

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.

Day 5 sees 754 jade lots move at 60th Gems Emporium



Gem traders carefully examine gemstones and jade at the 60th Myanma Gems Emporium yesterday.

Through the open-tender system, local and foreign merchants have purchased 443 pearl lots and 67 gem lots, while the remaining jade lots will continue to be sold until 26 November.

The fifth day of the 60th Myanma Gems Emporium took place yesterday morning at the Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw, attracting a large number of gem merchants.

At yesterday’s emporium, 754 jade lots numbered 1 to 1000 were sold to local and foreign traders through the open-tender system. Foreign and local traders inspected jade lots numbered 1001 to 2000 and

submitted their proposed prices into the respective tender boxes. Officials will review these proposals and announce the jade lots to be sold on the morning of 22 November (today). A total of 443 pearl lots and

67 gem lots have been sold to local and foreign merchants through the open-tender system. The remaining jade lots will continue to be sold through the open-tender system until 26 November. – MNA/MKKS

Article

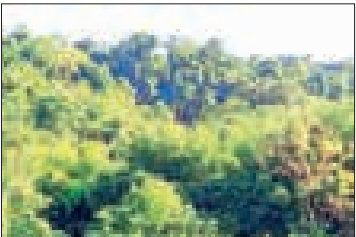
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Yangon palm oil sees weekly price drop

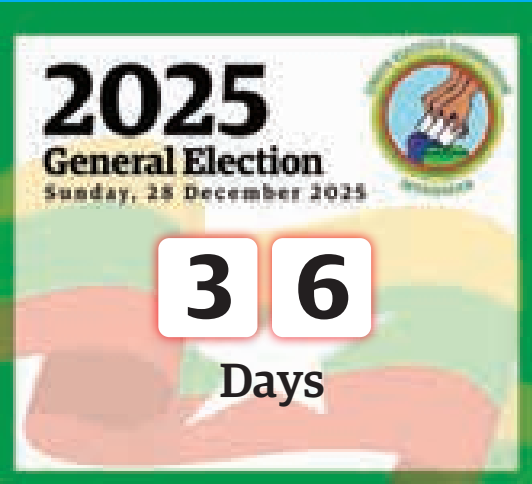
NATIONAL



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.**

Unity and Development Party (UADP) delivers campaign speech

THE electoral speech of the Unity and Development Party (UADP) is featured on page 10 of The Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper.

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Friday 21 November 2025

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

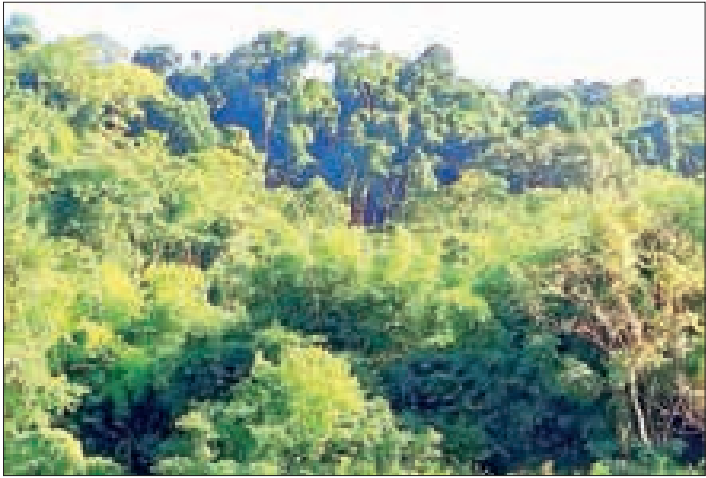
FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 22 November 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Taninthayi Region and isolated in Ayeyawady Region and Kachin, Kayin, Mon and (southern and eastern) Shan States. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent. Weather will be generally fair in Chin and Rakhine States and partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Taninthayi Region. In the area along the cumulonimbus clouds, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with 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 30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 8-10 feet in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 6-8 feet off and along the Rakhine Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of slight decrease of night temperatures in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, Chin and Shan States. — DMH

MNREC designates Washaung (extension) protected public forest



Washaung protected public forest.

THE Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation announced that 3,892 acres in Waingmaw Township of Myitkyina District in Kachin State have been designated as “Washaung (extension) protected public forest” as of 6 November 2025, under Notification 96/2025 by exercising the authority conferred under Subsection (e) of Section (6) of the Forest Law promulgated in 2018.

The ministry designates protected public forests and forest reserves to ensure the sustainability of the ecosystem of mountain areas, the administrative sector, the abundance of biodiversity, conserve water resources and prevent the inadequate use of wood, poles, felspar and firewood by locals.

The Washaung (extension) protected public forest areas will conserve various

kinds of wood such as yellow Chamcha, golden mahogany, cherry, Dracontomelon, green Chiretta, Gmelina arborea, Malabar neem, Chukrasia tabularis, Wood-oil, Anthocephalus cadamba Miq, herbal plants such as bay leaf, Tinospora Cordifolia Miers, Glycosmis pentaphylla, Swiss Cheese Plant, Rhynchanthus, bird species such as gibbon, civet, sambar, Indian hog deer, parrot, eagle, hawk, great hornbill and other rare species, python, Malayopython reticulatus and pangolins. Moreover, it can conserve the natural forest areas in the Inchon Mountain area and the water outlet. It will also enable to establishment of community-owned forests that help conserve water resources, resulting in increased forest coverage with favourable climatic conditions.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal Condition

Issued at 2 pm MST on 21 November 2025

According to the observations at 12:30 pm MST today, a low-pressure area may form over the Southeast Bay of Bengal on 22 November 2025. It is likely to move west-northwestwards and further intensity into a depression over the Southeast Bay of Bengal on 24 November 2025. — DMH

Earthquake

Issued at 12:15 pm 21 November 2025

A moderate earthquake of magnitude 5.5 Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Bangladesh), latitude 23.85°N, longitude 90.68°E, depth 25 kilometres, about 450 miles northwest of the Nay Pyi Taw Seismological Observatory was recorded at 11 hours 8 minutes 28 seconds MST on 21 November 2025.

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

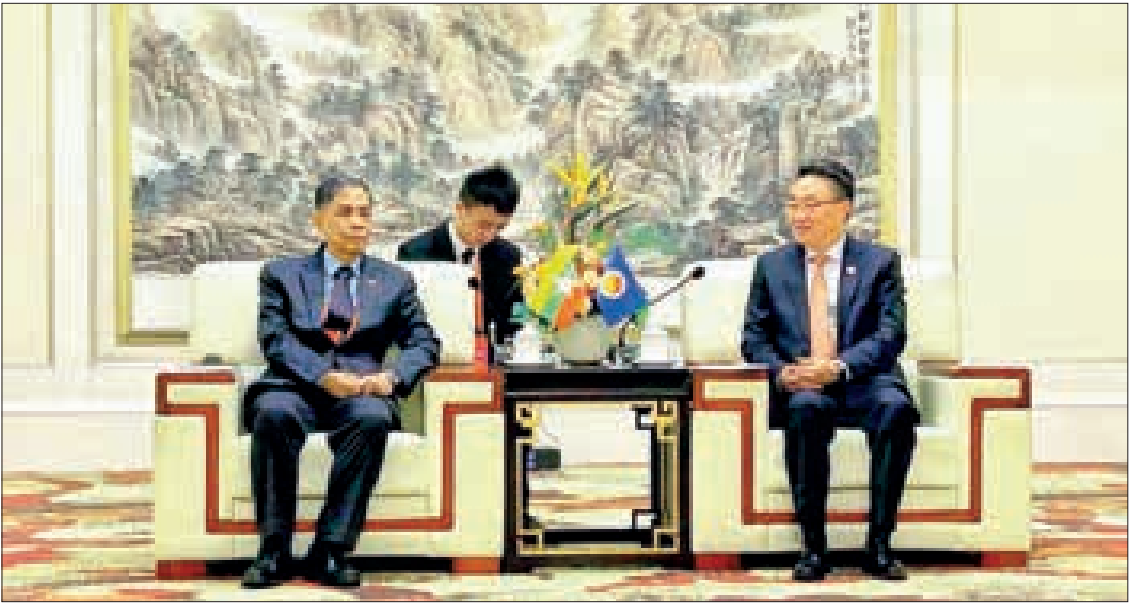
ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native 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 delegation led by President’s Office
Ministry 2 Union Minister arrives back after
attending ASEAN-China Week 2025

THE delegation led by Union Minister for the Ministry 2 of the President’s Office, U Ko Ko Hlaing, attended the ASEAN-China Week (ACW) 2025 in Fuzhou, China, held from 16 to 19 November 2025. Around 300 senior government officials, diplomats, media personnel, business leaders and youth communities from both ASEAN Member States and China participated in the event.

In his remark at the Opening Ceremony, Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to participate in the ASEAN-China Week 2025 held under the theme “Our Shared Future: Bridging ASEAN 2045 and Chinese Modernization” in Fuzhou, China. He highlighted that the event represents the enduring partnership between ASEAN and China and their shared journey towards a dynamic, inclusive and prosperous future. He thanked the Government of China, the Fujian Provincial authorities and the ASEAN-China Centre for hosting and organizing this meaningful event, which reflects the long-term partnership between ASEAN and China and the journey towards a vibrant,



Union Minister for the Ministry 2 of the President’s Office U Ko Ko Hlaing meets Secretary-General Mr Shi Zhongjun of the ASEAN-China Centre.

inclusive and prosperous future. He added that under the common goal of peace, development and prosperity of ASEAN, friendship, unity and mutual trust among the peoples from the two sides will be further enhanced. He recalled that during Myanmar’s Coordinatorship of ASEAN-China dialogue relations from 2021 to 2024, the partnership was elevated to the ASEAN-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, marking a significant milestone in ASE-

AN-China relations.

He emphasized that ASEAN and China’s mutual commitment to advancing cooperation in digital innovation, industrial and supply chain connectivity, youth and blue economy development, and people-to-people exchanges. He also welcomed China’s Global AI Initiative and emphasized the importance of equitable and responsible technological development. He reaffirmed Myanmar’s appreciation for China’s steadfast

support and the solidarity of ASEAN Member States.

Afterwards, the Myanmar delegation led by the Union minister attended the ASEAN-China Thematic Dialogues on “ASEAN-China Solutions to Global Challenges” and “Technological Innovation and AI-Powered Digital Economy”, “ASEAN-China Youth Forum on Blue Economy and Maritime Cooperation”, “Two Countries, Twin Parks” Model: “ASEAN-China Industrial and

Supply Chain Connectivity and Enterprise Exchanges”. The Union minister also held bilateral meetings with Fujian Provincial Governor Mr Zhao Long and Secretary-General Mr Shi Zhongjun of the ASEAN-China Centre separately, and discussed ways to further enhance friendship and cooperation.

The ASEAN-China Week was first convened in 2023, followed by the second ACW in 2024. The third ACW is being held this year under the theme “Our Shared Future: Bridging ASEAN 2045 and Chinese Modernization”. The ASEAN-China Week, which is promoting the ASEAN-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, plays a unique role in raising public awareness of ASEAN-China cooperation, and creates opportunities to further enhance cooperation between ASEAN Member States and China in the areas of economy, trade, investment, technological innovation and AI development.

The Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing arrived back in Yangon yesterday evening. — MNA

MoFA Union Minister receives
Ambassador-designate of Pakistan

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe received Mr Tariq Karim, Ambassador-designate of Pakistan, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Union minister congratulated Mr Tariq Karim on his appointment as the ambassador of Pakistan to Myanmar. They discussed matters

relating to the enhancement of existing friendly ties and bilateral cooperation in mutually beneficial areas, including trade, agriculture, tourism, people-to-people contacts and capacity building.

Also, present at the meeting were senior representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and the Pakistani Embassy. — MNA



The Pakistani Ambassador-designate calls on Union Minister U Than Swe yesterday.

NATIONAL

Press Release: Early Voting by University and College Students

THE Union Election Commission has been carrying out measures in accordance with the law to ensure that eligible voters do not lose their right to vote. In this regard, university, degree college and college students whose names are included in the voter lists but who must attend the institutions that will reopen soon, and who reside outside the townships where they are enrolled, to vote were allowed to cast advance ballots. Students who have turned eighteen years of age and are legally eligible to vote were instructed to appear at the respective ward or village-tract subcom-

mission offices where their names are listed, between 9 am and 4:30 pm, from 17 to 21 November 2025, and cast advance ballots by presenting the required supporting documents to avoid losing their voting rights.

During the specified dates, eligible students from universities, degree colleges and colleges in various regions and states arrived at the respective ward or village-tract subcommission offices to cast advance ballots. A total of 22,048 students were reported to have cast advance ballots within the designated period.

Union Election Commission



The advance voting of university and college students in progress.

CBM Governor receives Thai business delegation



The meeting between Central Bank of Myanmar Governor Daw Than Than Swe and the Thai business delegation underway yesterday in Yangon.

CENTRAL Bank of Myanmar Governor Daw Than Than Swe received the Thai business delegation comprising officials of the Thai Embassy and members of the Thai Business Association of Myanmar, led by the Thai Economic Counsellor in Yangon, yesterday.

During the meeting, the Thai business leaders dis-

cussed matters related to the applications for import licences, payment method in Thai baht, the use of Thai baht in the investment sector and foreign exchange according to the current operations in Myanmar regarding trading and investment.

The governor discussed the ongoing work plans regarding the foreign currency,

requirements for cooperation between the banks of the two countries, future work plans, situation of foreign currency trading based on market conditions of the foreign exchange trading platform, bilateral trade using the currencies of the two countries and bilateral cooperation in the financial sector. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar eyes closer ASEAN-Korea strategic collaboration

MYANMAR will enhance cooperation for the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between ASEAN and the Republic of Korea, said U Myo Myint Maung, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim/ Ambassador of the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul.

Ambassador U Myo Myint Maung made the statement during a courtesy call on Ambassador Kim Jae-shin, Secretary-General of the ASEAN-Korea Centre (AKC), on 19 November.

During the meeting, the Myanmar ambassador expressed his great pleasure and congratulations on the successful organization of numerous events related to ASEAN Week by the AKC in November.

Charge d'Affaires ad interim/ Ambassador U Myo Myint Maung also paid introductory visits to Ambassador Wong Kai Jiun of Singapore and Ambassador Pg



Presenting a commemorative gift to Ambassador Kim Jae-shin, Secretary-General of the ASEAN-Korea Centre (AKC).

Hij Noorayah of Brunei on 19 November, and to Ambassador Khuon Phonrattanak of Cambodia on 20 November, at their respective embassies in Seoul. During these meetings, the Myanmar ambassador exchanged views with his counterparts on further promoting the friendly bilateral relations between their respective countries. — Htun Htun/ZN

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NATIONAL

General Aung San Declares Firm Stand Against Election Disruption

“Our Government shall not permit any disruption of the forthcoming election. The electoral process shall remain free and fair, and no interference shall be exercised upon those who participate in it. Yet, let it be firmly declared that any attempt to disturb or sabotage the election shall be met with the full weight of authority”.

(An excerpt from the radio address regarding the election, delivered by General Aung San on 13 March 1947)



196 illegal KK Park buildings linked to telecom fraud razed

Authorities detain 351 more illegal foreign nationals in Shwe Kokko

THE government of Myanmar is prioritizing the elimination of telecom fraud and online gambling as part of its national duty, as these criminal activities pose a threat to the global and international community.

Joint inspection teams comprising security personnel and administrative bodies continue to conduct coordinated operations in the Shwe Kokko area and the KK Park area, where telecom fraud and online gambling activities have been most heavily based. These operations include entering and clearing targeted areas and demolishing illegal buildings and structures. Up to now, a total of 196 buildings constructed without permission have been systematically demolished in the Myawady-Maethawtalay (KK Park) area. Moreover, a total of 351 more foreign nationals who committed online gambling and telecom fraud were exposed and detained in the Shwe Kokko area.

A total of 14 buildings out of 635 buildings used in telecom fraud and online gambling in the Myawady-Maethawtalay (KK Park) area were destroyed yesterday. So far, the authorities have demolished 196 buildings constructed without permission, and the demolition process continues at the remaining illegal



The completed demolition of a four-storey flat.

buildings.

Likewise, a similar operation is being conducted in the Shwe Kokko area starting from 18 November. Yesterday, the fourth day, the combined teams searched three 12-storey buildings and three nine-storey buildings in the Shinyonli compound of the Shwe Kokko area. Those who operate the telecom frauds and online gambling activities were not found there, but 101 Starlink satellite receivers and 21 Routers were seized from the warehouses in the compound. So, those authorities continue the operation to expose and clear the area.

Yesterday, officials from

the inspection teams scrutinized and arrested 116 Chinese nationals, 36 Vietnamese, 14 Kenyans, 75 Ethiopians, eight South Africans, 23 Indonesians, 29 Ugandans, one Zimbabwean, 14 Filipinos, three Pakistanis, one Bangladeshi, one Liberian, two Nigerians, one Moroccan, one Malawi, six Cameroonians, one Mongolian and one Chinese Taipei who hidden themselves after committing telecom fraud and online gambling in Shwe Kokko area via some neighbouring countries including Thailand. So, data compiled in conducting the operation in the Shwe Kokko area showcased arrests of 1,367 foreign nationals who entered



Security personnel are seen placing 151-kilogramme C12 to demolish the four-storey flat.

Myanmar illegally and seizures of 2,652 computers, 21,750 mobile phones, 101 Starlink satellite receivers, 21 Routers and a large number of industrial materials used in online gambling and telecom fraud. The authorities continue the operation of combing the area.

During the period from 30 January to 21 November 2025, a total of 12,207 foreign nationals entered Myanmar illegally. Of them, 11,640 foreign nationals have been verified, and 9,978 have been systematically repatriated to relevant countries under the law. At present, it is ready to transfer 2,229 more foreign nationals to relevant countries, and they are detained under systematic care.

The government is treating the suppression of telecom fraud and online gambling offences as a national responsibility and will continue efforts to eliminate these activities within the country in cooperation with internal mechanisms, in addition to the governments of neighbouring countries. — MNA/TTA



Images reveal detained undocumented foreign entrants (left) and confiscated Starlink connection station.

NATIONAL

Tatmadaw sea-going hospital vessel (Thanlwin) offers medical services in Hainggyikyun

THE Tatmadaw mobile specialist medical team from the Tatmadaw Hospital Ship Thanlwin, which is providing healthcare services in villages in Cocokyun Township in Yangon Region and Hainggyikyun in Ayeyawady Region, continued delivering medical care yesterday morning to 465 local people from Hainggyikyun and nearby villages in Ngaputaw Township at the local Tatmadaw hospital.

The medical team provided healthcare services for 150 general patients, 50 surgical

patients, 13 obstetric patients, 25 paediatric patients, 80 orthopaedic patients, 20 ENT patients, 82 ophthalmology patients and 45 dental patients. In addition, 12 general surgery patients, 11 eye surgery patients, 21 X-ray patients, 36 ultrasound patients, 46 ECG patients and 24 laboratory test patients received the necessary diagnostic and treatment services.

Moreover, medical specialists from the team successfully conducted a Caesarean delivery at 1:40 pm for Daw Phone Nan-

da Myint from Kanchaing Village in Hainggyikyun, who gave birth to a baby girl weighing seven pounds. Both the mother and the newborn are in good health. Officials presented cash assistance and gifts to the newborn, who is the second baby delivered during the current mission.

Since 2016, the Tatmadaw Hospital Ship Thanlwin has assisted 22 mothers during 18 missions and 23rd and 24th mothers during the current 19th mission. — MNA/KTZH

Tatmadaw ships continue medical services for Wakema residents

TATMADAW Naval Hospital Ships named Shwe Puzun and Saku provided healthcare services to locals in Ma-yanchaung village in Wakema township of Ayeyawady Region yesterday.

During the healthcare programme, the medical team provided healthcare to 572 locals.

The treatments included general medical consultations for 211 patients, surgical care for 26 patients, obstetric and gynaecological care for 35 patients, paediat-

ric treatments for 42 children, orthopaedic care for 48 patients, ear, nose, and throat treatment for 53 patients, ophthalmology services for 108 patients, and dental care for 49 patients.

Moreover, four patients underwent general surgery, six received eye surgery, 27 had X-ray examinations, 70 were tested using ultrasound, eight underwent ECG heart screenings, and 48 had laboratory tests. — MNA/KTZH

24th ASEAN Banking Conference, 53rd Council Meeting conclude successfully in Yangon



This photo shows the successful conclusion of the 24th ASEAN Banking Conference and 53rd Council Meeting in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: KO MOE**

THE 24th ASEAN Banking Conference and the 53rd ASEAN Banking Council Meeting, jointly organized by the Myanmar Banks Association and the ASEAN Bankers Association, were held at the Novotel Yangon Max Hotel in Yangon from 19 to 21 November.

The 53rd ASEAN Banking Council Meeting continued yesterday morning with a total of 130 representatives from ASEAN banking associations.

The meeting approved the resolutions of the 52nd ASEAN Banking Council Meeting of the ASEAN Bankers Association,

as well as the reports from the meetings of the three committees — namely, the Committee on Cooperation in Finance, Investment, Trade and Technology (COFITT), the ASEAN Inter-Regional Relations Committee (ASEAN IRR), and the Banking Education Committee — which were held on 20 November.

The rotating chairmanship of the ASEAN Bankers Association was then transferred from the Philippine Banks Association to the Singapore Banks Association. Meanwhile, the President of the Philippine Banks Association announced the date and venue of the 54th ASEAN Banking Council Meeting: it will be held in Manila, the Philippines, in November 2026.

The meeting concluded successfully after the President of the ASEAN Bankers Association delivered the closing remarks. — Ko Moe/MKKS

NPT to plant bamboo along riverbanks to curb flooding

A discussion has been held about a plan including departments to plant bamboo along the banks of streams and rivers in Nay Pyi Taw to reduce flooding, according to bamboo artisan U Kyaw Win.

“What we are trying now is to plant bamboo in Nyaungbingyi, Nay Pyi Taw. We have held discussions with the relevant government departments to help protect the area from flooding. Even if a flood occurs, the bamboo will act as a barrier to catch garbage and debris. This will help prevent flooding. We plan to plant five types of bamboo, including sweet bamboo shoot, Kyathaung, and Wapoe (kinds of Myanmar bamboo),” he said.

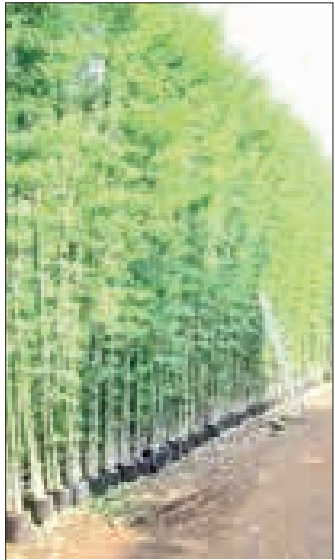
They started cultivating around 10,000 bamboo seedlings along the riverbanks of Nyaungpintha and Mangyitha. He estimated that approximately 8,000 seedlings will be needed for this initial phase.

This project will not only protect the environment but also provide a sufficient supply of bamboo for local use, reducing dependence on natural forests, he added.

Bamboo is highly beneficial to the environment as a

fertilizer, soil conditioner, soil conservation crop, and water resource conservation crop, while it absorbs carbon dioxide, releases oxygen, and controls moisture. Especially, its root system is dense and strong, which helps to prevent soil erosion. When harvested systematically, it regrows without needing to be replanted, making it a resilient and hard-to-deplete resource.

The initial project will require approximately 500,000 seedlings of bamboo, and if successful, it could be expanded nationwide, he said. — MT/ZN



Daily newspapers available online

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Agriculture and livestock are the lifeblood of the economy and
primary livelihoods of the people

❖ “Agriculture and livestock farming are vital for the rapid development of the nation’s economy, serving as the main livelihoods for the majority of the country’s ethnic communities and as the lifeblood of the national economy. Promoting and expanding production-based industries built on this sector is therefore the most effective approach.”

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Acting President (On Duty) and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the 3/2025 meeting of the National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 31 July 2025)

BMF launches car fair with affordable instalment
plans at Pannita Auto Park

A car sales fair, organized by CarsDB, offers the best value and lowest price options under an instalment payment system. The sales fair opened yesterday morning at BMF (Pannita Auto Park) on Manita Road in Hlaing Township, Yangon.

The car sales exhibition features EV cars, brand-new cars, used cars, various well-known brands, and different models and designs from more than 30 car showrooms, all provided with a One-Stop Service. Customers can choose from a wide variety of models on an instalment plan. Customers will not only be able to discuss purchases with car insurance and life insurance companies, but will also be able to apply for BMF’s Auto Loan



Images show the launch of the BMF car fair at Pannita Auto Park, drawing an enthusiastic crowd of visitors. PHOTO: KO LWIN

by making a 40 per cent down payment through the One-Stop Service.

“We provide the best services to help car buyers get the best prices quickly and easily. During the exhibition, we are also showcasing a wide range of cars that are popular among customers. We would like to thank all the sponsors who supported the CarsDB car exhibition,” said U Nay Min Thu, CEO of iMyanmar House and CarsDB.

The CarsDB car exhibition will be open from 9 am to 5 pm from 21 to 23 November; and EV cars and brand-new cars have been particularly popular. — Oktha/MKKS

Yangon palm oil sees weekly price drop

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil set for the Yangon market decreased to K6,330 per viss for the week ending 27 November, down from K6,355 per viss recorded last week.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Despite the reference price, the market price is still high.

To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce informed consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline in late August. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers’ Association and the cooking



oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department, or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are imported annually through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK

CBM injects over US\$580K
into edible oil sector

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$583,600 to edible oil-importing companies on 20 November.

CBM sold over \$1.425 million, purchased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies on 18 November.

CBM sold 300,000 yuan to importers of herbicide, fertilizer, tar, pharmaceuticals and raw materials, industrial raw materials, construction materials, auto parts and accessories of motorcycle, telecommunication equipment, feedstuffs, packaging materials, steel, consumer goods and food commodities on 17 November.

CBM injected over \$2.48 million, 5.75 million yuan and 4.98 million baht in October, along with sales of over \$54 million purchased from CMP companies. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM’s notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

Generate electricity from solar energy for rural electrification

IN SOME regions, where there are fewer rainy days, it will be possible to successfully generate electricity using solar energy. Just as the government is implementing various electricity generation projects, entrepreneurs from the private sector can also establish small-, medium-, and large-scale solar power systems. These projects will help supplement the local electricity supply and meet regional power demands.

It is reported that the use of solar energy systems allows businesses to fully meet their electricity needs independently, and any excess power can be sold back to the national power grid. Although the initial investment cost for installing a solar system is relatively

high, the ongoing operational expenses are minimal, and the invested amount can be recovered within a few years.

The Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development held a ceremony in recent days at the Grand Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw to mark the successful completion of the Small-Scale Solar Power Supply System and Cold Storage Facility Project in South Kyainmae Village, Taninthayi Region. The project was implemented with funding from the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Special Fund (2023).

Therefore, it is undeniable that solar energy plays a vital role in rural electrification. The Department of Rural Development is implementing off-grid rural electrification projects as pre-electrification systems to help achieve the national goal of full electricity access by 2030. Up to the 2024–2025 financial year, a total of 474,077 household solar systems and 136 small-scale power supply systems have been implemented, providing electricity access

to 10,511 villages and 517,534 households.

According to the 2024 census, 51.6 per cent of rural areas now have access to electricity. In terms of energy sources, 30.2 per cent of rural power consumption comes from renewable energy, of which 29.7 per cent is generated from solar energy. In remote areas with limited access to the national power grid, electricity is being supplied using multiple methods, including solar energy, small-scale hydropower plants, and power plants fueled by wind and diesel.

Currently, the government is actively working to ensure balanced development across all regions and states, and to promote equality among all ethnic groups, by providing electricity through various sectors. Efforts are being made to generate and distribute electricity through various ways and means to improve the living standards of the people and to enhance productivity and economic activities. On the other hand, people have to efficiently use electricity without waste and reduce the loss of electricity as responsible citizens in cooperation with relevant electricians.

Historically, such tendencies may trace back to the hierarchical traditions of the monarchical eras, when social order depended heavily on unquestioning submission to authority. Kings and courtiers ruled through command and control, instilling in the populace a profound respect for power and punishment. The residue of that hierarchical thinking continues to shape interpersonal relationships, particularly within families and institutions, where elders and superiors are expected to assert dominance rather than foster dialogue.

Paradoxically, this tradition of punitive discipline stands in direct contrast to the Buddhist ethos that permeates Myanmar's spiritual and moral consciousness. Buddhism, the faith of the majority, teaches Metta (loving-kindness), Karuna (compassion), and Ahimsa (non-violence). The Dhammapada explicitly denounces anger and cruelty, urging self-control and compassion even towards those who cause harm. The persistence of

tends beyond Western grammar books. In the English-Myanmar dictionary at MyOribok.com, gerund is translated as ဂြဲယာနာမ်, a compound term meaning “verb-noun”, and further elaborated with the adjective gerundial (ဂြဲယာနာမ် နှင့်ဆိုင်သော), suggesting its grammatical affiliation and functional fluidity. This local rendering captures the essence of the gerund's role in sentence architecture: a bridge between doing and being.

Gerung: A Global Grammatical Citizen

Gerung is not merely a grammatical label; it is a conceptual passport that travels across languages and cultures, adapting to the syntax and semantics of each. In this article, written under the pen name Mingalajii, we explore the gerund's global journey and its local interpretations, tracing how this modest grammatical form reveals the elegance of linguistic transformation.

The Syntactic Choreography of Gerunds

Gerunds are grammatical shape-shifters. Though they wear the “-ing” suffix of verbs, they dance through sentences with the grace of nouns. Their syntactic roles are diverse and deceptively simple:

- Subject: Swimming is good for your health.
- Object: She enjoys reading historical fiction.
- Object of a preposition: He's interested in learning Japanese.
- Complement: Her favourite

activity is painting. Yet, this versatility often leads to confusion, especially among learners who mistake gerunds for present participles. Consider the sentence: I saw him running. Here, running is a participle modifying him, not a gerund. But in Running is exhausting, it functions as a noun – the subject of the sentence.

Gerunds in Journalism and Real-World Language

In the journalistic field, gerunds are indispensable. Headlines like “Rising Prices Threaten Recovery” or “Tracking the Storm's Path” use gerunds to convey immediacy and action while maintaining noun-like clarity. They allow writers to compress complex ideas into punchy, evocative phrases.

Global Instances of Gerund Usage

- In political reporting: “Debating the Budget” signals an ongoing process, while “Passing the Bill” marks a completed action.

Gerunds in the Wild: Headlines from the World's Newsrooms

Gerunds are not just grammatical curiosities; they are journalistic workhorses. In the

Gerung: The Grammar of Motion and Meaning

By Mingalajii

fast-paced world of news, where clarity and brevity are paramount, gerunds offer a way to convey action while maintaining a noun's structural role. Here are some striking examples from renowned publications:

The Washington Post

- “Rethinking Policing in America” – A headline that signals reform and reflection.
- “Celebrating Juneteenth” – Centres cultural recognition and commemoration.

TIME Magazine

- “Reimagining the Future of Work” – A forward-looking phrase that blends vision with practicality.
- “Naming the Next Generation of Leaders” – Highlights the act of recognition as a pivotal moment.

BBC News

- “Exploring Mars: What We've Learned So Far” – A classic gerund headline that invites curiosity.
- “Balancing Freedom and Security” – Captures the tension between two ideals in a single phrase.

These examples show how gerunds lend themselves to ongoing processes, abstract concepts, and emotive framing – all essential tools in journalism. They allow writers to frame stories as evolving narratives, rather than static events, and to engage readers with a sense of movement and purpose.

Gerung as a Lens on Language and Life

From grammar guides to

global headlines, the gerund reveals itself as more than a syntactic tool; it is a mirror of human activity, a grammatical embodiment of motion, intention, and identity. Whether in the quiet precision of a dictionary entry or the bold urgency of a news headline, Gerung speaks to the way we narrate our lives: not as static facts, but as unfolding actions.

In Myanmar and beyond, the gerund bridges linguistic worlds. It allows learners to grasp the fluidity of English, where verbs can become nouns, and actions can be named, analyzed, and celebrated. For writers, it offers rhythm and nuance; for journalists, it delivers clarity and immediacy; for readers, it invites engagement with the living pulse of language.

As Mingalajii, I offer this exploration not merely as a grammatical study but as a tribute to the transformative power of words. Gerung is not just a form – it is a function, a philosophy, and a passport to understanding how language moves through thought, culture, and time.

(Writing under the pen name Mingalajii, the author blends linguistic curiosity with cultural reflection, drawing from both global scholarship and local insight. With a passion for grammar as a gateway to understanding thought and society, Mingalajii's work invites readers to see language not just as a tool, but as a living art.)

■

Shadows of Discipline: Reconciling Myanmar's Cultural Legacy of Corporal Punishment with Buddhist Compassion

By Khin Maung Myint

CORPORAL punishment remains deeply ingrained in the social fabric of Myanmar, extending beyond the confines of schools and institutions into the heart of family life. It has become so normalized that talking down to children, scolding harshly, or displaying aggression within domestic spaces are often regarded as legitimate means of enforcing discipline. This behavioural pattern, passed down through generations, reflects not only a mode of correction but also a deeply rooted cultural attitude towards authority and obedience.

Historically, such tendencies may trace back to the hierarchical traditions of the monarchical eras, when

social order depended heavily on unquestioning submission to authority. Kings and courtiers ruled through command and control, instilling in the populace a profound respect for power and punishment. The residue of that hierarchical thinking continues to shape interpersonal relationships, particularly within families and institutions, where elders and superiors are expected to assert dominance rather than foster dialogue.

Paradoxically, this tradition of punitive discipline stands in direct contrast to the Buddhist ethos that permeates Myanmar's spiritual and moral consciousness. Buddhism, the faith of the majority, teaches Metta (loving-kindness), Karuna (compassion), and Ahimsa (non-violence). The Dhammapada explicitly denounces anger and cruelty, urging self-control and compassion even towards those who cause harm. The persistence of

harsh disciplinary practices thus represents a striking cultural dissonance – a gap between professed moral ideals and lived social behaviours.

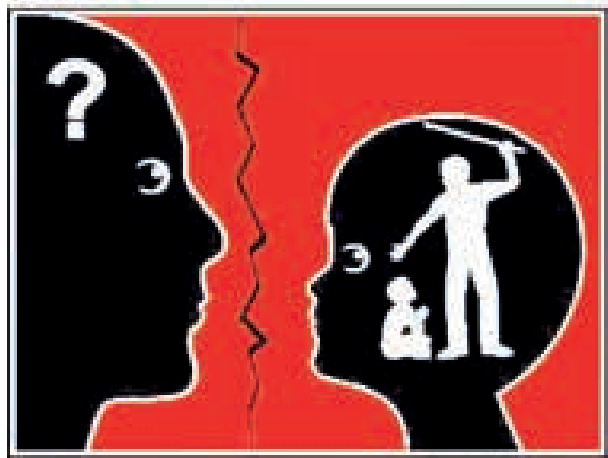
Yet, the importance lies not in tracing the historical origins of this contradiction but in envisioning how Myanmar can move beyond it. To reconcile tradition with moral evolution, the nation must nurture a new understanding of discipline – one grounded not in fear and domination but in empathy, mutual respect, and emotional literacy. Families, educators, and community leaders must collectively redefine strength not as the capacity to inflict pain, but as the ability to guide with patience and understanding.

Cultural transformation of this kind cannot occur overnight. It demands an honest reckoning with the past and a willingness to unlearn inherited norms. As

Myanmar continues to navigate its complex social and political transitions, abandoning the habitual use of corporal punishment could symbolize more than behavioural reform – it could mark a moral awakening. To replace the rod with reason and the shout with compassion would be to embody, at last, the spirit of the Dhamma that has long guided the nation's conscience.

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Paradoxically, this tradition of punitive discipline stands in direct contrast to the Buddhist ethos that permeates Myanmar's spiritual and moral consciousness.

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2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

Unity and Development Party (UADP) talks about its policy, stance and work procedures

Dr Khin Maung Oo, Chairman of the Unity and Development Party (UADP), presented the policy, stance and work procedures of his party through radio and television on the evening of 21 November.
The full text of the presentation is as follows: -



Esteemed people from across Myanmar,
I am Dr Khin Maung Oo, Chairman of the Unity and Development Party (UADP).
Our party was formed with the main purpose of bringing together all ethnic groups across Myanmar to live united and cooperatively, and to focus on promoting the social development of both government service personnel and the general public.
By cooperating with political partner parties, we will also work hand in hand from every corner with all ethnic groups, government service personnel, and the entire people to advance the construction of a modern and developed nation.
Esteemed people, our people are the ones who first suffer when political conflicts arise in a country. To prevent such political conflicts, our party, the Unity and Development Party (UADP), aims to participate in the upcoming multiparty general democratic general elections by meeting, uniting, and negotiating with various ethnic armed groups and organizations, so that together with the people, we can rebuild a peaceful and prosperous nation across the entire country.

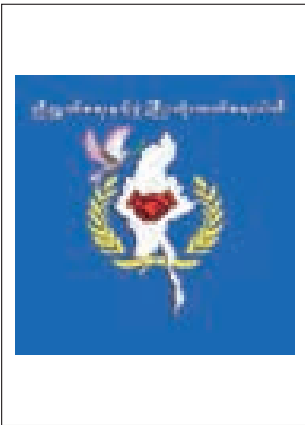
Esteemed people, our attitude towards Tatmadaw is: -
Myanmar Tatmadaw, with its long-standing tradition, plays an important role in ensuring a strong and stable democratic system and serves as a major national force that has historically protected national unity and national interests. Therefore, if the candidates nominated by our Unity and Development Party (UADP) are capable of participation, they can help swiftly resolve political conflicts, restore the daily security of the people, and expand employment opportunities. This will involve meeting with various ethnic armed groups, coordinating with them based on mutual trust, making commitments to peace, and establishing a Peace Process Commission capable of effectively connecting different armed groups with Tatmadaw to implement peace-making efforts.

Esteemed people,
I would like to explain the policy of our party: -
We uphold the policy that all Union-born ethnic people must strive to cease the armed conflict and build a modern, developed new nation in unity.
We have vowed to exercise the policy of coordination through the Ethnic Centred Approach for building a modern, developed, new nation.
Together with all ethnic groups, our party will

work to build a modern, developed, multiparty democratic nation. As a party, we will actively implement the ECA system without waiting for ethnic groups to come to us, and we will engage directly with ethnic armed groups and organizations to meet, discuss, and seek solutions collaboratively.
In addition, we urge citizens across the country to cast votes for the Unity and Development Party's Hluttaw candidates so they can enter the Hluttaw to facilitate discussions and coordination with the Myanmar Tatmadaw, serving the security and defence for the people and with ethnic armed groups, and to help ensure the success of the painstakingly built peace process.
Esteem people, as unity will initiate the nation prosperous, peaceful and developed, our party is keen to serve that:
Unity is the cornerstone for peace and development. It is essential to be determined to ensure that all citizens of Myanmar have equal opportunities, dignity, and prospects for a better future.
The party's programme is:
First and foremost, unity will be forged by providing equal opportunities regardless of ethnicity, religion, or culture, and by fostering national cohesion as a foundation to build relationships with international partners at the national level based on national unity.
Second, economic development will be initiated through unity by supporting MSMEs (micro, small, and medium enterprises), reforming and advancing basic, secondary, and technical education systems, and promoting national development across industry, agriculture, trade, and new technologies.
Third, peace will be achieved through unity by implementing a nationwide ceasefire agreement (NCA) meetings rather than focusing on military action, prioritizing the safety and security of all citizens, and building a peaceful and prosperous society.
Fourth, development will be achieved through unity by constructing roads and infrastructure, promoting industrial development, expanding employment opportunities, opening the country to domestic and foreign investment, and providing national-level opportunities for young scientists and technologists.
Fifth, to move toward a "Golden Future" that combines development, peace, and unity, we will expand the number of skilled professionals, establish social organizations with equal opportunities, and collaborate with experts to enhance Myanmar's prestige internationally.
Esteemed people, I continue the presentation of the political policy.
Our party, based on Myanmar's historical experiences, will participate in elections to responsibly carry out the will of the people, promoting national unity, State independence and sovereignty, a stable democratic system, human rights, and the genuine interests of the State and its citizens.

- We will exercise an independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy

- We will continuously exercise the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence
 - We will actively participate in the activities of UN agencies and international organizations
 - We will actively take part in the activities of regional organizations. Especially, we will promote further friendship with neighbouring countries and the practice of good neighbourliness.
 - We will specially emphasize the better image of Myanmar in the international community.
 - We will cooperate with the people to oppose any foreign interference encroaching on the sovereignty of the State.
 - We will create good circumstances for the independent development of intellectuals and intelligentsia.
 - We will stand with the experts and scholars to firmly protect their innovations and intellectual property rights.
 - We will create opportunities for intellectuals and intelligentsia to be assigned deservedly at State organizations, departments and various arenas, depending on their qualification and intellects.
 - We will work to support intellectuals and intelligentsia for the development of their professions. Moreover, we will establish the organizations for the interests of the State and intellectuals and intelligentsia.
 - We will encourage the construction and sale of houses and apartments at fair prices, available for purchase through instalments or full cash payment, for public service personnel, retired service personnel, lower-income groups, and the general public.
 - We will arrange sales of rice, cooking oil, salt, chilli, onion, meat and fish at fair prices, available for the people from regions and states.
- Therefore, our Unity and Development Party (UADP) was not formed by politicians seeking power, but rather emerged as a political party from among the people, bringing together retired government personnel and social welfare organizations. Accordingly, every vote from the citizens' hearts will serve as a strong foundation for the future of a prosperous Myanmar.
- So, I would like to remark:
Only through unity will we succeed.
Only through unity will we develop.
Only through unity will we achieve peace.
Only through unity will we progress.
- In conclusion, we extend our best wishes and heartfelt blessings for both mental and physical well-being, and for flourishing prosperity, to all monks and people throughout Myanmar.



NATIONAL

Yangon Region to enforce fines on power-exhaust vehicles in Dec

YANGON Region is taking action against cars and motorcycles fitted with power exhausts, according to the Yangon Region Road and Traffic Safety Council. From June to mid-November 2025, joint teams responsible for monitoring traffic discipline inspected vehicles and took action against those fitted with power exhausts. During this period, they detained seven racing cars, seventy-one private cars and two motorcycles, totalling eighty vehicles. The teams imposed penalties, suspended licences and carried out awareness measures. In addition, the relevant departments will take legal action against shops that sell power ex-

hausts and workshops that install them. Cars, racing cars and motorcycles fitted with power exhausts have reportedly been seen travelling on public roads in Yangon Region. Under the existing law, offenders face imprisonment of up to one month, a fine of up to K100,000, or both. For repeat offenders, the penalty increases to imprisonment of up to three months, a fine of up to K300,000, or both. Beginning this December, the authorities will start applying these legal penalties to all vehicles fitted with power exhausts and will continue taking the necessary action. — ASH/KZL



Vehicles are pictured on one of the Yangon roads.

MoALI boosts fishery production and market competition



This photo shows Myanmar fishery products designated for foreign markets.

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation has been exporting fishery products to over 40 foreign coun-

tries and improving production efficiency, market access and market competition. The ministry will set up plans to foster advanced techniques to boost the export of fishery products, breeding of high-quality fishery products and production efficiency and implementation of food safety standards. Myanmar’s fishery exports totalled US\$223.436 million from over 153,900 tonnes in the past five months of the current financial year 2025-2026 beginning 1 April, according to the Fisheries Department. Myanmar exports fishery products to 40 countries, including China, Thailand, Bangladesh and Japan. — ASH/KK

MRCCI launches advanced computer course for post-quake recovery

THE Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry will conduct an Advanced Computer Office Course for post-quake recovery free of charge on 22 November 2025 at the Shwe Phyu Plaza (1st floor) in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay, jointly opened by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and MRCCI. The course will take one

and a half months. The number of trainees is 25. Individuals can enquire about the course through contact numbers 09 762051063 and 09 420089490. — NN/KK

Authorities move against companies over unreturned export earnings, misconduct

THE government is striving to develop the national economy; however, some business owners have prioritized personal gain and deliberately attempted to undermine the country’s economic and financial policies through dishonest practices, according to responsible officials. The authorities have been identifying those involved and taking appropriate action. Investigations revealed that the directors of Maha Nadi International Co Ltd, which operates from Room 803-B, Pearl Condo, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon Region, namely U Ye Min Lwin, Daw Khin Thi, Daw Phyu Phyu Zin, Daw Myint Myint Hlaing

and Daw Khin San Thi, exported black gram worth more than US\$42 million between 2022 and 2024. Of this amount, over \$40 million in export earnings have not been repatriated to the State. Similarly, RK Shipping and Trading Co Ltd, founded by U Henry Khin Maung and Daw Phyu Phyu Zin, exported more than \$5.5 million worth of black gram during the same period, yet more than \$2 million dollars in export earnings remain unrepatriated. Further investigations found that U Henry Khin Maung, together with his son U Ye Min Lwin and close associate U Bo Bo Thant, used the name Taw

Thar Gyi Co Ltd to export black gram and pigeon peas worth over \$10 million in 2024. They still owe more than \$9.3 million in export earnings to the State. Authorities also discovered that U Ye Min Lwin used the name Ocean Lion King Co Ltd to export various types of beans. From 2022 to 2024, this company exported more than \$1.6 million worth of black gram, none of which has been repatriated. As U Ye Min Lwin failed to repatriate export earnings to the State, the export and import licences of his companies were suspended. Dissatisfied with this action, he directed abusive and threatening remarks at officials of the Myanmar Pulses, Beans,

Maize and Sesame Seed Merchants Association in the Online Pulses Myanmar Association Viber group, which is used by merchants, brokers and farmers involved in the pulses trade. Authorities have confirmed that he posted extremely rude and life-threatening messages. Therefore, the responsible individuals from the companies that exported goods without repatriating export earnings — U Ye Min Lwin (absconded), Daw Khin Thi (absconded), Daw Phyu Phyu Zin (absconded), Daw Myint Myint Hlaing (arrested), Daw Khin San Thi (arrested), U Henry Khin Maung (arrested), U Bo Bo Thant (arrested) and U Htay Ko (abscond-

ed) – together with U Ye Min Lwin (absconded), who threatened and insulted association officials, will face effective action in accordance with the offences they have committed. Authorities also suspect that they concealed export earnings rather than repatriating them to the State. Accordingly, further action is being taken under the Anti-Money Laundering Law in relation to their properties and assets. Moreover, the authorities will continue to identify and take action against other companies that fail to repatriate export earnings, to maintain stability in the country’s economic and financial system. — MNA/KZL

ECONOMY

WORLD

NEWS IN BRIEF

Europe increasingly ‘vulnerable’ to shocks: ECB chief

EUROPEAN Central Bank chief Christine Lagarde warned Friday the region was increasingly “vulnerable” to shocks like US tariffs and is lagging behind in areas that will drive growth such as AI.

The continent must urgently speed up its integration and overhaul a model of export-led growth that has faltered amid mounting geopolitical turmoil, she said in a speech to a banking conference.

“Europe has become more vulnerable,” the head of the central bank for the 20-nation eurozone said in Frankfurt, pointing to the region’s “dependency on third countries for our security and the supply of critical raw materials”.

Europe’s domestic market meanwhile had “stood still,” particularly in areas set to underpin future growth like the digital sector and artificial intelligence, Lagarde said. — AFP

Cambodia spends over US\$2 bln for imports of energy in first 10 months of 2025

CAMBODIA’S total import of diesel fuel, gasoline, and combustion gas was valued at US\$2.02 billion in the first 10 months of 2025, a year-on-year decrease of 11.5 per cent, said a Ministry of Commerce’s report on Friday.

The kingdom spent 1.07 billion dollars for importing diesel fuel during the January-October period this year, down 11 percent year-on-year; \$675 million for gasoline, down 16 per cent; and \$275 million on combustion gas, up 0.33 per cent, the report said.

Currently, the Southeast Asian country entirely relies on the imports of oil and gas as its seabed’s oil reserves have not been exploited yet. — Xinhua

Japanese government to invest 100 bil yen in chipmaker Rapidus

THE Japanese government said Friday it will invest 100 billion yen (\$640 million) in chip venture Rapidus Corp, ramping up efforts to strengthen its economic security by strengthening a domestic semiconductor supply chain. “It’s a national project that we must make a success out of,” trade minister Ryosei Akazawa said at a press conference after a business proposal submitted by the company was approved by the government. A revised law on information technology promotion was enforced in August, implementing a framework for state engagement in the development of advanced chips. — Kyodo

Vietnam leads ASEAN in consumer optimism: UOB

Vietnamese consumers expressed strong confidence in the country’s political, economic and social stability.



A salesperson introduces the performance of TCL TV sets to a customer at a store in Hanoi, Vietnam, 11 October 2024. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ YAO QILIN/XINHUA**

VIETNAM continues to lead the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in consumer optimism, supported by a positive economic outlook and confidence in personal finances, Vietnam News Agency reported Friday, citing a study by Singapore-based United Overseas Bank (UOB).

Vietnam posted the high-

est score in UOB’s ASEAN Consumer Sentiment Index at 67, well above the regional average of 54, according to the report.

Vietnamese consumers expressed strong confidence in the country’s political, economic and social stability, the study said, noting that optimism persists despite global

uncertainties.

“Despite global headwinds, Vietnam has demonstrated strong fundamentals and effective policy direction. This momentum is driving increased consumer spending and a greater focus on financial planning,” said Paul Kim, head of personal financial services at UOB Vietnam. — Xinhua



The US is the world’s largest producer and exporter of coffee, a position it has held for over 150 years. **PHOTO: PIXABAY**

US removes punitive tariffs on some Brazilian agri-products

THE White House issued an executive order to eliminate punitive tariffs on some agricultural products from Brazil on Thursday.

The refund of the duties collected since 13 April, when the executive order took effect, will be handled by the US Customs and Border Protection.

The newly added exemption list covers around 250 cat-

egories in the 8-digit subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, including coffee, bovine meat, tomatoes, tea, spices, fruits and nuts.

US President Donald Trump signed an executive order on 30 July to impose as much as 40 per cent punitive tariffs on Brazilian goods from 6 August, citing the “politically

motivated persecution” of former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro and Brazil’s actions as “a threat to US national security and the economy” as the basis for the action. Amid a persistent affordability crisis, the White House recently issued an executive order to eliminate reciprocal tariffs on certain agricultural products to ease rising prices. — Xinhua

ExxonMobil relaunches natural gas project in Mozambique

US energy giant Exxon-Mobil announced Thursday the resumption of its gas development project in Mozambique, which had been suspended for several years due to a jihadist insurgency.

“We have lifted force majeure (FM) for the Rovuma LNG project in Area 4,” the company said in a statement, referring to a legal concept that is invoked to suspend a project when there are unforeseen or adverse conditions.

ExxonMobil holds a 25 per cent stake in the planned onshore liquefied natural gas facility in the southeastern African country that is expected to begin production in 2030.

A jihadist insurgency in Cabo Delgado, a northern province, has left more than 6,200 people dead since 2017, according to the NGO Aclted, which collects data on conflict zones.

However, it was a jihadist offensive in March 2021 that caused some 800 deaths and led oil companies to suspend their projects in the region.

According to Exxon-Mobil’s website, Area 4 is operated by a joint venture called Mozambique Rovuma Venture. — AFP



US energy giant ExxonMobil announced Thursday the resumption of its gas development project in Mozambique. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

India's pharma exports near \$30B

INDIA'S pharmaceutical exports are nearing the US\$ 30-billion mark, setting the stage for the next phase of industry innovation powered by Contract Research and Development Organizations (CRDMOs) and Global Capability Centres (GCCs), according to a new EY-Parthenon-OPPI report.

The study says the sector, anchored by India's dominance in generics and vaccines, a rapidly advancing CRDMO/CDMO ecosystem, and expanding GCCs, will be central to India's ambition of becoming a US\$30-35 trillion economy by 2047. Titled “Fueling innovation, advancing equity: The power of partnerships and digital-first strategies driving Indian pharma's global dominance”, the report highlights the transformative journey of India's pharmaceutical sector as it evolves from its historical role as the “pharmacy of the world” to a global leader in innovation and scientific research. — ANI

Ubisoft shares surge as trading resumes after results ‘restatement’

SHARES in Ubisoft rose sharply as they resumed trading on the Paris stock exchange Friday, a week after the French video game company stunned investors by postponing its results announcement without an explanation. The move, accompanied by a share suspension, had triggered much speculation in the video gaming world, including on a possible takeover operation in a consolidating industry.

But it was actually, the company said Friday, due to a simple “restatement” of its half-yearly results after new auditors found problems with the way Ubisoft had accounted for a partnership.



Investors were happy with Ubisoft on Friday. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

“This is why we need more time,” finance director Frederick Duguet told a conference call.

Ubisoft’s stock was quoted 11.5 per cent higher at 7.55 euros in morning business on Paris stock exchange as investors breathed a sigh of relief.

The shares are, however, still quoted more than 40 per cent lower than a year ago. — AFP

UAE says to invest up to US\$50 bln in Canada

THE United Arab Emirates (UAE) has approved a major investment framework with Canada, paving the way for up to US\$50 billion in investment across key Canadian sectors, according to an official announcement released by the Emirates News Agency on Friday.

Under the framework, the UAE will channel long-term investments into Canada’s strategic industries, including energy, artificial intelligence, logistics, and mining, as well as other advanced sectors considered central to Canada’s future economic growth.

The agreement follows talks held in Abu Dhabi between UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, during which both leaders emphasized the importance of boosting economic cooperation and facilitating cross-border investment.

The UAE’s foreign direct investment stock in Canada reached 8.8 billion dollars in 2024, while Canadian investment into the UAE totaled 242 million dollars in the same year, according to the announcement. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V FSL KELANG VOY.NO. (0QM7CE1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V FSL KELANG VOY.NO. (0QM7CE1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **22-11-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC FUJIAN VOY.NO. (2524S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC FUJIAN VOY.NO. (2524S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **22-11-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS:
WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS



White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt defended the 'good' Ukraine war plan. PHOTO: AFP

US expects Zelensky to sign peace plan by 27 Nov: Reports

THE United States expects Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to sign Trump’s plan for a peaceful settlement of the Ukraine conflict by 27 November; the Financial Times newspaper reported, citing Ukrainian officials.

US officials expect Zelensky to sign the agreement “before Thanksgiving” to present the peace deal in Moscow later this month and complete the settlement process by early December; the report said on Thursday.

However, the report noted that it is highly unlikely that the agreement will be signed by that deadline, as officials in Zelensky’s office say Kyiv categorically disagrees with some points of the plan.

Kyiv is also reportedly developing counterproposals for the American side.

Kyiv is also reportedly developing counterproposals for the American side.

On Wednesday, Axios reported that Washington has been holding secret consultations with Moscow to develop a new peace plan for settling the conflict. Later, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said

that Russia and the United States discussed a peaceful settlement in Ukraine during negotiations in Alaska and that there have been no developments on the topic since then.

The Financial Times reported that the 28-point US peace plan includes reductions in US military aid, official recognition of the canonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church, granting Russian state language status in Ukraine, reducing Ukraine’s armed forces, and banning foreign troops and long-range weapons on Ukrainian soil.

Axios reported that the plan assumes that the United States and other countries recognize Crimea and Donbas as legitimate Russian territories. — SPUTNIK

Fire causes evacuation in pavilion at COP30 in Brazil

A fire broke out on Thursday in a pavilion at the ongoing 30th UN Climate Change Conference (COP30) in the Brazilian city of Belem, prompting evacuations by the fire department, according to local authorities.

The incident occurred in the Blue Zone, an area that houses the international stands and the rooms set up for official negotiations, said the organizers.

Brazilian Minister of Tourism Celso Sabino said that the fire, which broke out shortly after 2 pm local time, was under control at around 2:30 pm, with no injuries reported so far.

Helder Barbalho, governor of the Para state, where Belem is located, told local media that the emergency teams are currently probing into two possible causes of the incident — a generator failure or a short circuit in one of the stands that were set up for the conference. — Xinhua



Firefighters battle a blaze in a pavilion of the COP30 UN Climate Change Conference in Belem. PHOTO: AFP

Silent convoy of Chinese driverless trucks expands presence at Britain’s busiest port

AS a cold November wind swept across the Port of Felixstowe, a new convoy of autonomous electric trucks from China’s Westwell glided silently through the North Rail Terminal, marking the arrival of a second batch of driverless units at Brit-



The new autonomous vehicles will be used alongside the port’s existing fleets of self-driving vehicles and conventional trucks. PHOTO: PORT OF FELIXSTOWE

ain’s largest port.

Adam Ramsey, commercial director of Hutchison Ports, said the Port of Felix-

stowe handles “the majority of the UK’s trade with Asia”, underscoring its need for efficient and reliable operations.

Clemence Cheng, CEO of Hutchison Ports, said the new units can identify small objects such as a seagull and continue operating. He added that the driverless fleet helps cut emissions, shorten turnaround times and improve safety.

Benjamin Gaunt, senior project manager at Westwell, said the vehicles are not “just futuristic”, but enhance safety, visibility and overall efficiency. Their rapid battery-swap system completes a full change in under five minutes.

Westwell founder and chairman Tan Limin said the company has cooperated with Hutchison Ports since 2018, leading to a 2023 contract for 100 autonomous units. He noted that each Q-Truck cuts about 50 tonnes of carbon emissions annually. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Guardiola says 'season starts now' as Man City hunt Arsenal

PEP Guardiola said Friday that the "real season starts now" as Manchester City seek to hunt down Arsenal at the top of the Premier League.

City closed the gap to the Gunners to four points before the recent international break, thumping champions Liverpool 3-0 after Arsenal dropped points in a 2-2 draw at Sunderland.



Pep Guardiola's Manchester City are four points behind Premier League leaders Arsenal. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

Guardiola was asked ahead of his side's match at Newcastle on Saturday about the importance of a potential swing in momentum from those results.

The City boss admitted it was important not to allow "impeccable" Arsenal to build up too big a lead, though he cautioned the season was still relatively young.

"The feeling that I had in the past when we fought incredibly against Liverpool, I had the feeling that we'll not drop many points and if they can take a lot of distance it will be difficult to catch up," he said. — AFP



The project is part of a sustainability partnership between Borussia Dortmund (BVB), one of Germany's best-known football clubs, and RWE, a major German energy company. PHOTO: RWE

Germany installs record-certified solar roof system

GERMANY'S largest football stadium, located in the western city of Dortmund, has completed the installation of what has been confirmed as the world's most powerful photovoltaic (PV) system ever mounted on a stadium roof, the stadium operators said Friday.

The project is part of a sustainability partnership between Borussia Dortmund (BVB), one of Germany's best-known foot-

ball clubs, and RWE, a major German energy company. The newly completed system consists of 11,132 solar modules with an output of more than five megawatts, BVB said in a press release.

The installation is expected to supply up to half of the stadium's electricity needs and cut carbon emissions by about 1,700 tonnes a year.

A 3.7-megawatt-hour bat-

tery storage unit is scheduled to be added by early 2026. Once connected, it will enable the stadium to use solar power even when sunlight is not available.

The world record has been confirmed by the German Record Institute. The announcement comes amid rising public interest in Germany's climate performance. — Xinhua

China's first cross-boundary National Games ends with a bang

THE flame of China's 15th National Games was extinguished in Shenzhen on Friday night, which concluded the first cross-boundary edition of the country's premier multi-sport event, jointly staged by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. The Happy Theatre in Shenzhen's Bao'an District hosted a closing ceremony on a shimmering water-stage that blended technology with Lingnan motifs and cultural elements of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

After Wang Huning, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, declared the Games closed, the quadrennial event passed the baton to Hunan province, marking the first time it will be held in central China.

This year's programme featured 419 gold medal events for elite athletes and 166 for amateurs. Although no medal table was published - part of the Games' shift away from medal obsession - the competition's intensity remained unmistakable, reflected in roaring crowds and emotional embraces on the field. — Xinhua

Olympic ski champion Gut-Behrami suffers knee injury

REIGNING Olympic Super-G champion Lara Gut-Behrami of Switzerland suffered a potentially serious knee injury while training in Copper Mountain, Colorado, Swiss Ski said on Friday. The 34-year-old has said this will be the final season of her career with a focus on the 2026 Winter Games in Milan-Cortina.



Reigning Olympic Super-G champion Lara Gut-Behrami could miss defending her title next year after suffering a knee injury. PHOTO: AFP

"The first examinations on site suggest an injury to the left knee," the Swiss federation added. It said Gut-Behrami, who won gold in the Super-G event

at the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics, would return to Switzerland "to undergo more extensive medical tests" following the fall on Thursday. — AFP



WORLD

Johannesburg G20 summit to build Global South consensus on global governance

THE Group of 20 (G20) Leaders' Summit will convene over the weekend in Johannesburg, South Africa, the first ever to be held on African soil.

Under the theme "Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability", the summit highlights the moment for Africa as it seeks to amplify its voice in global governance and advance development priorities shared by the Global South.

Observers say the event reflects Africa's rising influence and the international community's expectation that China and other Global South members will help build consensus on multilateralism and inclusive development.

The African Union's entry into the G20 in 2023 was celebrated across the continent as an "African moment". Now, with the G20 Summit coming to Africa for the first time, analysts say it signals a historic shift: African countries are moving from passive participants to active contributors in shaping global agendas.

Amid rapid changes unseen in a century, sluggish global economic growth and a widening development deficit, African countries are grappling with cli-

The African Union's 2023 entry into the G20 was hailed as an "African moment" across the continent.



South Africa will host the G20 summit at the weekend. PHOTO: GIANLUIGI GUERCIA/AFP

mate shocks, mounting debt and other pressures. African experts said the Jo-

hannesburg summit will help promote cooperation, support Africa's develop-

ment and offer an "African perspective" on tackling global challenges. — Xinhua

Tehran rules out IAEA access to bombed nuclear sites without deal

IRAN'S Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Thursday that the UN's

nuclear watchdog would not be given access to Iranian nuclear sites attacked

during its recent war with Israel without a concrete deal being agreed.

The interview with the Khabar Online news agency was conducted before the International Atomic Energy Agency adopted a resolution on Thursday demanding access to the sites.

The resolution's purpose was primarily to renew and adjust the IAEA's mandate to report on aspects of Iran's nuclear programme, but it also stated Tehran must quickly provide the nuclear watchdog with answers and access it wants, five months after air strikes by Israel and the US.

"The facilities that were attacked have their own story, and until a decision is made and a conclusion is reached between us, the IAEA and others, cooperation is not possible," he said in an interview posted to his Telegram channel, without elaborating on what such an agreement would entail. — AFP



A banner bearing a painting that represents various categories of the Iranian society is deployed against the facade of a building in Tehran, with a message that reads in Farsi: "we are all soldiers of Iran", on 22 June 2025. PHOTO: AFP

Laos prepares to honour grand celebration of 50th founding anniversary

LAOS is preparing to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on 2 December with major parade rehearsals, enhanced security efforts, flag decorations in key areas, and citywide beautification now underway.

The second grand rehearsal, held on Friday in the Lao capital Vientiane, was attended by Lao Vice-President Bounthong Chitmany, Lao Minister of National Defence Khamlieng Outhakaysone, and representatives from various ministries. In preparation for the celebration, the Lao People's Army Air Force has intensified flight demonstration training, with a centerpiece of the rehearsals being an aerial display of the national and Party flags, creating a striking spectacle in the sky.

As part of the 50th anniversary celebrations, the National Assembly (NA) organized an exhibition from Wednesday to Friday to highlight its achievements over the past five decades. — Xinhua