

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

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.



A newly launched battery-powered electric locomotive pulls the carriages, ready for its maiden journey.

MR rolls out battery-powered, air-con service on NPT-MDY line

The service will make four intermediate stops - Tatkon, Pyawbwe, Thazi and Kyaukse - with each end-to-end journey taking five hours, including station halts.

MYANMA Railway, under the Ministry of Transport and Communications, will run the up and down airbag trains on the Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay route with battery-powered electric locomotives and air-conditioned carriages starting from 22 November 2025.

MR is trying to ensure smooth transport for commuters and enhance the quality of train service. The up-train with battery-powered electric locomotives and air-conditioned carriages will depart from Nay Pyi Taw railway station at noon and arrive at Mandalay station at 5 pm. It will leave from Mandalay station at 6

am and arrive at Nay Pyi Taw station at 11 am.

Those who want to continue their journey to Yangon from Mandalay can change the train at Nay Pyi Taw station. They can hop on the scheduled flight to leave at 12 noon there and arrive in Yangon at 5:30 pm.

Similarly, those passengers from Yangon leaving for Mandalay can change the train at Nay Pyi Taw station. They can take an electric locomotive train ride after disembarking the DEMU that will depart at 6 am in Yangon.

Those up and down airbag trains with air-conditioned service on the Nay

Pyi Taw-Mandalay route include two passenger carriages each designed for ordinary class and upper class. The airbag train can accommodate 238 passengers.

The ticket fare is set at K15,000 for the ordinary class and K20,000 for the upper class. It is available for online purchase with MMQR five days in advance. Those who want to book the ticket at the station need to make three days in advance for the upper class and one day in advance for the ordinary class. There will be four stops in between the route: Tatkon, Pyawbwe, Thazi and Kyaukse stations. The travel time for each route is five hours, including stops. — NN/KK

Essay

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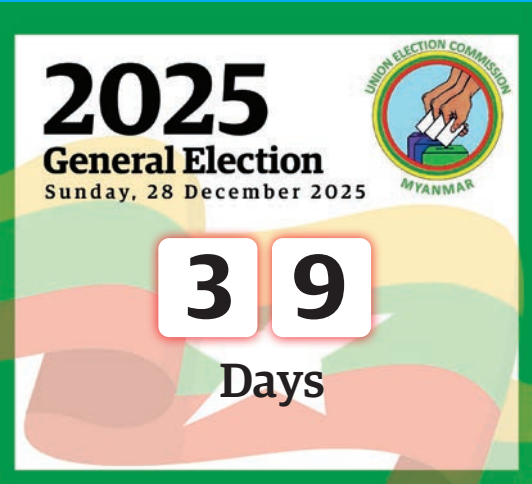
NATIONAL



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.**

Mon Development Party and Trustee of the Peace Party deliver campaign speeches

THE electoral speeches of the Mon Development Party and the Trustee of the Peace Party are featured on pages 10 and 11 of today's issue of The Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper.

SSMNC holds 3rd Meeting of 9th 47-Member Term



The first day of the third meeting of the Ninth 47-Member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee in progress yesterday in Yangon.

THE first day of the third meeting of the Ninth 47-Member State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee began at the Vijaya Mangala Dhamma Thabin on Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon yesterday.

Present on the occasion were members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee led by Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Thanlyin Min Kyaung Pahtampayan Monastery, Aggamaha Pandita Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Dr Bhaddanta

Candima Bhivamsa, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Aye Tun and officials.

Before the meeting, the Deputy Minister donated the offerings to Sayadaws and monks.

Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa presided over the meeting, and Joint Secretary Sayadaw Aggamaha Pandita Bhaddanta Covida acted as the master of ceremonies.

The deputy minister sup-

pllicated the matters related to the religious affairs, and the Sayadaws discussed Vinicchaya affairs, religious-related matters and the education sector during the meeting.

Senior General Than Shwe (Retd) and wife Daw Kyaing Kyaing and family members donated day meals to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee member Sayadaws who attended the ceremony yesterday. — MNA/KTZH

New stamp block featuring six Myanmar musical instruments to be issued

A new special postage stamp featuring six traditional Myanmar musical instruments will be sold on 20 November starting from 9:30 am, according to the Myanma Post under the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

The new K200 block of stamps is a collection of six traditional Myanmar musical instruments that were published before, so stamp collectors can now collect the stamps together.

The new stamps will be sold at the Nay Pyi Taw Central Post Office, the Yangon Post Office and the Mandalay Post Office, as well as regional and state post offices at the same time. As a special programme, the date logo will be printed on stamps bought on the first day at the three major post offices.

To buy stamps, collectors can make calls to Daw Khin Nyo Nyo Myint, in charge of the Nay Pyi Taw Central Post Office, at 09 448000096, U Aung Soe, in charge of the Yangon Post Office, at 09 424000458, and U Tin Maung Myint, in charge of the Mandalay Post Office, at 09 424000515. — MT/ZS



The K200 new special block of stamps with six traditional Myanmar musical instruments.

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)

UEC Chair receives Chinese ambassador

UNION Election Commission (UEC) Chairman U Than Soe received Ms Ma Jia, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar, and her team at the Union Election Commission Office Guest Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Myanmar asked questions about the UEC's efforts to successfully hold the election,

advance voting, election observation, and security arrangements for the election.

Then, the UEC Chairman explained their preparations to successfully hold a free and fair election; the measures taken to enable domestic and foreign voters to cast advance ballots in accordance with the law; the steps taken to allow international election observation groups, including those from the People's

Republic of China, as well as diplomats, to observe the election; and the arrangements made to ensure that political parties, parliamentary candidates, and voters can cast their ballots safely and peacefully at polling stations. Following this, they held a friendly discussion on election-related issues. The meeting was attended by members of the UEC and officials from the UEC's office. — MNA/TH



Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma Jia calls on UEC Chairman U Than Soe yesterday.

Regional hybrid forum explores new direction for international investment agreements

THE Regional Policy Dialogue on "Moving Forward to the New Trend of International Investment Agreement (IIA) – Bringing the Concept of Sustainable and Responsible Investments (SRI)" was held in a hybrid format at the MGallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 18-19 November 2025.

The event was co-organized by the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations (MIFER) and the ASEAN Secretariat with funding support of the ASEAN-Hong Kong, China Free Trade Agreement (AHKFTA) – ECOTECH (AHKECOTECH) Work Programme.

At the opening session, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Wah Wah Maung delivered the opening speech, stressing that incorporating the concept of sustainable and responsible investment into the upgraded and future regional IIAs would help to mitigate investment disputes. Furthermore, it can secure the host state's right to regulate and contribute to achieving the



The Regional Policy Dialogue on "Moving Forward to the New Trend of International Investment Agreement (IIA) – Bringing the Concept of Sustainable and Responsible Investments (SRI)" is underway on 18-19 November 2025.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at both national and regional levels. The Union Minister also highlighted that efforts to adopt the ASEAN Guidelines on Sustainable Investment (ASIG) at the regional level reflect the collective commitment of all ASEAN Member States.

Following the Union Minister's opening speech, opening remarks were delivered by Mr Char Chi Man, Hong Kong

Co-chair of the AHKFTA Subcommittee on Investment, Ms Rozieyanahayu Ab Rahman, ASEAN Co-chair of the AHKFTA Subcommittee on Investment, and Ms Yuanita Ruchyat, Senior Officer at Services & Investment Division of the ASEAN Secretariat, concerning the potential inclusion of sustainable and responsible investment provisions in regional investment agreements, as well as the importance

of regional cooperation in investment policy formulation.

Then, the event proceeded with presentations and panel discussions focusing on the relationship between sustainable and responsible investment and International Investment Agreements (IIAs), and how this relationship can mitigate disputes between investor and the host state, delivered by the international representatives

from the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), alongside international experts. Also, representatives from the ASEAN Working Group on Investment of ASEAN Member States presented their respective national efforts toward achieving sustainable development.

The Regional Policy Dialogue was conducted for two days. The opening ceremony was attended by a total of 150 participants led by Union Minister Dr Wah Wah Maung, Deputy Minister Daw Than Than Linn, Deputy Minister U Thant Sin Lwin, Permanent Secretaries, Directors-General, and senior officials from relevant ministries, representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN Member States, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (China), and international experts. — MIFER

NATIONAL

MoI Union Minister reviews Nay Pyi Taw literary awards preparations

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn yesterday afternoon inspected the ongoing preparations for the 2024 National Award for Lifetime Achievement, National Literary Award, and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Ceremony at the Myanmar International Convention Centre I (MICC I) in Nay Pyi Taw. He ensured the event could be held successfully and coordinated the necessary arrangements.

The Union minister first observed the preparation of exhibition booths arranged by Myanmar Radio and Television, the Information and Public Relations Department, and the Printing and Publishing Department under the Ministry



Union Info Minister U Maung Maung Ohn looks around the preparations for the 2024 National Award for Lifetime Achievement, National Literary Award, and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw.

of Information. He listened to briefings by responsible officials and instructed them to make any additional arrangements where necessary. He then viewed the re-

hearsal for the award ceremony, encouraged the participating officials, and provided the necessary guidance. The Union minister also cordially met with the staff members who will take part in the event.

The ceremony for the 2024 National Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement, National Literary Award, and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award will be held on 20 November 2025. A total of five National Literary Awards for Lifetime Achievement, 16 National Literary Awards, and 30 Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards will be presented at the ceremony. Myanmar Radio and Television will broadcast the ceremony live. — MNA/KZL

MoIP UM visits China for border cooperation talks

AT the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of China, Union Minister for Immigration and Population, U Myint Kyaing, accompanied by Director-General of the Department of Immigration U Ye Tun Oo and members of the delegation, paid a working study visit to the People's Republic of China from 14-18 November intending to further enhance immigration cooperation between Myanmar and China, reduce illegal entry and exit, and jointly combating online fraud.

The Union minister and his team visited Shenzhen, People's Republic of China, on 14-15 November and Beijing on 16-17 November. On the evening of 17 November, the Union minister and his team met Mr Wang Zhizhong, Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Public Security



Union Minister U Myint Kyaing holds talks with Vice-Minister Mr Wang Zhizhong of the Ministry of Public Security of the People's Republic of China on 17 November 2025 in Beijing, China.

rity of the People's Republic of China, and his team at the meeting room of the National Immigration Administration Headquarters of the Ministry of Public Security.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on upgrading immigration inspection systems at Myanmar-China border posts and further expanding immigration activities;

coordinating and cooperating to ensure legal entry and exit across the borders of the two countries and preventing illegal entry and exit; exchanging information on immigration between the two countries; jointly combating human trafficking and online gambling; conducting meetings and consultations to ensure peace and stability in the border areas of the two countries and facilitate mutual entry and exit; and conducting practical coordination and cooperation on immigration activities with mutual trust and understanding to further strengthen friendship between the two countries.

Then, the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in immigration between Myanmar and China on the repatriation

of Myanmar citizens arrested for various reasons in China continued. In the presence of Union Minister U Myint Kyaing of Myanmar and Vice Minister Mr Wang Zhizhong of China, Director-General of the Immigration Department U Ye Tun Oo and Deputy Director General of the National Immigration Administration (NIA) Mr Liu Haitao signed the MoU and exchanged it.

Afterwards, the Union minister and the Vice-Minister of the People's Republic of China exchanged souvenirs, and the Vice-Minister hosted a dinner for the Union minister and his delegation at the Beijing Hotel.

Yesterday morning, the Union minister and his team arrived in Guangzhou from Beijing and returned to Yangon by air in the evening. — MNA/TH

2024 National Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Ceremony to be broadcast live on MRTV

THE 2024 National Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement, National Literary Award and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Ceremony will be held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre I (MICC I) in Nay Pyi Taw at 9:30 am on 20 November. The awarding ceremony will be broadcast live on MRTV-HD, MRTV Parliament, MWD HD, MWD Variety HD Channel, Readers Channel, Channel 9 and Up to Date Channel, Myanmar Voice Radio, Thazin FM, MOI Website, MOI Youtube, MRTV App and MRTV Online Platform starting at 9:20 am on that day. — MNA

NATIONAL

NDSC Information Team Leader outlines international cooperation in combatting telecom fraud and online gambling in the Myawady region

TODAY, I want to inform our citizens and the media about the ongoing efforts to crack down on online gambling activities in the Myawady area, as well as the cooperation being carried out with international partners. On the morning of 18 November, security forces together with departmental teams conducted an operation in the Shwe Kokko area, located to the north of Myawady. First, they cleared three buildings that had been constructed without official permission. During the operation, 346 foreign nationals currently under scrutiny were arrested. Nearly ten thousand mobile phones used in online gambling operations were also seized, along with related equipment. We are also blocking and apprehending individuals attempting to flee across the border. There are three areas within this zone where online gambling operations have been active. Number one is the KK Park area, number two, the Shwe Kokko area, and number three, the Chongkhaed area. As everyone already knows, the KK Park area is located to the south of Myawady. The Shwe Kokko area is located to the north of Myawady, and the Chongkhaed area lies at the southernmost end. I have already clearly explained in the past who has been involved in these areas. Regarding the KK Park area, I previously briefed everyone with evidence, who signed agreements, when those agreements were made, how the agreements were concluded with members of the KNU, how operations were carried out, and who was involved. In the KK Park area, the main entities involved are the Mulaei Alin Company and the Tran-Asia International Holding Group (Thailand). In the Shwe Kokko area, the entity involved is the Myanmar Yatai International Holding Group Company. In the Chongkhaed area, the Chongkhaed Garden Resort company is involved. We have already explained how the foreign nationals involved in online gambling and

telecom fraud operations arrived in these areas. Roughly 99.5 per cent of those foreign nationals engaged in online scams entered Myanmar through the neighbouring country. After 2021, fighting occurred in those areas, which are located some distance away from Myawady. In those areas, ethnic armed organizations (EAOs) and groups such as the KNU, the KNLA, some EAOs that are signatories to the NCA, as well as groups operating under the name of border guard forces, have been active. Business operators seeking personal profit approached these groups and, through their connections, carried out these unlawful activities. We started online gambling crackdown operations in areas around Myawady where we had administrative control. As the situation has gradually stabilized, we have been conducting territorial administration and operations, and we are working to completely eradicate online scam activities from their roots. In carrying out these operations, our security personnel, soldiers, and staff have risked their lives and made sacrifices of blood and sweat. We have inspected the foreign nationals who entered the area illegally, and we have released some of the inspection records so that the media and the public can be informed. From those records, it is clear where these individuals came from and what activities they were involved in. The three areas I mentioned earlier – KK Park, Shwe Kokko, and the Chongkhaed areas – receive basic utilities such as water, electricity, and telecommunications from the neighbouring country. Because of this, the neighbouring country has also taken some measures, expressed objections, and carried out certain actions regarding the situation. In the first area where we began territorial clearance and administration – KK Park – we worked to prevent any chance of online gambling operations re-establishing themselves. To achieve that, we destroyed 100 per cent of the buildings in that area. Ma-



Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun.

chinery was used to demolish structures, and some high-level explosive demolitions were also conducted. Regarding these demolitions, the neighbouring country has raised objections, saying that debris had fallen inside their territory. We have video records documenting these actions. We have already shown, through video evidence, that the debris did not fall into their territory. I would like to show a photo here. This is a building inside KK Park that we demolished. When we carried out the demolition, the structure collapsed straight downward. Because advanced demolition techniques were used, the building fell directly onto itself. As a result, even the nearby trees were unaffected – none of them moved, showing that debris did not fall towards the neighbouring country. In addition, we also demolished a hotel located near the border with the neighbouring country. During that demolition, it was also clearly observable that no debris fell into their territory, not even into the river that forms the boundary between our two countries. Based on this, we are continuing our operations to demolish and clear structures in the area. Another point is that the United States issued a statement dated 12 November. This is the statement we came across today. In this statement, it says that the United States has formed the District of Columbia Centre

Strike Force (SCSF) to protect the US against telecom fraud schemes. When we examined the announcement, we found that it states the strike force was established to safeguard the United States from cyber-fraud activities, including cryptocurrency-related scams, based mainly in Southeast Asian countries. There are some notable phrases in the statement that I want to point out. One unusual phrase appears in the third paragraph, where it alleges that transnational criminal organizations (TCOs) operating through China are using cryptocurrency investments, fraudulent schemes, and various types of deception to steal the savings and livelihoods of Americans daily. Another section claims that scam centres are enriching “Chinese criminal networks” across generations by funnelling money from the United States into their pockets. It also mentions Myanmar, stating that a group called Strike Force Burma carried out operations against two scam centres in Myanmar. As for how they conducted those operations – or whether they actually did – we do not know. There has also been no evidence of such operations on the ground. The statement further claims that FBI agents were sent to Bangkok to work with the Royal Thai Police War Room Task Force to help dismantle fraud hubs in Myanmar, including places like KK Park. What I am

presenting here is taken directly from their two-page statement. When we analyze these points, we assess that, rather than simply focusing on combating online fraud and online gambling – as they claim – the country may have a deeper hidden agenda behind these actions. As for us, in the northeastern Laukkai region, we formed a China–Myanmar Joint Task Force to address online gambling and telecom fraud operations, and we continue to implement those measures. In addition, in Kayin State’s Myawady area, we have established the Myanmar–Thailand–China Trilateral Cooperation mechanism, and that cooperation is still ongoing. On 14 November 2025, we attended the six-nation meeting held in Kunming, China, where China, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam discussed joint efforts to combat telecom fraud. We are also cooperating with this group. What I want to emphasize here is that telecom fraud and online gambling do not harm only Myanmar. These crimes also target people from many countries around the world – anyone who can be deceived. As a matter of national responsibility, Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing has instructed that these crimes must be addressed firmly. He has also spoken clearly about this during public meetings. This is a serious issue. Therefore, we urge all Myanmar citizens and all media organizations: if you receive any information related to telecom fraud or online gambling, please report it to the relevant authorities. Let us work together to confront this problem. The Government of Myanmar also want to state that we will continue cooperating with the six-nation joint task forces and regional mechanisms to eliminate telecom fraud and online gambling operations from Myanmar’s territory. We will work to root out these activities entirely. Thank you all.

NATIONAL

60th Myanmar Gems Emporium enters Day 2, 182 pearl lots sold

THE second day of the 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium continued yesterday at the Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

From yesterday morning, local and foreign gem traders inspected the pearl lots, jade lots, and gemstone lots displayed inside the Maniyadana Jade Hall, as well as the jade lots exhibited outside. Traders examined the pearl lots on offer and placed their price submissions in the designated tender boxes.

Officials then opened and reviewed the price submissions for pearl lot numbers 1 to 246, announcing that 224 lots had

been sold.

In the afternoon, Union Minister U Khin Maung Yi, Patron of the Myanmar Gem and Jewellery Exhibition Central Committee, inspected the sale of pearl lots following the tender opening at the Maniyadana Jade Hall, as well as the gem and jewellery shops.

On the third day of the exhibition, pearl lot numbers 247 to 489 will be offered to local and foreign gem traders through an open tender system.

The exhibition is being held from 17 to 26 November, during which 5,085 jade lots, 13 rough



Union Minister U Khin Maung Yi views around the display at the 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium yesterday.

gemstone lots, 147 jewellery lots, and 489 pearl lots will be sold to local and foreign traders via open tender. Accepted foreign currencies include US dollars,

euros, yuan, Thai baht, and other currencies authorized by the Central Bank of Myanmar.

Pearl lots will be sold from 18 to 19 November, and all gem-

stone lots on 20 November. The 5,085 jade lots, divided into three groups (A, B and C), will be sold from 21 to 26 November. — MNA/MKKS

284,246 acres of monsoon paddy harvested in Yangon Region

ACCORDING to the Yangon Region Agriculture Department, 284,246 acres of monsoon paddy were successfully harvested in the region in 2025-2026.

In nine districts in Yangon Region, 775,050 acres of high-yield varieties, 23,624 acres of high-quality varieties, 343,481 acres of resident varieties and 1,142,155 acres of monsoon paddy were planted, and 248,246 acres were harvested as of the second week of November, and it produced 73.67 per cent per acre.

The region Agriculture Department distributed 3,879 tonnes of urea fertilizers to the farmers to be able to plant monsoon paddy, summer paddy and edible crops in 2025-2026, and conducted contract farming with 32 units including companies, rice mills and cooperatives for 55,000 acres of monsoon paddy in 12 townships using State Economic Promotion Fund for 2025-2026, and distributed 8,945.29 tonnes of urea fertilizers and 7,000 tonnes

of compound fertilizers at cheaper prizes.

In order to increase the per-acre yield of monsoon paddy and achieve the target yield, activities are being carried out under the leadership of the regional government. These activities include improving soil fertility, ensuring correct cultivation practices, proper crop management and pest and disease control, providing post-harvest technology training, demonstrating the use of drum seeders, and conducting model plot harvesting and providing assistance. During the monsoon paddy harvesting season, preparations are being made to continue cultivating winter crops such as green gram, mung bean, and edible oil crops such as groundnut, sesame, sunflower, as well as summer paddy. Out of the total 1,142,155 acres of monsoon paddy cultivated in the region, the remaining paddy fields are being cultivated. — Thit-sa (MNA)/KTZH



Combo harvesters work across the field, reaping the crop. PHOTO: ZWE MARN

Tatmadaw shooting team heads to 33rd ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet in Singapore



The Tatmadaw shooting team is seen before departing for Singapore.

THE Tatmadaw shooting team departed yesterday morning from Nay Pyi Taw International Airport for Singapore to compete in the 33rd ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet (AARM).

The team was seen off at the airport by Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Phone Myat, along with senior military officers and officials from the office of the Commander-in-Chief.

The 33rd ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet

will be held from 21 to 27 November and will feature shooting teams from ten ASEAN nations.

The Myanmar Tatmadaw team will compete in the rifle, carbine, machine gun, men's pistol, and women's pistol events. Led by Team Leader Lt-Col Thein Soe Tun, the delegation comprises a total of 42 personnel, including administrators, coaches, and shooting athletes. — MNA/KZL

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NATIONAL

Well-educated human resources key to regional and national development

❖ “Developing a region and the nation requires well-educated human resources. Therefore, we remain committed to supporting and promoting education.”
(Excerpt from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman and Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with district and township-level officials, town elders, and MSME businesspersons from Meiktila District, Mandalay Region, on 10 July 2025)

Myanmar intensifies national drive against telecom fraud, online gambling

Combined inspection teams are taking action against telecom fraud, online gambling, and other criminal activities as they investigate whether any illegal operations are being carried out in the Shwokokko area.

THE Myanmar government emphasizes the elimination process of online scams and gambling, which harm the international community as well as the entire world, as a national duty. Security force members and administrative organizations participate in combating the above crime with the sacrifice of life, blood and sweat by using vehicles, machinery and financial costs.

While online fraud and gambling activities are being actively suppressed, the government has instructed that, particularly in the Shwokokko area of Kayin State, measures be taken to prevent online fraud, online gambling, and criminal activities. Starting from yesterday morning, combined investigation teams, including security forces and administrative bodies, have begun the operation to determine whether such activities exist and whether any illegal operations are being conducted. Any findings from these investigations will be acted upon effectively.

Those who committed online fraud and gambling offences entered Myanmar via Thailand and some neighbouring countries, crossing the border paths illegally. The main perpetrators of these online fraud and gambling activities, including Chinese nationals, recruited and organized individuals through social media. These individuals – some forced to work in these operations from various countries, and some evading justice after committing crimes – have been involved in online fraud activities. Since around 2015, they have operated in several Southeast Asian countries. Following conflicts in some neighbouring countries, they entered and operated in the Myawady area, temporarily controlled by Kayin armed groups,

using various methods and means from across the border.

In 2022, infrastructure was constructed, and illegal activities, including telecom fraud and online gambling, were carried out in the Laukkai area of Shan State (North). In response, the Myanmar government, together with China, established a joint bilateral task force to suppress online fraud and gambling activities in the Laukkai area. During these operations, although those apprehended had entered Myanmar illegally, the government, taking into consideration humanitarian concerns and mutual goodwill between countries, investigated them according to the law. A total of 53,388 individuals involved were repatriated to their respective countries. The main perpetrators of the crimes were arrested, detained, and formally handed over to the relevant authorities of the governments concerned.

These telecom fraud and online gambling activities originated from Shan State (North) and reached the Myawady area along the Thailand–Myanmar border. The KKK Park area, where Mulaei Alin Company and Tran-Asia International Holding Group (Thailand) began their operations, was established as a project under the pretext of carrying out economic activities for re-



The systematic demolition of buildings and facilities in the KK Park area of Myawady Township, a hub linked to telecom fraud and online gambling.

gional development. In the Shwokokko area, where the project was suspended, infrastructure was constructed within locations of the Myanmar Yatai International Holding Group’s site and the Chongkhaed Garden Resort gambling facilities in Myawady Township. Within these areas, online fraud and gambling activities were carried out.

The government, through a trilateral cooperation framework involving Myanmar, Thailand, and China, has been jointly suppressing activities in the area. Security forces carried out operations in the Myawady-Mahtawthalay (KK Park) area, which

had been temporarily controlled by the KNLA and KNU terrorist groups and PDF terrorists under the NUG, in October this year, to suppress insurgent elements and were able to reestablish control over the area. In doing so, measures are being implemented to ensure that online fraud and gambling cannot be reestablished in the area and that criminal activities cannot be repeated. Illegally constructed buildings in the area are being demolished zone by zone to completely remove such infrastructure. There are a total of 635 buildings across three zones. As of 17 November, a total of 148 of these buildings have been completely demolished. The remaining 487 buildings will continue to be systematically demolished. The demolition process is being carried out methodically using vehicles for tearing down structures and advanced technology for controlled blasting and dismantling. Since the area is close to a neighbouring country, precautions have been taken to ensure that debris does not cross the border, as confirmed by video

records. Because the neighbouring country raised objections, the demolition video records were officially sent to that country as documentation.

Although those apprehended by the government had entered Myanmar illegally from neighbouring countries, humanitarian considerations and mutual goodwill between nations were taken into account. They were investigated according to the law and repatriated to their respective countries. Between 5 October 2023 and 17 November 2025, a total of 68,009 foreign nationals from 52 countries, who were residing in Myanmar illegally, were repatriated according to the regulations of their respective countries. Yesterday morning, during a combined inspection, teams including security forces and administrative bodies inspected the Shwokokko area. Meanwhile, some persons attempted escape to a neighbouring country, and measures are actively in place to intercept and apprehend any such attempts.

SEE PAGE 12



The repatriation process for the illegal immigrants and detainees linked to telecom fraud and online gambling.

Scaling up cervical cancer prevention activities

THE general public greatly fears the possibility of falling ill. When someone becomes sick, it not only affects the patient but also causes both emotional and physical strain for the entire family and everyone involved. They also face financial burdens. Meanwhile, medical professionals become busier and more exhausted due to the increased workload.

In Myanmar society, there are generally said that there are 96 types of illnesses. Anyone can be affected by some form of disease; it's only that symptoms may not yet appear when the illness is still in an early stage. Once a disease develops, it takes

Moreover, the vaccination campaign will be expanded in August and September 2026 to include girls aged 9 to 18 years, under the HPV Multi-Age Cohorts Vaccination (HPV MAC) programme. The cervical cancer vaccines currently administered in Myanmar are being supported by the GAVI Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), and the government will continue to co-finance the procurement and distribution of these vaccines under this arrangement.

Some 70 per cent of all cervical cancer cases are caused by infection with HPV types 16 and 18. In Myanmar, the currently administered cervical cancer vaccine protects against four HPV types — 6, 11, 16, and 18. In the school-based cervical cancer vaccination programme, vaccination coverage reached 90 per cent, marking a successful implementation. Starting from early December 2025, a community-based cervical cancer vaccination programme will be carried out to intensify vaccination efforts for girls aged 9 to 11 who are not enrolled in school.

Moreover, the vaccination campaign will be expanded in August and September 2026 to include girls aged 9 to 18 years, under the HPV Multi-Age Cohorts Vaccination (HPV MAC) programme. The cervical cancer vaccines currently administered in Myanmar are being supported by the GAVI Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), and the government will continue to co-finance the procurement and distribution of these vaccines under this arrangement.

If vaccinated against cervical cancer, the infection rate of the human papillomavirus (HPV), which causes cervical cancer, can be reduced by 83 per cent among girls aged 13 to 19 years, and the incidence of early-stage cervical cancer among girls aged 15 to 19 years can be reduced by up to 31 per cent.

Let’s Quit Betel Quid

By Soe Moe

ABOUT a week ago, on my way to work, after passing Hledan junction and crossing the Hledan line-bus stop on Insein Road, I saw a passenger on a stationary bus open a window and spit betel juice onto the road. This scene has become an all-too-common sight in Myanmar.

Anyone walking up the stairs of an apartment building in Yangon will invariably see, whether they want to or not, the red-stained walls on the stairwell corners, splattered with betel juice. All over Yangon, in neighbourhoods, main roads, alleyways, and other crowded places, we are seeing more and more betel quid shops, whether mobile from pushcarts or fixed in one place. This means that betel quid consumption has become part of people’s daily living environment, not only in cities and large towns but also in rural villages.

Moreover, the habit of buying and consuming betel quid among drivers of long-distance buses and cars, under the pretext of staying awake while driving, has made betel consumption seem justifiable. Betel quid use is expanding day by day. Beyond the traditional offering of “betel, tobacco, and tea” in Burmese hospitality, its use has widened and is now causing damage

not only to the health of the majority of consumers but also to their family income. The gradual expansion of betel quid consumption can be instantly observed by looking at the current usage situation. Furthermore, even those with health knowledge can see that, compared to the entire population, they are still a very small minority.

I believe that those who consider betel chewing a mere social habit and downplay the dangerous consequences and side effects of its use are likely more numerous in our country.

What is Betel Quid?

Betel quid is a combination of substances chewed for their psychoactive, stimulating effects. It is generally wrapped in a betel leaf. The original ingredients are: **Areca Nut:** The main addictive ingredient.

Betel Leaf: The leaf from the betel plant.

Slaked Lime or Shell Lime: An alkaline substance that helps release the active ingredients

from the areca nut.

Other Additives: Tobacco, sweeteners, spices, and processed tobacco products like *Hman See* (cured tobacco), *Forty-Fifty*, *Night Two*, etc.

Reasons for Betel Quid Addiction

Addiction to betel quid is caused not only by chemistry but also by psychological factors and traditions.

Chemical Addiction (Arecoline)

Areca nut contains a chemical called Arecoline.

This chemical stimulates the brain similarly to nicotine, causing the release of neurotransmitters like dopamine and serotonin. Dopamine is a chemical that creates a feeling of satisfaction, leading to addiction and encouraging further use.

With long-term use, the brain becomes dependent on dopamine. If consumption stops, intense cravings and withdrawal symptoms occur.

Psychological and Behav-

ioral Addiction

Habit: Preparing and chewing betel quid becomes a ritual, often associated with socializing, post-meal relaxation, or stress relief.

Social Pressure: Betel quid is an important part of hospitality and friendship traditions, making it difficult to quit.

Stress Relief: Many people use betel quid to relieve stress or to improve concentration.

Health Side Effects of Betel Chewing

The World Health Organization (WHO) has classified betel quid as a top-priority carcinogen. Potential health conditions include:

Oral Cancer: The most significant and major risk.

Oral Submucous Fibrosis (OSF): The mouth becomes stiff, leading to cracked lips, difficulty opening the mouth, and pain, which can eventually lead to oral cancer.

White or Brown Patches in the Mouth (Leukoplakia/Erythroplakia): Pre-cancerous signs.

Other Cancers: Can cause cancer of the lips, tongue, cheeks,

and palate.

Other Cancers: Increases the risk of throat, oesophagus, and stomach cancer.

Dental and Oral Problems: Tooth decay, betel-stained teeth, and gum disease.

Increased Risk of Heart Disease and Diabetes.

Negative Effects on Pregnant Women.

How to Quit Betel Quid?

Set a Quit Date.

Once you’ve decided to quit, you must set a date. There is no single “best” time to quit; the best time is when you are comfortable with your work, social, and home life commitments. The date you set should not be more than two weeks away.

Reduce Consumption Before the Quit Date.

While strong-willed individuals can stop abruptly, for others, gradually reducing consumption until stopping completely on the set date is the best method. It is important to note what situations or reasons trigger your

chewing and to avoid them. For example, if you usually chew after meals or when meeting friends outside, make sure betel quid is not easily available during mealtimes, don’t bring any when you go out, and don’t ask for any from friends. Changing these behaviours is necessary. For those with a strong addiction, it helps to have sugar-free candy, gum, or roasted sunflower seeds on hand to chew. Furthermore, you should inform your friends and acquaintances that you are quitting.

The Quit Date Arrives. When the set date arrives, you must absolutely stop consuming betel quid. If a craving arises, try to distract yourself from it. Change where you usually eat your meals. Immerse yourself in another activity to pass the time. Engage in sports. Bring substitute foods with you (e.g., gum, sunflower seeds) to consume.

The First Week of Quitting

The withdrawal symptoms that appear after quitting are usu-

ally most severe in the first week. Common symptoms include:

Intense cravings for betel quid.

Anxiety, irritability, and mood swings.

Difficulty concentrating.

Insomnia (or drowsiness).

Feeling tired and lethargic.

Increased appetite.

Tendency to feel depressed.

These symptoms typically last for the first week or so after quitting. When a strong craving arises, you can dispel it by taking deep breaths or doing some exercise. Eating fresh fruits and vegetables, drinking six to eight glasses of water daily, walking, running, cycling, or swimming are all beneficial.

The Second Week of Quitting

Cravings may persist. If they do, be patient and resist for as long as possible; the desire will eventually subside. As a substitute, chew gum or eat sunflower seeds to get through the time.

The Third Week of Quitting

By this week, you should have successfully overcome the addiction to betel quid (and tobacco). You must try not to give in to temptation and chew again even once. If you consume it again, you can easily become re-addicted. Quitting betel quid (and tobacco) is difficult, and most people cannot quit in a single attempt. A relapse is not a failure; by trying to quit again, you can progress towards permanent cessation.

Betel quid addicts must quit, as they become aware of the great health risks and the daily damage to their family’s finances and income. Equally, if not more important, is educating the majority of young people who are not yet users to never start.

For those addicted to betel quid who want to quit, they often do not know the methods to do so. Therefore, I would like to suggest that Universities of Dental Medicine and large Dental Departments, which directly deal with various types of oral cancer linked to betel quid chewing, should consider opening “Quit Corners” or “Quit Centres for Betel Quid Chewing” – small departments for those who wish to quit, providing counselling, advice, and treatment.

I Say What I See: State, Parliament, and Government - Pillars of a Nation’s Democratic Life

The State provides the ground, Parliament gives the voice, and Government takes the action - three vital entities whose unity offers both guidance and responsibility for citizens in building a fair, stable, and prosperous nation.

By @Editor

Lexicographical Introduction

In every nation, three entities stand as pillars of collective identity and governance: the **State**, the **Parliament**, and the **Government**. According to the Oxford Dictionary, the State is understood as a political organization with sovereignty over a defined territory, embodying both the people and institutions that exercise authority. Merriam-Webster echoes this, describing the State as a political body or community organized under one government, emphasizing its role as the ultimate framework within which laws and order are maintained. Locally, English-Myanmar dictionaries render “State” as ပြည်နယ် or နိုင်ငံ, terms that highlight both the territorial and communal aspects of sovereignty.

The **Parliament**, as defined by Oxford Reference, is a system of government that allocates decision-making powers to a house of elected representatives, responsible for laws, budgets, and dec-

larations of war. Merriam-Webster adds historical depth, noting Parliament as a supreme legislative body, originally convened by the British sovereign, but now a model replicated globally. In Myanmar usage, the word ပါလီမန် သို့မဟုတ် လွှတ်တော် conveys the same meaning, referring to the legislative assembly that represents the people and enacts laws.

Finally, the **Government**, in Oxford’s definition, is the group of people responsible for controlling a country or state, tasked with policy-making and administration. Merriam-Webster similarly

defines it as the governing body of a nation, whether centralized or distributed across branches. In Myanmar, the term အစိုးရ captures this essence, signifying the authority that manages national affairs and executes laws.

Together, these definitions – global and local – illustrate how language frames the structures of power and responsibility. The State provides the foundation, Parliament voices the people’s will, and Government enacts decisions. They are not abstract concepts but living institutions, vital to the survival and progress

of any nation.

Continuation of the Introduction

While each of these entities carries its own definition, their true significance emerges in the way they interdepend. The State provides the enduring framework – the territory, sovereignty, and collective identity of a people. Within that framework, the Parliament acts as the voice of representation, translating the diverse will of citizens into laws and policies. Yet laws alone remain inert without the Govern-

ment, which breathes life into them through administration, enforcement, and leadership. In this way, the State is the foundation, Parliament the deliberative conscience, and Government the executive arm. Together, they form a triad of authority and responsibility, ensuring that nations are not only organized but also dynamic, responsive, and capable of progress. Their relationship is not hierarchical but symbiotic: the State legitimizes, Parliament articulates, and Government implements – a cycle that sustains the vitality of national life.

Comparative Perspective

Different countries show us how the **State**, **Parliament**, and **Government** work together in their own ways. In a democracy like the United Kingdom, the State is the nation itself, Parliament is the elected body that debates and passes laws, and the Government is formed by the party that wins the majority to carry out those laws. In the United States, the State is the union of fifty states under one constitution, Congress acts as the Parliament, and the Government

Conclusion

History shows us that some nations have built strong and lasting democracies by carefully balancing the State, Parliament, and Government. Countries like the United Kingdom, with its centuries-old parliamentary tradition, and the United States, with its clear separation of powers, serve as role models for how institutions can grow stronger when citizens participate in them. Other nations such as India, the world’s largest democracy, and Japan, which rebuilt itself after the war into a stable parliamentary system,

also offer valuable lessons. These examples remind us that democracy is not given overnight; it is shaped by patience, participation, and respect for institutions. For countries like Myanmar, which are still shaping their democratic path, looking to these models can provide guidance for the march towards nation-building. It is a duty born to every citizen – to strengthen the State, to respect Parliament, and to support Government – so that together they can build a nation that is fair, stable, and prosperous.

In the shared journey of nation-building, the State as foundation, Parliament as voice, and Government as action together form the living heartbeat of democracy, reminding every citizen that their duty is not only to inherit a nation but to continually shape and strengthen it for generations to come.

I say what I see, for the State, the Parliament, and the Government are ours to strengthen.



2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

Mon Development Party talks about its policy, stance and work procedures

Min Tun Lwin, General Secretary of the Mon Development Party, presented the policy, stance and work procedures of his party through radio and television on the evening of 18 November. The full text of the presentation is as follows: -



Everybody, Mingalaba!

I would like to extend my greetings and wish all esteemed people and national brethren every blessing. I am Min Tun Lwin, General Secretary of the Mon Development Party. I will present the policies and work procedures of the Mon Development Party.

The Mon Development Party was formed as a party representing Mon ethnic people with its activities in Kayin State under the Political Parties Registration Law enacted in 2023. Our party was allowed to register as a political party on 1 April 2024. As it is an initial period of the party, just three candidates of our Mon Development Party will compete in the relevant constituencies in Kayin State in the multiparty democratic general election to be held on 28 December.

As it is the most important for the voters, people who will select the candidates for political parties to be able to serve the interests of the State and the people in accordance with the political stance, policies and work procedures, I would like to present a summary of political visions, policies and work procedures of our party to the people.

The Mon Development Party is a party representing ethnic people. Although it is a small party with activities only in Kayin State, we believe that our party will have the opportunities to participate in

the important role of the political process, which will build a Union with diversity based on democracy and a federal system that all the people long for.

Esteemed people and national brethren,

At present, when our country faces political crises and conflicts, everyone expresses different opinions and responses to the upcoming election. Our Mon Development Party will seek the best way for the State and the people to overcome political challenges.

As the policy of our Mon Development Party, we will implement

- To work towards strengthening a multiparty democratic system and to build a democratic nation grounded in justice, freedom and equality, in line with universal principles.
- To prioritize overall development of the region and the entire nation as well.
- To establish a human society in which every citizen will enjoy the full ethnic rights, citizen rights and democratic rights, in addition to recognizing their own identity and character of each ethnic group.
- To enable the entire ethnic people to have human rights fully and enjoy a free style of social life.

We will steadfastly serve the missions and visions to initiate anti-corruption and uphold the rule of law to the full capacity.

Although our Mon Development Party carries out its activities in Kayin State, we will formulate and implement the policies and work procedures in conformity with everything by emphasizing the interest of the entire Union.

Our party will participate in the implementation of all sectors, including politics, economy and social activities as much as possible for the sake of the State and the people.

In the political sector, we will prioritize the points to build a Union based on democracy and a federal sys-

tem while protecting the rights of the minorities.

We will use different ways and means to develop the economic, education and health-care sectors in addition to the women and youth sector. Moreover, we will focus on conservation of the natural environment, prevention of natural disasters, efforts to provide help and rescue, as well as rehabilitation measures.

Especially, our Mon Development Party, being an ethnic party, will emphasize uplifting and protecting the ethnic rights by formulating necessary laws and rules and encourage the preservation of customs and traditions of ethnic.

Finally, I would like to state that the Mon Development Party will work together with ethnic nationalities across the country to achieve nationwide peace and to build a Union based on democracy and a federal system, for the benefit of the Mon people living throughout Myanmar as well as all ethnic citizens. With the support of voters and the collective efforts of relevant groups, we will continue to implement the policy programmes presented above. Whatever the outcome of the election may be, the Mon Development Party will continue to uphold its policies and programmes and work for the interests of the people, the region and the nation.

No matter what challenges or difficulties arise, I would like to urge all citizens and national brethren to support the Mon Development Party, which will do its utmost to serve the well-being of the people. I also wish that all citizens' hopes and aspirations may be fully realized.

Thank you all.



UEC member meets township election subcommission, political parties in Bogale

U Tin Swe Win, member of the Union Election Commission, held a meeting with officials from the Bogale Township Election Subcommission and representatives from political parties at the Cho Kyi Tha Sasana Beikman building in Bogale of Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning.

The UEC member stressed the need to systematically operate the Myanmar Electronic Voting Machines, compile the comprehensive voter lists for the second announcement, and actively participate in holding the election successfully. After the briefing, he inspected the place where the MEVM will be kept.

The meeting was also attended by the chairman and members of Pyapon District and Bogale Township Election Subcommissions, Bogale township authorities, representatives of political parties and Hluttaw candidates. — Moe Set (Bogale)/TTA



UEC Member U Tin Swe Win is pictured during his meeting with responsible officials and representatives from political parties in Bogale Township.

2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION



The Trustee of the Peace Party talks about its policy, stance and work procedures

Nang Khin San Kyi, member of the Central Executive Committee of the Trustee of the Peace Party, presented the policy, stance and work procedures of her party through radio and television on the evening of 18 November.
The full text of the presentation is as follows: -



Esteemed national brethren from across the Union,
I am Nang Khin San Kyi, a Central Executive Committee member of the Trustee of the Peace Party. To be able to create a better tomorrow, I would like to extend my greetings on behalf of the party, which stands together with the people on today's democratic path. We will present our party's policies, stances and work procedures as we work to become builders of a modern era.
Esteemed national brethren, our country is con-

stituted of different ethnic groups. We have to march towards the goal, leaving the past events behind, to cure the sufferings of conflicts.
The first vision of our party is that all national brethren from all parts of Myanmar have to firmly forge the Union spirit to enjoy equal terms of rights and mutual respect.
It is an essence for peace which can initiate the Union spirit firmly through equal rights and mutual respect.
I would like to clearly inform all national brethren that our party will seek the resolutions for peace through the dialogues to overcome any hindrances and challenges.
The primary policy of our party is to forge a durable peace that all the Myanmar people aspire to. All national brethren residing in the Union of Myanmar need to firmly restore the Union spirit through full equal rights and mutual respect in order to initiate peaceful co-existence and possess a dignified future. It is a firm belief of our party.
In order to firmly restore a peaceful and genuine peace, our party carried out its functions based on

the attitude of the entire people, stating, "We will all live together in this Union; walk side by side, resolve problems without fighting, and respect one another."
Esteemed national brethren,
The Trustee of the Peace Party is not just an expression. It is a party that consistently stands for the people and firmly upholds the commitment to work for the people.
Our Trustee of the Peace Party has vowed to stand with the people for the tomorrows with expectation and for genuine peace.
The Trustee of the Peace Party will stand with the people forever.
Thank you. May peace come swiftly to all of Myanmar.



Training for polling station heads and members commences

AS Kayah State emphasizes holding the multiparty democratic general election successfully, a ceremony to launch the training course for heads, deputy heads and members of polling stations to serve the upcoming election was held at the state hall in Loikaw yesterday morning.
On the occasion, Kayah State Chief Minister U Zaw Myo Tin said that preparations are being made to hold the election in Kayah State successfully. He urged trainees to carefully study lectures and assignments to be conducted at the training so as to systematically carry out the practical work without any mistakes.
He stressed the need for service personnel who will serve as officers, deputy officers and members of the polling stations to diligently carry out their duties and responsibilities, like exemplary public servants, to ensure the successful accomplishment



The training session underway for polling-duty personnel in Loikaw, Kayah State, yesterday.

of the multiparty democratic general election.
The Chief Minister presented cash assistance for the polling station officers, deputy officers and members through the Kayah State Election Officer. Later, the state election officer explained the purpose of conducting the training course.
The ceremony was also attended by the command-

er of the Regional Control Command, state ministers, district- and township-level authorities, staff of the state election subcommission office and officials.
Arrangements have been made to conduct training courses six times for 1,195 trainees from 18 to 23 November in Loikaw. — State IPRD/TTA

Operation of MEVM demonstrated in Ye Township

A mass meeting in conjunction with a demonstration on operating the Myanmar Electronic Voting Machine took place at the monastery in Apawseik Village of Ye Township, Mon State, on 17 November.
Acting Ye Station commander Lt-Col Khaing Zaw made an opening speech while Ye District Management and Administration Committee, District Administrator U Htein Soe explained regional development measures.
Ye Township Election Officer

U Aung Ko Latt clarified work procedures in using the MEVM for the voters to have smooth and quick voting processes and electoral measures. The District Administrator replied to queries on regional development raised by rural people.
Later, the demonstration on operating the MEVM followed. It was also attended by township authorities, members of the Township Election Subcommission and residents. — Min Min/TTA



A demonstration on operating the MEVM in progress on 17 November 2025 in Ye Township, Mon State.

NATIONAL

Myanmar repatriates 317 foreign nationals linked to cross-border online crimes

A total of 317 foreign nationals — comprising 269 Indian nationals, 31 Lao nationals, 16 Vietnamese nationals, and one South Korean national — who had illegally entered Myanmar via border routes, often through neighbouring countries including Thailand, and committed crimes such as online gambling and online scam in the Shwe Kokko, Maehtawthalay (KK Park), and Kyaukkhat areas of Myawaddy Township, Kayin State, have been handed over to their respective countries.

The repatriation was carried out across the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II, in accordance with legal procedures and guided by humanitarian principles and the promotion of friendly relations between nations.

Col Min Thu Kyaw, Minister for Security and Border Affairs of the Kayin State Government,



The deportation of 317 undocumented foreign entrants underway across the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II.

and responsible officials monitored and inspected the repatriation process to ensure the efficient and smooth handover of the individuals to their respective countries.

Subsequently, the repatri-

ation and handover ceremony proceeded. Attendees included Deputy Director U Kyaw Kyaw Than, Head of the District Immigration and Population Department, Mr Pranav Ganesh, Counsellor from the Embassy of

India in Thailand, Mr Bounkham Manivan, Second Secretary from the Embassy of Laos in Thailand, Mr Le Trung Kien, First Secretary from the Embassy of Vietnam in Thailand, Mr Rhee Wuchan, Counsellor from the

Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Thailand, and officials from the Tak Provincial Immigration Office of Thailand.

During the ceremony, the responsible officials from Myanmar formally handed over the documentary evidence related to the repatriation and acceptance of the nationals to the officials from their respective countries.

From 30 January to 18 November 2025, a total of 10,840 foreign nationals who had illegally entered Myanmar were intercepted, identified, and detained.

Out of this total, 9,853 individuals have been systematically repatriated to their respective countries via Thailand, in accordance with legal procedures.

The remaining 987 foreign nationals are currently ready for handover to their countries and are being kept under good care. — MNA/MKKS

Myanmar intensifies national drive against...

FROM PAGE 7

During yesterday's operation, a total of 346 foreigners under verification residing in Myanmar illegally were arrested, and a large amount of necessary equipment used in online fraud and gambling was seized from three buildings illegally constructed in the Shwekokko area. The operation continues at present.

Those who committed online fraud and gambling took advantage of regions within Myanmar where territorial instability made it difficult for authorities responsible for law enforcement and administration to fully exercise control. They carried out criminal activities to seek personal profit. The areas they targeted, including the Myawady-Maehtawthalay KK Park area, Shwekokko, and Chongkhaed region, are zones where KNLA and KNU terrorists, PDF terrorists, NCA-signatory Kayin armed groups, and border guard forces operate. The profit-seekers approached these armed groups using various methods and in-

vested in infrastructure and other developments in these areas. Moreover, essential resources for habitation, such as water, electricity, communications, and other infrastructure, were obtained from a neighbouring country. Currently, the operations have been carried out in the KK Park area. Full security has been established in the Shwekokko, Chongkhaed, and other areas with the involvement of security forces, and investigations and operations will continue. Any online fraud and gambling activities discovered will be effectively addressed and eradicated at the root.

The government is working in coordination with the international community to rigorously investigate, expose, and take decisive action against online fraud and gambling activities. As Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission Senior General Min Aung Hlaing has also given guidance to combat criminal activities utilizing the



This photo captures the completed demolition of buildings and facilities in the KK Park area of Myawaddy Township.

Myanmar territory in committing crimes in neighbouring countries and internationally as a matter of national responsibility. During his recent visits to Kayin State and Mon State, meetings with relevant departments and local communities confirmed that efforts are being made to suppress online fraud and gambling as a national duty. It was clearly stated that such

activities will continue to be decisively eradicated.

The government will continue to broadly suppress online fraud and gambling activities within the country. On 14 November 2025, at a joint meeting held in Kunming, China, attended by China, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, participating countries, regional nations, and relevant regional

organizations agreed to cooperate in effectively preventing and suppressing online fraud activities. The government also urges citizens to treat the reporting of information related to online fraud and gambling as a national responsibility and to actively provide such information to the relevant authorities to help jointly combat these crimes. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

4,000 kg of ICE seized, AA logistics head and 23 others arrested in nationwide crackdown

THE Government of Myanmar regards the effective prevention and suppression of drug trafficking, which poses a danger to the entire human race, including future generations, as a national duty and is vigorously pursuing its eradication.

In addition to enhancing inspection, identification, and seizure operations along known drug trafficking routes and conducting joint operations with neighbouring countries to suppress drugs, it has been observed that drug traffickers and sellers are now exploiting the advantages of the sea and shifting to maritime routes instead.

The AA terrorist group has been trafficking and selling illicit drugs. They use the proceeds to purchase arms and ammunition, which they then use to carry out acts of terrorism in Rakhine State, including the harassment, torture, and killing of innocent civilians through armed coercion.

Following intelligence gathered by security forces, on the night of 5 November 2025, a raid was conducted at Warehouse 19, on the Strand Road in Hsinohpho Ward, Quarter 1, Patheingyi Township, Ayeyawady Region.

Security forces successfully seized 4,000 kilogrammes of the ICE, with an estimated street value of K120 billion, which was hidden and stored in an underground room and intended for shipment to Rakhine State and Malaysia.

During the operation, two individuals were arrested – Khin Tun, the logistics in-charge for the AA terrorist group, and La Min Khant, who was responsible for storing the drugs.



Two offenders are seen alongside seized drugs at Warehouse 19 on the Strand Road in Hsinohpho Ward, Quarter 1 in Patheingyi, Ayeyawady Region.

Based on the confessions of the two arrestees, follow-up operations to apprehend connected suspects were launched on the morning of 6 November. These led to the arrest of Naing Lin at the Shwe La Min Hospital on Zaw Gyi Street in Lanmadaw Township, Yangon Region, and Zaw Min Htun (also known as Nyi Pu) in Htin Pon Seik Village, Patheingyi Township. Furthermore, on the waters in front of the “Kau-kaung” crab farm in Ma-aing Village-tract, Kyaukse Township, Tanintharyi Region, authorities seized the cargo ship MV Shwewar, which was used for drug transport, along with its ten crew members — Maung Soe (coxswain), Khin Win, Aung San Oo, Aung Zin Latt, Win Naing, Aung Lin, Kyaw Min Latt, Htein Min Thu, Kyaw Ko Ko Htwe, and Than Htike Oo. Later that evening, the crackdown continued with the arrests of Win Win Htun (also known as Win Htun)

in Ward 3, Chaungtha, Aung Mye Win (also known as Min Thar Gyi) on Mya Palethwe Road, Quarter 2, Chaungtha, and Ar Sar (also known as Wa Toke) in Mawtawkon Village, Patheingyi Township. Finally, that night, Dora Stephen, who stored drugs at the Bawzawady rice shop on Padauk Shwe Wah Street in Myeik, was apprehended.

Subsequently, at midday on 7 November, the cargo ship MV Shwewady, which was also used for drug trafficking, was seized while being dry-docked at Seikgyi Khanaungto Jetty.

That same evening, the key suspect, Maung Nge, was apprehended at Yangon International Airport. Maung Nge, who operated the “Bawzawady” rice trading business and the “Utopia Future” real estate business as a front, was the person who commissioned the delivery of the drugs from Patheingyi to Malaysia.

On the afternoon of 8 No-

vember, two brothers who served as boat workers involved in the drug shipment, Aung Soe Lin and Aung Ko Lin, were arrested in Quarter 2, Shwethaungyan, Ayeyawady Region.

Finally, on the afternoon of 9 November, the suspect Htun Htun Lin was further apprehended near the “Bawzawady” rice shop on Padauk Shwe Wah Street in Myeik.

Following further intelligence gathered by security forces, a search was conducted at midday on 11 November at House 9/470, Wankaung Ward, Tachileik, the residence of the linked suspect Ah Wei (also known as Shauk Htan (a) Than Maung), who commissioned the drug shipment but remains at large. The search yielded several firearms, including one US-made M-4, an A-1 rifle with two magazines and 26 rounds of 5.56mm ammunition, one Italian-made BERETTA pistol with one magazine, and one

US-made SIG SAUER pistol with two magazines. Additionally, on 16 November, two further arrests were made — Dora Moss, apprehended in Quarter 1, Kyaunggon Township, and Peter Phoe, apprehended at the Shwe Min Thamee Hotel in the Mya Kyun Thar Housing Estate, Quarter 3, Patheingyi. Consequently, the entire operation resulted in the arrest of a total of 24 male suspects and the seizure of one M-4, an A-1 rifle, two pistols, and two cargo ships.

Based on the statements made by the arrestees, it was established that Ah Wei (also known as Shauk Htan and Than Maung) from Tachileik (who remains at large) and Ta Kaw from Wamhing Village (who remains at large) were responsible for arranging the transfer of drugs originating from the Wamhing area, Kehsi Township, Loilem District.

The drugs were transported to Patheingyi using various methods, including concealment within secret compartments specially constructed in oil bowlers, and also by mixing and disguising them among other goods loaded onto cargo trucks.

Upon arrival in Patheingyi, the drugs were temporarily stored and concealed at Warehouse No 19 on the Strand Road, which is owned by Maung Nge.

The operation successfully intercepted the shipment while Maung Nge and his team were preparing to transport the drugs to Malaysia, and Khin Htun, the logistics in-charge for the AA terrorist group, and his team were preparing to transport a portion to Rakhine State.

Therefore, it is announced that further action will be taken to ensure the arrested suspects are effectively prosecuted under the law. Efforts are continuing to identify and apprehend the remaining suspects and associated individuals who are still at large. The public is informed that any information regarding drug trafficking can be reported to the relevant authorities confidentially. Rewards will be secretly and appropriately conferred upon informants and those who cooperate in making arrests. — MNA/KZL



Images show the detained MV Shwewady (left) and MV Shwewar (right), which were used to transport drugs to Malaysia.

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD/AD

Russia and India draft new agreements ahead of Putin-Modi summit

RUSSIA and India are discussing several bilateral agreements ahead of the upcoming meeting between President Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar said during talks with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

Putin is expected to visit India next month. During the meeting, Lavrov confirmed that the

summit will take place in New Delhi in three weeks. Indian media have reported it may be held on 5–6 December.

Jaishankar arrived in Moscow to attend the SCO Council of Heads of Government. He was set to discuss the conflicts in Ukraine, the Middle East, and Afghanistan with Lavrov.

Lavrov, for his part, called relations with India one of the top priorities of

Russia’s foreign policy. At this stage, he said, both countries are particularly focused on creating favourable conditions for businesses to operate in each other’s markets.

According to him, both sides are now paying “particular attention” to improving conditions for economic operators in each other’s markets.

He highlighted joint achievements and strong prospects for cooperation



Russian President Vladimir Putin and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi shake hands during a meeting on the sidelines of the 22nd Shanghai Cooperation Organization Heads of State Council (SCO-HSC) Summit, in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

in energy, industry, agriculture, defence and military-technical collaboration, as well as scientific,

technological and cultural exchanges. Among the most promising projects, he noted the Inter-

national North–South Transport Corridor and the Northern Sea Route. — SPUTNIK

UN says lacks billions of dollars to feed world’s hungry

THE UN’s World Food Programme warned Tuesday that funding cuts mean it will struggle to feed even a third of the 318 million people facing severe hunger in 2026.

“Declines in global humanitarian funding are forcing WFP to prioritize food assistance to roughly one third of those in need,” targeting 110 million of the most

vulnerable, it said in a statement.

That would cost \$13 billion, the agency estimated -- but warned that “current funding forecasts indicate WFP may only receive close to half that goal”.

The WFP’s largest donor is the United States which, under President Donald Trump, has cut foreign aid, including to

UN agencies. Other big donors, including some European nations, have also shrunk their humanitarian budgets.

The 318 million people facing acute hunger is more than double the figure recorded in 2019, as conflict, extreme weather and economic instability have taken their toll, the WFP said.

UN agencies this

year declared famine in Gaza and parts of Sudan, something that WFP executive director Cindy McCain called “completely unacceptable in the 21st century”.

In a foreword to the WFP’s 2026 Global Outlook report, she said the world’s response “remains slow, fragmented and underfunded”.

“Global aid now covers less than half of total needs, with steep reductions in food assistance. Almost all operations have had to cut food and cash, and prioritize which vulnerable group receive help,” she wrote.

“At the same time, attacks on aid workers have surged, revealing a growing disregard for international humanitarian law.”

For those facing hunger in 2026, 41 million people are classified as facing emergency or worse levels. — AFP



Workers unload a World Food Programme (WFP) supply truck at a distribution centre in the Bentiu internally displaced persons camp, Unity State, South Sudan, on 6 November 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

Number of S Korea’s wage workers logs 2nd-lowest growth in Q2

THE number of South Korea’s wage workers logged the second-lowest growth in the second quarter due to a sharp fall in the construction industry, statistical office data showed Tuesday.

The number of wage and salary worker jobs totalled 20,950,000 in the April-June quarter, up 111,000 compared to the same quarter of last year, according to the Ministry of Data and Statistics. It marked the second-lowest increase since relevant data began to be compiled in 2018, but it was higher than the lowest expansion of 15,000 in the January-March quarter. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V NORDLEOPARD VOY.NO. (544W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NORDLEOPARD VOY.NO. (544W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **19-11-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S MAERSK A/S

SPORTS

GERMANY and Netherlands went on goal sprees as they wrapped up World Cup qualification with resounding wins in their last European group matches on Monday.

"Every player played well today and worked like a dog," Germany coach Julian Nagelsmann told German broadcaster ZDF.

Both European giants needed only to draw to be sure of reaching the global footballing showpiece in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Instead, both went on the attack.

Germany took early control as they beat Slovakia 6-0 in Leipzig. The Netherlands took longer to pull away before overcoming Lithuania 4-0 in Amsterdam.

Slovakia finished second in Group A. Poland, who survived a scare to win 3-2 in Malta, ended up second to the Dutch in Group G. Second spot secures a place in the 16-team European play-offs in March.

Northern Ireland's 1-0 win

Germany and Netherlands lock up World Cup spots in style

over Luxembourg in Belfast could not lift them out of third in Group A but they will make the play-offs because of their Nations League performance.

In Group L, Croatia, already assured of first place, scored twice in the last 18 minutes to cone from behind and win 3-2 away to Montenegro. The Czech Republic, in second, slaughtered visiting Gibraltar 6-0.

In Leipzig, four times winners Germany started the night level on points with opponents Slovakia atop Group A but with an edge in goal difference. Slovakia, who beat Germany earlier in qualifying, created some threatening moments but could not take them. — AFP



Germany's midfielder (19) Leroy Sane (R) scores his team's fourth goal during the FIFA World Cup 2026 European qualification Group A football match between Germany and Slovakia, at the Red Bull Arena in Leipzig, eastern Germany on 17 November 2025. PHOTO: AFP

Mbappe, PSG face off in multi-million lawsuit

THE bitter dispute between Kylian Mbappe and his former club Paris Saint-Germain reached the French labour court on Monday for a tense hearing in which the France captain claimed 263 million euros (\$304m) and the club responded by demanding he pay them 440 million euros.

Both sides offered a long shopping list of grievances with price tags attached. PSG said they are basing their figure in part on a botched 300-million-euro transfer to Saudi club Al Hilal which Mbappe refused in June 2023, and its aftermath. — AFP

World No 1 Carlos Alcaraz out of Davis Cup finale with injury



Spain's Carlos Alcaraz reacts during the men's single final match against Italy's Jannik Sinner at the ATP Finals tennis tournament, in Turin, on 16 November 2025. PHOTO: AFP

SPAIN'S world number one Carlos Alcaraz will miss the Davis Cup Final 8 tournament in Italy this week due to injury, the two-time Wimbledon champion announced on X on Tuesday. "I am very sorry to announce that I will not be able to play with Spain in the Davis Cup in Bologna. I have swelling in my right hamstring and the medical advice is not to play," the 22-year-old six-time Grand Slam winner said. "I've always said that playing for Spain is the greatest thing there is and I was really looking forward to helping the team fight for the Davis Cup trophy." Alcaraz's announcement comes two days after he was beaten by arch rival Jannik Sinner, the Italian world number two, 7-6 (7/4), 7-5 in the ATP Finals title-decider in Turin. — AFP

Spain coach eyes FIFA World Cup triumph

SPAIN coach Luis de la Fuente said Monday that he will field a strong starting 11 as his team looks to secure direct qualification for the 2026 World Cup. Spain has won all seven of its qualifying matches, scoring 19 goals and conceding none. The team would need a 7-0 home loss to Turkiye, which it beat 6-0 in September, to fail to qualify directly. Turkey travels to Tuesday's match in Seville already assured of second place in the group and is expected to rest several key players at risk of suspension for the play-offs, which could also see them qualify. Despite expectations of a relaxed atmosphere at the Estadio de la Cartuja, De la Fuente said Spain will take the match seriously. "We want to keep winning, keep competing, and there are many reasons to do so," he said, insisting he would "field a very competitive, high-level team, showing respect to our opponent." De la Fuente acknowledged

that Spain's success at last summer's European Championship and its dominant qualifying campaign, which also includes Georgia and Bulgaria, makes it one of the favourites for next year's World Cup in the United States, Canada and Mexico. "Spain is among the favourites," he agreed, saying it was "thanks to the excellent work done in Spanish football, committing to a model and style of play that is improving day by day." "Training, investment, and knowledge are what it takes to develop that idea," he said. However, De la Fuente also cautioned against being overly optimistic. "Being a favourite doesn't get you anywhere. The important thing is to be in contention. True success is having a chance and fighting for it, especially in a World Cup where it's impossible to determine a clear favourite," he pointed out. — Xinhua



WORLD

THE UN Security Council on Monday adopted a resolution to endorse the creation of an international stabilization force (ISF) in Gaza.

The US-drafted Resolution 2803 won the support of 13 council members. Russia, which has presented a competing draft resolution, abstained, along with China.

The resolution endorses the 20-point Comprehensive Plan for Gaza announced by US President Donald Trump in September.

It welcomes the establishment of a Board of Peace (BoP) as a “transitional administration” that will set the framework and coordinate funding for the redevelopment of Gaza “until such time as the Palestinian Authority (PA) has satisfactorily completed its reform programme ... and can securely and effectively take back control of Gaza.”

After the PA reform programme is faithfully carried out and Gaza redevelopment has advanced, conditions may finally be in place for a credible pathway to Palestinian self-determination and statehood. The United States will establish a dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians to agree on a political horizon for peaceful and prosperous co-existence, reads the resolution.

It authorizes UN member states and the BoP to establish a temporary ISF in Gaza to deploy under a unified command, with forces contributed by participating states, and to use all necessary measures to carry out its mandate consistent with international law.

UN Security Council endorses intl stabilization force in Gaza



Representatives vote on a draft resolution during a UN Security Council meeting at the UN headquarters in New York, 17 November 2025.

PHOTO: XINHUA

The ISF is tasked, among others, to help secure border areas, stabilize the security environment in Gaza by ensuring the process of demilitarizing the Gaza Strip, protect civilians, and coordinate with relevant states to secure humanitarian corridors, according to the

resolution.

The ISF operates under the strategic guidance of the BoP and will be funded through voluntary contributions from donors and BoP funding vehicles and governments.

The resolution authorizes the BoP

and the international civil and security presence in Gaza until 31 December 2027, subject to further action by the Security Council.

It requests the BoP to provide a written report on progress to the Security Council every six months. — Xinhua

First draft of climate pact lands at COP30 in Brazil

COP30 hosts Brazil on Tuesday produced a first draft of an agreement be-

tween nations at the UN climate talks after negotiations on the sticking points

stretched late into the night. The draft includes a sweep of options on the most difficult issues, reflecting the gulf between the nearly 200 nations in Belem and the work still ahead to refine a final compromise.

The nine-page “Global Mutirao” document — a reference to an Indigenous concept of uniting toward a common goal — came after Brazil on Monday urged delegates to work day and night to produce an agreement by midweek. The text leaves open a wide range of possibilities on the flashpoint issues in Belem — trade measures, finance for poorer nations, and the

global inadequacy of carbon-cutting goals. But the quick turnaround of a draft on these thorny points suggested the COP30 presidency was confident it could soon have an outcome, observers said.

“It represents a steady progression from the previous iteration and is likely one of the earliest releases of such a clean text in recent COP history,” said Li Shuo, a climate analyst at the Asia Society Policy Institute. The draft reflects the stark division between a coalition wanting a “roadmap” on a fossil fuel phaseout, and a bloc led by oil-producing countries opposing any such effort. — AFP

WHO warns antimicrobial resistance of reversing decades of medical progress

THE World Health Organization warned Tuesday that antimicrobial resistance is already causing a global health emergency, threatening to erase nearly a century of medical progress as common infections become increasingly challenging to treat.

Saia Ma'u Piukala, the WHO regional director for the Western Pacific, said in a statement released Tuesday that the discovery of antimicrobials almost a century ago changed the course of modern medicine.

But that is changing, he said, due to misuse and overuse of these medicines, bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites are quickly changing and becoming resistant to antimicrobials.

One in six bacterial infections worldwide now resists standard antibiotics, Piukala said. Nearly five million deaths in 2019 were associated with bacterial antimicrobial resistance, including about 1.3 million directly caused by drug-resistant infections.

In the Western Pacific region alone, as many as 5.2 million people could die from drug-resistant bacterial infections between 2020 and 2030, according to WHO estimates. — Xinhua



Brazil's Secretary for Climate, Energy and Environment at the Foreign Ministry Mauricio Lyrio; COP30 President Andre Correa do Lago; Brazil's Vice-President and Minister of Industry and Trade Geraldo Alckmin; Brazil's Environment Minister Marina Silva; and COP30 CEO Ana Toni give a press conference during the COP30 UN Climate Change Conference in Belem, Para state, Brazil, on 17 November 2025. PHOTO: AFP