2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

People's Pioneer Party (PPP) talks about its policy, stance and work procedures

Dr Thet Thet Khine, Chairperson of the People's Pioneer Party (PPP), presented the policy, stance and work procedures of her party through radio and television on the evening of 6 November.
The full text of the presentation is as follows: -



ESTEEMED citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, I first extend my respectful greetings and wish you all complete well-being and auspiciousness. Our People's Pioneer Party, widely known as the 3-P party, is a programmatic party established based on policies and operational procedures. Following the party's motto, "People's livelihood comes first; grow peacefully and securely", we have set policies and programmes aimed at building a better future for all citizens. These will be systematically planned and implemented as the 100-day plan, the one-year plan, and the five-year plan.

Myanmar had faced political changes even before the global COVID-19 pandemic, which began in early 2020 and lasted until late 2022, had fully ended. In succession, we also endured severe natural disasters. In addition, domestic farming, livestock, and production costs have sharply increased due to insufficient electricity and restrictions on raw material imports. Security challenges and the opening of illegal gates on routes have driven up transport costs, causing commodity prices to rise significantly, which the entire population has had to bear.

In politics, national unity among the people has broken down, and due to ongoing conflicts, the country faces numerous security challenges. There is a strong desire among the entire population to live in peace. The People's Pioneer Party will prioritize reducing conflicts and promoting durable peace so that people can live securely and peacefully. Amid these conflicts, employment opportunities for young people have also become scarce, leading many to migrate from rural areas to cities or even abroad in search of work.

Esteemed people, our People's Pioneer Party has presented three sections of the 2025 election manifesto.

(a) First, to improve the income and employment opportunities for all citizens, we will simultaneously work to quickly reduce commodity prices – a major challenge affecting people's livelihoods – while also striving in a balanced way to increase incomes and job opportunities. This includes making it easy for unemployed youth to find work, coordinating with employers to ensure all basic workers receive fair wages for their labour, providing farmers with quality seeds, technology, and loans to increase their income, and supporting the digital economy to help people earn additional income. We will also develop accessible and efficient remittance services for migrant workers and Myanmar citizens abroad to send money to their families. At the same time, systematic programmes will be implemented to provide direct support to low-income households, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable individuals. In addition, for Tatmadaw members, police, and civil

service personnel who are serving on the frontlines and in conflict areas, we will prioritize providing enhanced allowances. We will establish reward systems, housing, pensions, insurance, scholarships, and other incentive schemes to ensure future security. For all taxpayers, long-term housing loan systems will be introduced to enable home ownership, along with rental housing programmes for workers. Housing projects will provide opportunities to apply for long-term housing loans, systematically increasing demand and investment in the real estate and construction sectors.

(b) In areas where natural disasters and conflicts require extensive reconstruction, we will simultaneously provide effective humanitarian assistance to affected communities and, through charitable and civil society organizations, build public trust while carrying out rehabilitation and reconciliation.

(c) In disaster- and conflict-affected areas, basic services such as schools, hospitals, and social infrastructure will be rebuilt through the Cash-for-Work and the Cash-for-Skill programmes. These initiatives will create livelihoods and employment opportunities for affected communities while supporting their resettlement and recovery.

(d) In the health and education sectors, financial support will be provided to enable reforms in healthcare services and to develop human resources. Human resource development will also be aligned with economic prospects, science, technology, and AI disciplines, approaching Industrial Level 5.0 step by step.

Esteemed people, in the second section, the following initiatives will be implemented to ensure the peace and security of the people.

(a) To ensure a ceasefire and allow all communities to equally enjoy the fruits of peace, economic linkages and transport connectivity between states, regions, and border areas will be developed to build trust among ethnic groups without causing resentment.

(b) We will manage the root causes of conflicts, seek solutions through discussions with all relevant parties, implement economic connectivity projects that support peace, modernize Tatmadaw with fully capable resources, and establish good civil-military relations.

(c) For forgiveness, no retaliation, justice, and national reconciliation, a national reconciliation programme will be established to address the sufferings and losses caused by conflicts. Cases filed unilaterally in international courts will also be responsibly managed and resolved.

(d) We will accurately promote and implement a Union that aligns with Myanmar's specific conditions, including the teaching rights of indigenous languages, and supports the flourishing of literature and culture.

(e) We will coordinate with political partners to implement amendments to the Constitution, including Section 261 and Schedules 1, 2, and 5, establishing a functional democracy, effective public administration, a trusted rule of law, and an ethical media sector.

Esteemed people, in the third section, we aim to restore a market economy system. In this process, the government and private sectors will have clearly defined and collaborative responsibilities to ensure that every citizen's income and employment opportunities improve, and that the nation's living standards can compete with neighbouring countries. To enhance the national economy and achieve development that benefits everyone,

the following initiatives will be implemented.

(a) To stabilize the macroeconomy by reducing rising prices and inflation, we will strengthen the value of the kyat, continue using the managed float system for foreign exchange rates based on market mechanisms, ease trade licensing, and establish legal channels for overseas remittances, implementing these measures through carefully planned programmes.

(b) To address the needs for post-conflict and post-disaster rehabilitation, the government, private sector, and international partners will collaborate to promote disaster risk management funding, plan long-term preparedness programmes, and construct resilient basic infrastructure.

(c) Support will be provided by the Hluttaw to ensure stability in budgets and monetary policies. For the private sector, red tape will be removed to allow businesses to operate smoothly, while Quick Wins programmes will be implemented to generate rapid economic results.

(d) Support will be provided for farmland ownership for every farmer, higher-yield and higher-value consumer goods, new livestock products, economic zones that reduce land investment costs, and financial programmes such as supply chain financing to support the entire value chain.

(e) Services will be provided through a one-stop service programme for business registration, capital, technology, research and development, and market linkages. Additionally, a credit guarantee scheme will be established to support bank financing and business operations.

(f) Regular public-private dialogue meetings will be organized, bringing together senior government officials, economic experts, business leaders, and successful innovators for coordinated discussions.

(g) Through independent and active foreign policy, regional connectivity, and a robust geoeconomic strategy, we will access regional and international markets while enhancing Myanmar's global profile. At the same time, coordination will be quickly implemented to connect economic corridors across neighbouring countries and states and regions, including the Asian Expressway, the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor, and the Kaladan River Basin projects.

(h) Efforts will be made to develop green and renewable energy, advanced systems for cargo and passenger transport, secure and efficient internet connectivity, online public services and e-commerce, and to advance Myanmar's standards in line with international benchmarks.

(i) Special emphasis will be placed on systematically extracting and producing natural products, increasing their value, and developing green-based, renewable energy production.

In conclusion, our People's Pioneer Party will systematically implement the 100-day, the one-year, and the five-year plans. Through this structured approach, we aim to ensure the continuous, peaceful, and secure development of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.



NATIONAL

MRCS holds 9th Partnership Meeting 2025 to strengthen humanitarian collaboration

THE ninth Partnership Meeting, organized by the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS), opened yesterday morning at the Melia Hotel in Yangon. Union Minister for Health Professor Dr Thet Khaing Win, departmental heads, the MRCS president, the vice-president, secretariat staff, diplomats, representatives of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), domestic and foreign donors, and volunteers attended the event.

In his remarks, the Union Minister for Health highlighted the MRCS's role in providing humanitarian support as part of the nation's emergency re-



The ninth Partnership Meeting 2025 in progress yesterday, attended by Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win.

sponse and acknowledged the contributions of its volunteers.

The meeting focuses on re-

viewing domestic humanitari-
an operations, planning future
strategies, and strengthening

preparedness, health acces-
sibility, and organizational ca-
pacity.

MRCS President Dr Myo Nyunt and international rep-
resentatives, including Ms Juja
Kim (IFRC Asia-Pacific Depu-
ty Regional Director) and Mr
Regis Savioz (IFRC Asia-Pa-
cific Regional Director), also
addressed the meeting.

The two-day meeting, held
from 6 to 7 November, brings to-
gether representatives from the
MRCS, IFRC, partner national
societies, UN agencies, and the
AHA Centre. MRCS has been
holding partners' meetings bi-
annually since 1999. —MNA/
KZL

Myanmar-India bilateral dialogue strengthens partnership for sustained prosperity

THE 3rd Myanmar-India Bi-
lateral Dialogue, jointly organ-
ized by the Myanmar Institute
of Strategic and International
Studies (MISIS) and the India
Foundation, was held at the
MISIS Building in Yangon on 6
November 2025 under the theme
"Myanmar-India: Strengthening
Bilateral Partnership for Sus-
tained Prosperity". The Dialogue
brought together members of
MISIS and the India Founda-
tion, along with senior officials,
diplomats, scholars, and policy
experts from both countries, to
deliberate on key areas of mu-
tual interest and reaffirm the
shared commitment to deepen-
ing the long-standing friendship
between Myanmar and India.

The event was preceded by
a welcome dinner hosted by Mr
Abhay Thakur, Ambassador of
India to Myanmar, at India House

on the evening of 5 November.
The dinner was graced by the
presence of U Ko Ko Kyaw, Dep-
uty Minister for Foreign Affairs of
Myanmar, along with represen-
tatives from MISIS and the India
Foundation.

At the launch of the dialogue
on 6 November 2025, MISIS
Chairman U Thant Kyaw made
welcome remarks, and it was fol-
lowed by keynote addresses by
Ambassador Preeti Saran, Mem-
ber of the Governing Council of
the India Foundation, and Mr
Abhay Thakur, Ambassador of In-
dia to Myanmar. A Letter of Coop-
eration was then signed between
MISIS and the India Foundation
to institutionalize the Myanmar-
India Bilateral Dialogue as an
annual forum, promoting sus-
tained intellectual exchange and
strategic collaboration between
the two institutions.

Throughout the day, the Di-
alogue featured four thematic
discussions reflecting the key
pillars of Myanmar-India rela-
tions. Participants examined
ways to enhance economic
and infrastructure connectivity
through expanded trade, invest-
ment, and regional integration
under India's Act East Policy.
They also discussed strength-
ening security and strategic co-
operation, including countering
transnational crime, promoting
maritime security, and advancing
defence collaboration. Delibera-
tions on sustainable development
and humanitarian partnerships
highlighted climate resilience,
disaster management, health-
care, agriculture, and India's
development initiatives in My-
anmar, notably in Rakhine State.
The final session focused on soft
power and people-centric ties



The third Myanmar-India Bilateral Dialogue in progress on 6 November 2025 in Yangon.

– cultural exchange, Buddhist
pilgrimage tourism, education,
and media cooperation – to deep-
en people-to-people connections.

The Dialogue concluded
with closing remarks by MISIS
Chairman U Thant Kyaw and

Captain Alok Bansal, Executive
Vice-President of the India Foun-
dation, who reiterated their com-
mitment to advancing coopera-
tion through continued dialogue
and joint initiatives in the years
ahead. — MISIS



MSWRR Deputy Minister meets Head of UNOCHA Myanmar

DEPUTY Minister for Social
Welfare, Relief and Resettle-
ment Dr Than Soe received Mr
Justin Brady, Head of Office of
the United Nations Office for the

The Head of the UNOCHA
in Myanmar calls on Deputy
Minister Dr Than Soe yesterday.

Coordination of Humanitarian
Affairs (UNOCHA) in Myanmar,
yesterday at the Ministry's meet-
ing hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

They exchanged views on
the Ministry's social protection,
disaster management, and reha-
bilitation activities. Discussions
also covered the long-standing
cooperation between the Minis-

try and UNOCHA, the country's
reconstruction efforts following
the damage caused by the Man-
dalay earthquake, and issues con-
cerning continued cooperation in
humanitarian assistance.

The director-general and of-
ficials of the Department of Dis-
aster Management were present
on the occasion. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL/ARTICLE



Photos display the North-East Command commander, officials, Tatmadaw members and their families, and residents warmly welcoming Tatmadaw's triumphant troops.

People welcome frontline Tatmadaw personnel

FRONTLINE Tatmadaw members who reclaimed towns and villages in Taungkham, Nawnghkio, Kyaukme, Hsipaw, and surrounding areas from armed terrorist groups, including PDF-affiliated factions, were warmly welcomed by North-East Command Commander Brig-Gen Aye Min Oo, officials, Tatmadaw members, family members, and residents at a local military unit in Manli village, Hsipaw Township on 5 November.

Troops were honoured for restoring security, stabilizing local administration, and supporting socioeconomic development. Celebrations included flower tributes, traditional Shan dance and music performances, and cultural presentations by local groups such as traditional Shan dance troupes and Myanmar traditional ensembles. — MNA/KZL

Typhoon “KALMAEGI” News, No 4, 2025

Issued at 12 pm MST on 6 November 2025

Typhoon “KALMAEGI” Condition

According to the observations at 10:30 am MST today, the Typhoon “KALMAEGI” over the South China Sea has moved westwards and it is centred at about 260 nautical miles southeast of Da Nang (Vietnam).

Position of Typhoon “KALMAEGI”, centre pressure and wind

The Typhoon “KALMAEGI” is located at Latitude 13.3 degree North and Longitude 110.7 degree East, centre pressure of Typhoon “KALMAE-

GI” is 940 hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is 100 miles per hour at 10:30 am MST today.

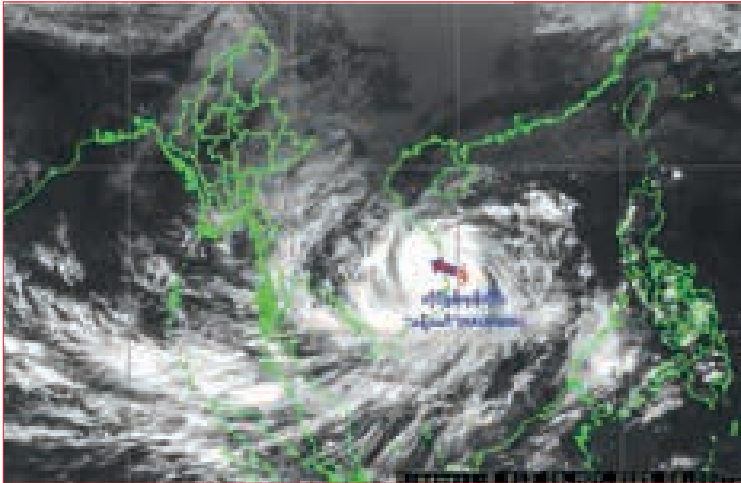
Next 24 hours forecast

It is forecast to likely continue to move West and may cross south of Da Nang, the Vietnam coast at tonight. Thereafter, it is likely to move west-northwestwards and may continue to cross boundary area of Vietnam and Laos as a severe tropical storm during the next 24 hours.

General Caution

Due to the remnant of cloud from Typhoon “KALMAEGI”, rain or thundershowers will be

fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan States with regionally and isolated heavy falls in some region during 8 to 10 November 2025. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama and Mon-Taninthayi



Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strike, light-

ning, hail, flash floods and landslides in hilly areas and near small rivers and to make necessary preparations for inland water transport, domestic flights and irrigation dams. — DMH

Teacher homage ceremony v Teaching evaluation of teachers

FROM PAGE 9

I affirm, I assert, I claim that none of the teachers at the Law Department of the then Rangoon Arts and Science University including those seven or eight teachers due to be given obeisance in the teacher-homage ceremony had assisted me in that mode and they also would be unable and even if they are able they would be unwilling to stay till 2 am to assist. Later on, two of the three then law students that I trained displayed their ungratefulness. I should say that one of the students now working in a company in Yangon, Ko Thiha Kyaw Zin and his wife came and gave obeisance to me for the Thadingyut occasion.

Lest I be accused of being either Westernized (ဘုရားတော်) or being a ‘Communist’ I would like to record that I have given obeisance to among other my Myin Hsar Yar (roughly those who have taught me through their writings and books) including the late Chief Justice of the Union U Myint Thein, the late former Chief Justice of the High Court U Chan Tun Aung who taught us law in the first and second years (privately at his residence on 2 November 1986 on his 85th birthday), the late Sayagyi Dr Htin Aung (Vice Chancellor of University of Rangoon), the late poet Sayagyi Minthuwn, the late Kyee Kyee (Great Aunt) Ludu Daw Amar, the late historian

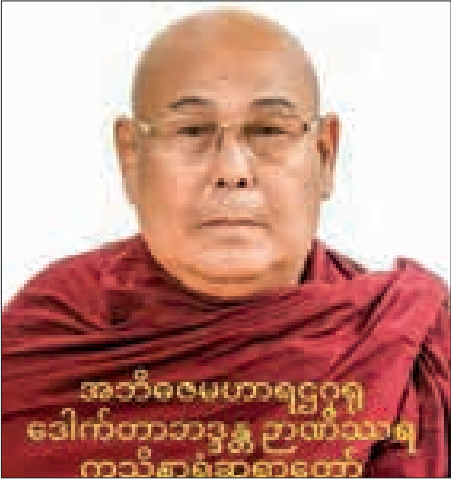
Sayamagyi Daw Kyan, Professor Dr Kyu Kyu Swe (OG), Dr Daw Khin Kyi (OG), Saya Goandoo U Thein Naing (among others) in recent decades and years. The writer Saya Paragu (a former Buddhist monk), around 2010, when I stated that I wanted to give obeisance to him, he said, ‘Please do not, I do not like such formalities’ (ကျွန်တော်က formal မကြိုက်ဘူး). With the exception of homage to Daw Kyan on her 100th birthday, the above obeisances were done privately and not in grand (shall we say at times ostentatiously) teacher-homage ceremonies.

To recap, in my view, there is a dichotomy between teacher evaluation mainly by students and teacher-homage

ceremonies. I do not want to be misunderstood. I do not say teacher-homage ceremonies are redundant or irrelevant. I also do not argue that the student evaluations can be an essential criterion to gauge the competence of teachers. From what I understand, and I am subject to correction with evidence, there are no systemic, anonymous and competent modes and methods to gauge the teaching competence of teachers under the current circumstances in Myanmar. These comparative and personalised reflections are in part intended to fill in on mainly the teacher evaluation aspect of current University education in Myanmar.

NATIONAL

Funeral for
Kusinara
Sayadaw set for
11 Nov



The late Kusinara Sayadaw.

THE funeral ceremony for the most venerable Bhaddanta Nanissara, Abhidhaja Maharatthaguru, Abhidhaja Aggamaha Saddhammajotika, Aggamaha Pandita, Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja, who was the Head of the Myanmar Monastery in Kusinara, Uttar Pradesh State, India, and Chairman of the Paradesi Sangha Nayaka Organization, will be held on 11 November.

To perform the cremation ceremony in the same manner as the Malla princes honoured and circled the city of Kusinara before lighting the funeral pyre of the Buddha as per the wish of the devas, the Indian devotees will circle the body of the late Sayadaw around the city on 11 November. Afterwards, the final cremation ceremony will take place at 2:00 pm that day.

Furthermore, in accordance with the wishes of the late Sayadaw, who passed away on 5 November, an ordination ceremony will be held for 90 monks and 90 nuns on 10 November, which would have been the Sayadaw’s 90th birthday. It will be followed by the inauguration of the Pali Department Archway and the Nagayon Buddha Image, Dhamma sermons delivered by the Sitagu Sayadaw and the Alotawpyae Sayadaw, and sharing contemplative talks. — Htun Htun/ZN

Temporary residence permits to be
granted for four housing projects

FOR residence units from Thilawa Housing, Yuzana Housing phase 3, Kyansitmin Housing phase 1 and Yoma Yeik Thar Housing sold by the home loan development project, temporary residence permits will be issued, said the Department of Urban and Housing Development on 6 November.

These units were sold on 27 June 2025, and CHID completed the loan process; that is why 218 eligible buyers will be granted temporary residence permits, it said.

The issuing of notification for temporary residence permits will be provided at the department located in Botahtaung Township, from 6 to 13 November; during office hours. Original and copy of ID card and copy of household list are required for those who come in person, and original letter of attorney, original and copy



This photo captures the Yoma Yeiktha housing units.

of ID card of the owner and represented person and copy of household list are required for those who receive through a represented person, it said.

Units will be transferred at respective housing committee offices between 10 am and 3 pm on 17 November for 56 units of Thilawa Housing, on 18 Novem-

ber for 34 units of Yuzana Housing, on 19 November for 50 units of Kyansitmin Housing and on 20 November for 78 units of Yoma Yeiktha Housing.

The owners will need to come along with the original notification for the temporary residence permit, without fail, it said. — MT/ZS

KBZMS, ATOM roll out new user-friendly digital
insurance services in Myanmar



KBZMS General Insurance and ATOM (Myanmar) Limited jointly launch user-friendly digital insurance services.

KBZMS General Insurance and ATOM (Myanmar) Limited have officially launched user-friendly digital insurance services.

A memorandum of understanding for strategic cooperation regarding these digital insurance services was signed in the final week of October. The new services include two types of insurance – KBZMS Travel Protect (travel insurance) and KBZMS Personal Accident Insurance.

These digital insurance services



can be conveniently accessed and purchased through the ATOM Store App, aiming to make insurance coverage more easily available to people across Myanmar. The services are already being implemented and are expected to be officially launched to the public soon.

Through this collaboration, ATOM users will be able to purchase, manage, and make claims for insurance services conveniently and efficiently anytime and anywhere using only their mobile phones. Customers who purchase in-

surance coverage via the ATOM Store App will also be eligible to participate in a special lucky draw campaign running until January 2026.

Winners selected from the lucky draw will receive a six-month Personal Accident Insurance Policy worth K50 million from KBZMS as a goodwill gift.

U Lu Mon Aung, Chief Executive Officer of KBZMS General Insurance, said, “This launch represents a strong collaboration between one of Myanmar’s leading telecommunications companies and an insurance service provider. It is aimed at strengthening the country’s digital capabilities and accelerating inclusive access to financial services.”

The joint effort between ATOM and KBZMS to enhance the accessibility of insurance services is expected not only to improve service convenience and efficiency but also to help promote financial literacy and resilience in people’s daily lives. — ASH/KNN

Israeli ambassador, MFVP discuss cooperation in fruit, flower, and
vegetable sector development

AIMING to sustain the cooperation in the fruit, flower and vegetable sector development, the Israeli ambassador to Myanmar met officials from the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association on 5 November.

Since 2013, MFVP has sent young agricultural graduates or diploma holders in agriculture to 11-month training courses under the cooperation with Israel.

Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hanan Goder Goldberger also had a meeting with the delegation led by MFVP chair and secretary on 30 October, and he visited again on 5 November to encourage strengthening the ongoing cooperation, and he emphasized that experts will be sent in 2026 to enhance the technical support.

During the meeting, the ambassador said the country, which is the size of just Yangon and its farming

population is just two per cent, exports its agricultural products and advanced technologies around the world.

MFVP chair U Soe Than Min Din said they prefer technical support for the period after harvesting, especially technology for cracking down on insects after harvest for the export item, avocado. He added that MFVP wants to provide climate-smart agriculture for small-scale farms. — MT/ZS

Promotions lift McDonald's sales in tricky consumer market

FAST-FOOD giant McDonald's scored solid sales growth Wednesday following promotions to attract struggling consumers, with company shares rising despite profits missing expectations.

The restaurant chain, which unveiled new "Extra Value Meals" in September in the United States, has encountered a "bifurcated" consumer market, according to CEO Chris Kempczinski.

"We continue to remain cautious about the health of the consumer in the US and our top international markets and believe the pressures will continue well into 2026," Kempczinski said on a conference call with analysts.

Profits in the third quarter edged up one percent to \$2.3 billion, while revenues rose 3.0 per cent to \$7.1 billion.

The company began offering competitively-priced packages in September, with the \$8 Big Mac meal including a medium soft drink and medium-sized French fries.

— AFP

North China land port handles over 15,000 China-Europe freight trains in 5 years



A China-Europe freight train runs through the national gate at Erenhot Port in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, 8 January 2021. PHOTO: GUO PENGJIE/XINHUA/FILE

DURING the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025), the number of China-Europe freight trains passing through the Erenhot Port, the largest land port between China and Mongolia, has exceeded 15,000, according to Hohhot Customs in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

As the sole transit port for the "middle corridor" of the China-Europe freight train network, Erenhot now operates 74 routes connecting over 140 cities and stations across Asia and Europe.

The customs said that the export structure has been optimized, with high-value goods such as automobiles, machinery and electronics accounting for more than 40 per cent of shipments. — Xinhua

Eyes turn to space to feed power-hungry data centres

TECH firms are floating the idea of building data centres in space and tapping into the sun's energy to meet out-of-this-world power demands in a fierce artificial intelligence race.

US startup Starcloud this week sent a refrigerator-sized satellite containing an Nvidia graphics processing unit (GPU) into orbit in what the AI chip maker touted as a "cosmic debut" for the mini-data center.

"The idea is that it will soon make much more



Advantages of putting data centers in space include a constant supply of solar energy and ease of cooling the power-hungry operations. PHOTO: MARIO TAMA /AFP

sense to build data centers in space than it does to build them on Earth," Starcloud chief executive Philip Johnston said at a recent tech conference in Riyadh.

Along with a constant

supply of solar energy, data centres are easier to cool in space, advocates note.

Announcements have come thick and fast, the latest being Google this week unveiling plans to launch test satellites by early 2027 as part of its Suncatcher project.

That news came just days after tech billionaire Elon Musk claimed his SpaceX startup should be capable of deploying data centers in orbit next year thanks to its Starlink satellite program. — AFP

South Korea's Kospi index drops 4% on AI bubble fears

SOUTH Korea's benchmark Kospi index dropped more than four per cent Wednesday on fears of overheated artificial intelligence valuations, with

chip giants Samsung and SK hynix each losing over five percent.

The Kospi index was trading down 4.48 per cent at 3,937 points, following

a downbeat session on Wall Street, as speculation mounts that a recent tech rally may have gone too far and a painful correction could be on the way.

Japanese stocks are also falling on fears of excessive tech valuation, with the Nikkei index down 2.53 per cent. — AFP

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Central Committee for Holding Myanmar Gems Emporium The Information about 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium 2025

1. The significant 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium 2025, under the supervision of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, will be held from November 17 to 26, 2025 at Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw. Genuine Myanmar pearl, gems and rough jade lots will be sold at the Emporium.
 2. The local gems entrepreneurs who got the permit and the local gems merchants who got the license to operate in the finished gemstone making and dealing under the Myanmar Gem Law, will be allowed to attend and purchase the Lots at 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium, 2025 according to the terms and conditions.
 3. For further information in detail about granted admission to purchase Lots at 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium, 2025, any merchants can inquire and keep contact with Emporium Central Committee, Myanmar Gems Enterprise (Head Office), Myanmar Pearl Enterprise (Head Office) in Nay Pyi Taw.
- Emporium Central Committee

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 9 VOY.NO. (13N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 9 VOY. NO. (13N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **7-11-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **YIGTL** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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**

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Myanma Port Authority

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PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, **Zhejiang Wynca Import & Export Co.,Ltd**, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from **Friends Helper Co.,Ltd** to **Myanmar Golden Sun Crop Science Co.,Ltd**. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next 2 weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Copper Expert 47 WP	Copper oxychloride 45% + Kasugamycin 2% WP	Provisional	P2024-6348

Myanmar Golden Sun Crop Science Co.,Ltd. Tel: 09-784772103

SPORTS

Stones backs Man City team-mate Foden to pose England dilemma for Tuchel

JOHN Stones believes Manchester City team-mate Phil Foden has given England manager Thomas Tuchel a selection headache leading up to next week's final World Cup qualifiers with Serbia and Albania.

Foden continued his impressive start to the season with two goals to inspire City's 4-1 defeat of Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League on Wednesday.

The playmaker suffered a loss of form during a difficult 2024/25 campaign and was omitted by Tuchel last month.

But City defender Stones feels Foden's current form makes him worthy of an England

recall, with Tuchel set to name his squad for the national side's last competitive games before next year's World Cup on Friday.

"I'm just so pleased for him," said Stones. "I'm a big fan of Phil, of everything (he does), how he plays the game, how everything just comes so natural to him.

"I'm so pleased that he's back on the scoresheet, back happy, enjoying his football. I think that's when you get the best out of him. — AFP

Manchester City midfielder Phil Foden is mobbed by team-mates after scoring his side's first goal during a 4-1 Champions League win over Borussia Dortmund at the Etihad Stadium. **PHOTO: AFP**



Germany recall Sane, hand El Mala debut for World Cup qualifers



Leroy Sane has received his first Germany call-up since moving to Turkish side Galatasaray. **PHOTO: AFP**

LEROY Sane has been recalled and Said El Mala received a first call-up to Germany's 25-man squad for the November World Cup qualifiers, coach Julian Nagelsmann announced Thursday.

El Mala, 19, was named despite playing just nine Bundesliga games. Promoted with Cologne in the summer, El Mala has four goals in the Bundesliga this season.

Newcastle defender Malick Thiaw was also recalled after a two-year absence, while Brentford forward Kevin Schade was

named for the first time since 2024. Four players -- Robert Andrich, Robin Koch, Angelo Stiller and Maximilian Beier -- were dropped from the October squad.

The former Manchester City and Bayern Munich winger Sane, who moved to Turkish side Galatasaray in the summer, last played for Germany in June.

Nagelsmann said Sane had "earned his nomination with good performances in the Champions League and Super Lig." The 70-time national player has three goals and three assists in 14 games for Galatasaray. — AFP

Crystal Palace charged over banner targeting Nottingham Forest owner

THE Football Association has charged Crystal Palace with misconduct after supporters displayed an offensive banner during the 1-1 Premier League draw against Nottingham Forest on 24 August.

The banner depicted Forest owner Evangelos Marinakis

holding a gun to the head of midfielder Morgan Gibbs-White and included a message: "Mr Marinakis is not involved in blackmail, match-fixing, drug trafficking or corruption."

"It's alleged that the club failed to ensure its spectators and/or supporters (and anyone

purporting to be supporters or followers) didn't behave in an improper, offensive, abusive, insulting and/or provocative way during the fixture. Crystal Palace FC has until Tuesday 11 November to provide a response," read the FA statement. — Xinhua

Djokovic to face Alcaraz in ATP Finals groups

NOVAK Djokovic will take on Carlos Alcaraz in the group stage of the upcoming ATP Finals while Jannik Sinner could face a derby with Lorenzo Musetti during his title defence at the season-ending tournament.

Tennis icon Djokovic, a seven-time Finals champion, was confirmed on Monday as being among the eight contenders in Turin and has been drawn in the Jimmy Connors Group alongside top seed Alcaraz, Taylor

Fritz and Alex de Minaur. The winner of a record 24 Grand Slams, 38-year-old Djokovic is currently hunting his second title of the year in Athens, where he beat Alejandro Tabilo in straight sets in the second round on Tuesday.

World number five Djokovic has made the semi-finals at all four Slams this season and in May he became the third player in the Open era to lift his 100th ATP title by winning in Geneva.

Alcaraz is bidding to win the Finals for the first time after another bumper year for the Spaniard which has included triumphs at the US Open and Roland Garros, the latter coming after an epic final victory against his arch-rival Sinner. — AFP



Carlos Alcaraz (R) and Novak Djokovic (L) have been drawn together in the Jimmy Connors Group at the ATP Finals. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**



Private businesses power China's tech-driven industrial transition

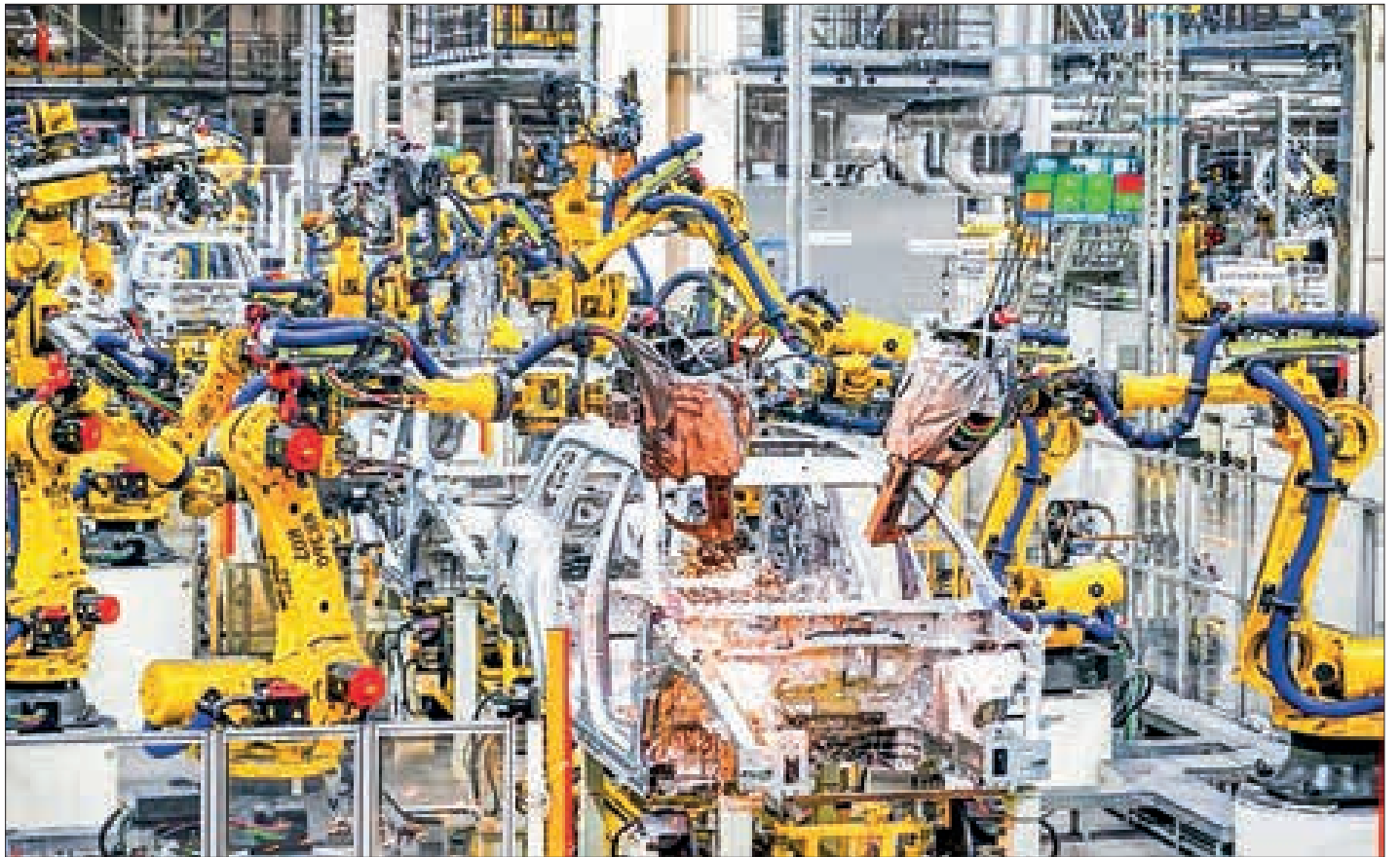
Chinese private firms nationwide are increasingly investing in advanced sectors such as intelligent manufacturing, the digital economy, and green energy.

IN a high-tech factory workshop, over 1,600 intelligent terminals and 3,000 robots work in concert, rapidly welding and painting as smart, connected vehicles roll off the production line.

This is the scene at a super factory of Seres Group, a technology-based manufacturing enterprise with new energy vehicles (NEVs) as its core business, located in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality.

"We are now deeply engaged in the high-end intelligent NEV sector, with three super factories built," said Zhang Xinghai, founder and chairman of the group, adding that the group's revenue surpassed 110 billion yuan (US\$15.5 billion) in the first three quarters of 2025 — with more than 300,000 NEVs sold.

Seres' rapid growth is a snapshot of the vigor that private businesses are injecting into the country's economy. In Chongqing, the private sector's added value surged from 1.48 trillion yuan to 1.98 trillion yuan during the 14th Five-Year



This photo shows the automated production at the Seres Super Factory in Liangjiang New Area, southwest China's Chongqing, 19 September 2025. **PHOTO: WANG QUANCHAO/XINHUA**

Plan period from 2021 to 2025. Its share of the local GDP also climbed — up from 59 per cent to 61.6 per cent.

Like in Chongqing, Chinese private firms across the country are diving into advanced sectors like intelligent man-

ufacturing, digital economy and green energy, leveraging digital technologies such as 5G and cloud computing to align with development strategies.

Since first investing in Chongqing in 2010, Huafo Group, a private enterprise

specializing in new chemical materials, has invested over 26 billion yuan, establishing world-class production facilities — including the world's largest adipic acid production base and the largest single-site spandex plant globally. — Xinhua

Sri Lanka begins pilot operations for large vessels at Colombo's East Container Terminal



The ECT can now handle two ships at once along a completed 900-metre berth, with cargo moves supported by the project's latest automated systems. **PHOTO: SRI LANKA PORTS AUTHORITY**

SRI Lanka has begun pilot operations to handle large vessels at the state-owned Colombo East Container Terminal (ECT), a statement from the Department of Government Information said Wednesday.

The trial involved simultaneous berthing operations for two vessels operated by Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) using the terminal's newly completed facilities, the statement said.

The ECT can now handle two ships at once along a completed 900-metre berth, with cargo moves supported by the project's

latest automated systems. Current construction progress stands at roughly 80 per cent, and the basin is dredged to a depth of 18.2 metres to accommodate large drafts, the statement said.

With works accelerating over the past year, construction is scheduled to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2026. Once fully commissioned, Sri Lanka plans to invite additional shipping lines to call at the ECT and further strengthen ties between the MSC and the Sri Lanka Ports Authority, the statement said. — Xinhua

Vietnam readies new high-speed rail link by early 2028

CONSTRUCTION of a high-speed railway linking Hanoi with the northern coastal province of Quang Ninh is scheduled to begin later this year, with operations expected to start in early 2028, the Vietnam News Agency reported Thursday.

The project, developed by VinSpeed High-Speed Rail Investment and Development Joint Stock Company, an affiliate of Vietnam's leading conglomerate Vingroup, will span 120 kilometres and cost about 138.9 trillion Vietnamese dong (about US\$5.53 billion). It will run through Hanoi and northern provinces of Bac Ninh, Hai Phong, and Quang Ninh, as part of Vietnam's Railway Network Planning for the 2021-2030 period, with a vision to 2050, the report said. — Xinhua