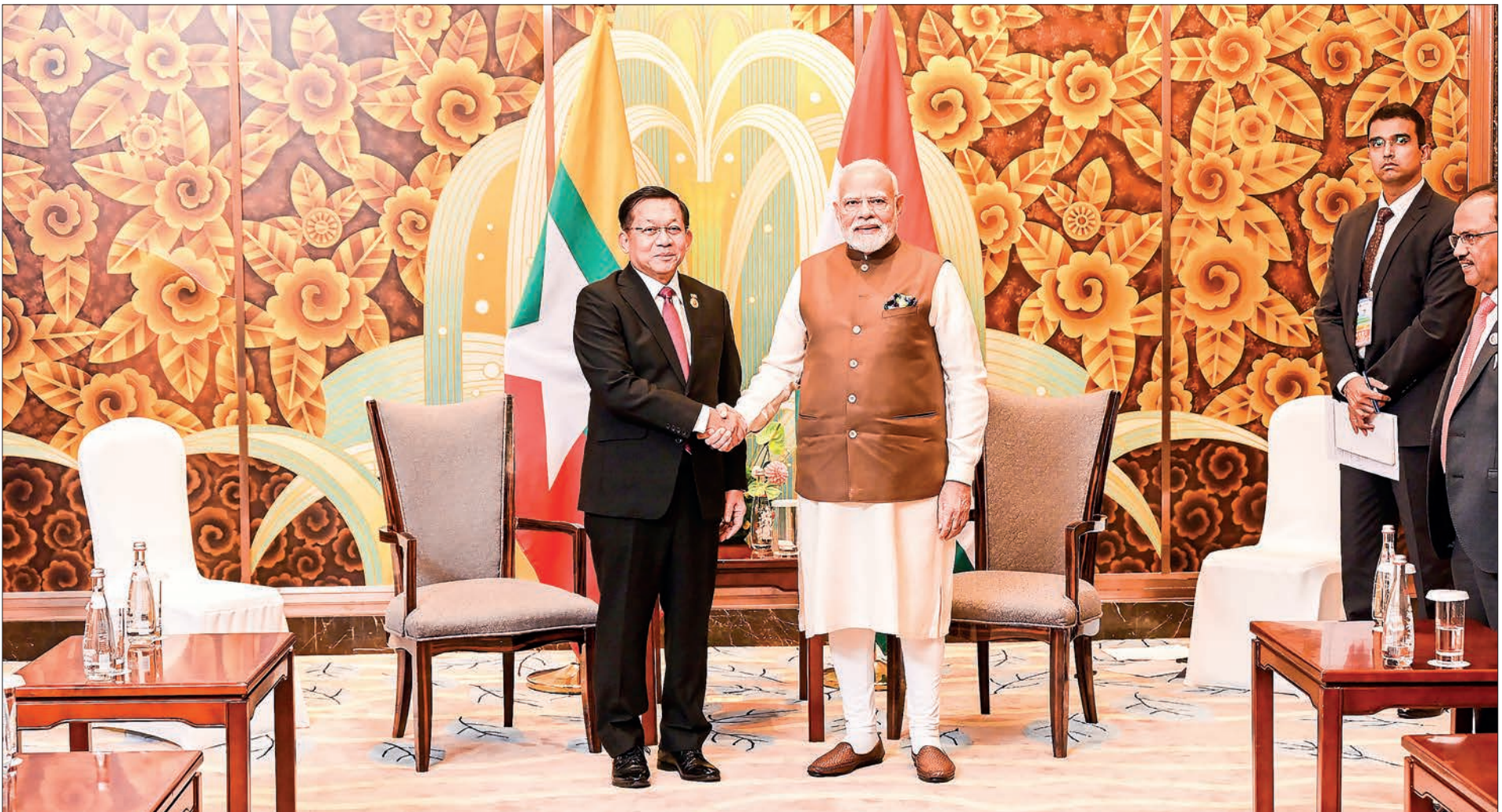


## Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

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.

# India supports Myanmar’s SCO entry

## Myanmar and India emphasize measures to ensure peace and stability in border region.



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing exchanges the greetings with Prime Minister of India Mr Shri Narendra Modi at Wanda Vista Hotel in Tianjin, China, yesterday.

**A**cting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who is currently in the People’s Republic of China on

his working visit, held talks with Prime Minister of India Mr Shri Narendra Modi at Wanda Vista Hotel in Tianjin at 5 pm Chinese standard time yesterday.

The Indian Prime Minister cordially greeted the Senior General and then held a meeting.

At the meeting, they ex-

changed views on measures to ensure peace and stability in border region of both countries, trade promotion, enhancement of friendship and cooperation between two governments of both countries and promotion of cooperation between the two armed forces, support of India

to successfully hold the election in Myanmar, plans of sending electoral observation teams to Myanmar, support of India for Myanmar’s SCO entry, and further promotion of cooperation in all sectors.

Also, present at the meeting were Commission Secretary

and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, members of the high-level Myanmar delegation, Union ministers, the Myanmar Ambassador to China and senior Tatmadaw officers. The Indian Prime Minister was accompanied by officials from the Indian government. — MNA/TTA



# 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)



- 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.

### Wind Wave News, No 9, 2025

Issued at 7 pm MST on 31 August 2025

#### Wind Wave Condition

According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Low-Pressure Cell over the Thailand and border areas of Kayah, Myanmar has moved westwards and downgraded into a wind wave over the Kayah and Kayin states.

#### Next 24 hours forecast

It is likely to move west-northwestwards and may continue movement over Kayin and Mon states, Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Magway regions and Rakhine and Chin states during the next 24 hours.

#### General Caution

Due to the wind wave, rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon and Rakhine states with regionally and isolated heavyfalls tonight to 3 September 2025. Occasional squalls with rough seas are will be experienced in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-12 feet in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

#### Advisory

People should be aware of the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strike, lightning, hails, flash floods and landslides in hilly areas and near small rivers and to make necessary preparations for inland water transport, domestic flights and irrigation dams. — DMH

## Video Show marking 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Victory in the World Anti-Fascist War screened

A video show to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Victory in the World Anti-Fascist War was held at the Chinese Culture Centre in Ahlon Township of Yangon Region on 30 August.

The video show comprised the war documentary on victory in the World Anti-Fascist War; the movie Dead to Rights and the Great Wall documentary.

With regard to the video show, Minister-Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar Dr Zheng Zhihong unveiled that through the historical scenes, people can better understand the wartime period, safeguard and preserve the truth of history, promote a correct perspective of World War II history, and continue to serve as inheritors of China-Myanmar kinship and as builders of world peace.

U Zeyar, Deputy Director-General of the Media De-



The commemorative video show of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Victory in the World Anti-Fascist War is in progress at Chinese Culture Centre in Yangon on 30 August.

velopment Department under the Ministry of Information, remarked, “Everyone should take lessons from the historical events, review the incidents against human ethics, prevent the bad political systems similar to the fascism and the World Wars, and strive to shape a peaceful and prosper-

ous world.” Chinese people had participated in the World Anti-Fascist War for 14 years from 18 September 1931 to 1945 when Japanese troops surrendered. In the wars, more than 35 millions of Chinese soldiers and Chinese people sacrificed life and limbs for China. — ASH/TTA

## Donations made for 105<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Motion Pictures Day, 48<sup>th</sup> respect-paying ceremony

ARTISTES and members of the film industry are making donations for the 105<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Motion Pictures Day and Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization’s 48<sup>th</sup> Respect-Paying Ceremony, which will be held on 13 October.

According to U Aye Kyu Lay, Vice-Chair of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization, actress Thinzar Wint Kyaw contributed K1 million and Sagawar Film Production K300,000 on 29 August for the upcoming event.

The ceremony will be held at the office of the MMPO(Central) on Wingabar Road, Bahan Township, Yangon Region. Artistes

and well-wishers are continuing to donate cash contributions for the occasion.

“The Respect-Paying Ceremony is organized annually on Myanmar Motion Pictures Day. This year, it will be held on 13 October as usual, and artistes and professionals are participating with donations. Unlike last year, there will be a donation activity at the organization. We are also compiling an accurate list of senior artistes, as some have passed away while new ones are being added,” said U Aye Kyu Lay. — ASH/KZL



NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

Acting President and SSPC Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends welcome dinner to mark SCO Summit 2025



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing poses for a group photo with Chinese President Mr Xi Jinping and his wife, Peng Liyuan and international guests before a welcoming dinner at the Meijian Convention Centre in Tianjin, north China, 31 August 2025.

THE high-level Myanmar delegation led by Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who is currently in Tianjin of China to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization-SCO Summit 2025, attended the welcome dinner to mark the SCO Summit 2025 hosted by President of the

People’s Republic of China Mr Xi Jinping at the Tianjin Meijian Convention Centre yesterday.

The welcome dinner was also attended by Heads of State from more than 20 countries including Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, President of the Russian Federation Mr Vladimir Putin and Prime

Minister of India Mr Shri Narendra Modi and heads of 10 international organizations to attend the summit.

President of the People’s Republic of China Mr Xi Jinping and his spouse cordially greeted the Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Heads of State from more than 20 countries and heads of 10 international organizations to attend the SCO Summit in a cordial manner and had documentary photos taken.

At the dinner, President of PRC Mr Xi Jinping extended greetings.

The high-level Myanmar delegation led by the Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar had dinner together with Heads of State from more than 20 countries and heads of 10 international organizations. During the dinner, the traditional dance troupe of the People’s Republic of China presented entertainment of songs and dances. — MNA/TTA

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News and Periodicals Enterprise



# NATIONAL



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivers a speech at the Myanmar-China economic cooperation promotion meeting at Tangle Hotel in Tianjin, China, yesterday.

## Chinese businesspersons warmly invited to invest in Myanmar

It is necessary to cooperate as much as possible to ensure stability and peace in border areas so that trade activities can resume smoothly.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing underscored that priority must be given to cooperation in maintaining peace, stability, and security in the border regions of both countries.

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech at the Myanmar-China economic cooperation promotion meeting at Tangle Hotel in Tianjin of the People's Republic of China at 9 am Chinese standard time yesterday.

In his address, the Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar said: Myanmar and China established the Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership between the two countries in 2011.

China is Myanmar's largest trading partner and ranks second among the 53 countries investing in Myanmar. The value of bilateral trade between the two countries exceeded US\$8 billion in the 2023-2024 financial year; over US\$7.7

billion in the 2024-2025 FY, and more than US\$3 billion up to July of the 2025-2026 FY, demonstrating that trade relations between the two countries remain strong.

Border gates play an important role in trade, and it is necessary to cooperate as much as possible to ensure stability and peace in border areas so that trade activities can resume smoothly.

If the border gates between the two countries can be reopened, the flow of goods can be expanded beyond previous levels. Moreover, trade routes can be extended from northeastern Myanmar to Yunnan Province, Chongqing Municipality of Sichuan Province, and Nanning City of Guangxi Province. This trade corridor would become a key route for both Myanmar and China, serving as a land bridge for southeastern, central and southern parts of China to connect through Myanmar and facilitate economic and trade links with ASEAN countries. Therefore, priority must be given to cooperation in maintaining peace, stability, and security in the border regions of both countries.

With China's assistance, projects are being implemented in Myanmar to promote socio-economic development in the sectors of education and health, as well as infrastructure development in electricity and energy, agriculture, industry, and transport and communications. Joint projects between the two countries include the Kyaukpyu deep-sea port project, the Myitsone hydropower project, and the oil and natural gas pipeline project. Currently, work is also underway on the Muse-Mandalay new railway construction project and the Mandalay-Kyaukpyu railway project.

The Mandalay-Muse railway is a high-speed rail project that will connect Muse, a border town on the China-Myanmar frontier, with Mandalay. It will also link with the Beijing-Kunming-Ruili high-speed rail line currently under construction in China. Muse is the most important border gate city for China-Myanmar trade. In the 2023-2024 financial year, the total value of border trade between the two countries exceeded \$3.2 billion, of which over \$2 billion passed through the Muse-

Ruili border gate. Moreover, this railway project provides China's landlocked southern provinces with an opportunity to access the sea through Myanmar. The Muse-Mandalay railway represents the first phase of the Kyaukpyu-Kunming railway project and is a key component of it. The Mandalay-Kyaukpyu railway project, in turn, offers China a promising opportunity to gain a gateway to the Indian Ocean.

Moreover, Myanmar occupies a strategically important geographical position at the junction of South Asia, Southeast Asia, and China, making it a country that can provide China with access to the Indian Ocean.

If Myanmar, China, and Russia can jointly expand their trade sector, it would create significant opportunities to greatly enhance the flow of goods within the region.

Furthermore, Myanmar is one of the first countries to ratify the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement.

During the first Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in 2017, the gov-

ernments of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the People's Republic of China signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the preliminary framework of the Belt and Road economic corridor and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Maritime Silk Road, marking Myanmar's participation in the project.

Myanmar aligns with several of the eight priority sectors under China's Global Development Initiatives (GDI), making the country a promising destination for investors. Therefore, Myanmar provides clear benefits and tax exemptions for partner businesses, and efforts are made to ensure that investors and traders operating in Myanmar can conduct their activities without disadvantage. So, Myanmar invites investors to come and invest with confidence for economic cooperation.

Myanmar's goal is to reduce the use of fuel-powered vehicles in the country and increase the adoption of electric vehicles. Therefore, EV manufacturers from China are encouraged to come and invest in Myanmar.

Although the export of raw natural resources from Myanmar to foreign countries is not permitted, the export of processed products is allowed. Since the extraction of natural resources can harm the environment, it is essential to carry out environmental conservation efforts. Investors wishing to engage in mineral processing in Myanmar are invited to come and discuss opportunities in the country.

SEE PAGE 5



NATIONAL

Myanmar, China's Wuhan University to turn out technologically qualified human resources

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who is currently in China on his working visit, met officials led by Vice-President of the Wuhan University Prof Gong Wei of the People's Republic of China at Tangla Hotel in Tianjin at 2.30 pm Chinese standard time yesterday.

The meeting focused on measures on satellite technology, assistance of the Wuhan University to turn out technologically qualified human resources for Myanmar, the history of the university, learning of students from international countries at the university, and technological cooperation between the two countries.

After the meeting, the Vice-President of the Wuhan



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, meets Vice-President of the Wuhan University Prof Gong Wei at Tangla Hotel in Tianjin, China, yesterday.

University presented commemorative gifts to the Senior General and they all had documentary photos taken.

Also, present at the meeting were Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, Commission members, the Myanmar Ambassador to China and senior Tatmadaw officers. — MNA/TTA

Chinese businesspersons warmly invited to invest ...

FROM PAGE 4

Myanmar prioritizes the development of renewable energy production and is also interested in Waste-to-Energy initiatives as a secondary priority. To promote and accelerate investment and cooperation between Myanmar and China, it is necessary to establish a Myanmar-China business cooperation group so that joint projects can be implemented efficiently and effectively.

During the meeting between the President of the People's Republic of China and the Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, successful discussions were held. Economic cooperation between the two countries has been ongoing for a long time, and since market and economic systems are currently being developed, those interested in investment are welcome to come to Myanmar for discussions and collaboration.

Given Myanmar's strong drive for development, cooperation with partner countries is needed to fully enhance economic collaboration. Efforts from partners are essential, and Myanmar invites investors to come and engage in investment activities.

Those wishing to invest in Myanmar asked about investment opportunities for

Salient points in the speech delivered by the Senior General at the meeting with Chinese businesspersons

- 1. The Mandalay-Muse railway is a high-speed rail project that will connect Muse, a border town on the China-Myanmar frontier, with Mandalay.
- 2. It will also link with the Beijing-Kunming-Ruili high-speed rail line currently under construction in China.
- 3. If Myanmar, China, and Russia can jointly expand their trade sector, it would create significant opportunities to greatly enhance the flow of goods within the region.
- 4. Myanmar prioritizes the development of renewable energy production and is also interested in Waste-to-Energy initiatives as a secondary priority.

Chinese companies in Myanmar, export and import policies of Myanmar, assembling of EVs in Myanmar, expanding of more investment and tariff, investment in generating electricity from solar power and recycling of waste to generate electricity, investment in mining and energy sectors, environmental conservation, plans of Myanmar government to resolve difficulties in investment, more transparency for economic relations between the two countries, and protection for investment.

Union ministers discussed manufacturing of EVs in Myanmar through SKD system, tax exemption for import of EVs, protection for investment in Myanmar, investments in energy and electric power

sectors.

The Acting President SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar had luncheon hosted by UMFCCI together with China-Myanmar investors and entrepreneurs. Afterwards, officials demonstrated making process of tea salad meal of Myanmar.

The Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar cordially greeted Chinese businesspersons and economists.

At the MOU-signing ceremony, Union ministers and officials from relevant companies signed the agreement on information exchange and cooperation between MRTV of the Ministry of Information and

Xinhua News Agency of China; an MoU on cooperation between UMFCCI and China Association of Small and Medium Enterprises-CASME; an MoU on cooperation between Myanmar-India-China International Cooperation & Economic Development Association-MICA and CASME; an MoU on cooperation between Shwe Thanlwin Holding Company Ltd and China Harbor Engineering Co Ltd (CHEC); an MoU on cooperation between Royal Green Ocean Co Ltd and Jiangxi Longzheng Technology Development Co Ltd; an MoU on cooperation between Yunnan Baoshan Hengyi Industrial Group Co Ltd (HYIG) and Transland Public Co Ltd (TPC); and an MoU on cooperation between Platypus Public Co Ltd and China Enerever Solutions (Shanghai) Co Ltd, respectively.

Also, present at the ceremony were members of the high-level Myanmar delegation, the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, the Myanmar Ambassador to China, the president and officials of Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry-UMFCCI, those wishing to invest in Myanmar, Chinese investors, economists and officials. — MNA/TTA



# NATIONAL

## Inputs and techniques vital to agriculture sector

❖ In agricultural activities, it is necessary to provide the required inputs accurately and adequately to achieve the targeted cultivation, and applying agricultural techniques must also be correct.

*(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the second-day session of the government coordination meeting of SAC on 20 May 2025)*

## Electricity and Energy Development Commission Chair inspects power plants in Yangon

CHAIRMAN of the Electricity and Energy Development Commission Union Minister for Ministry 1 of the President's Office U Tin Aung San visited natural gas and waste-to-energy power plants in Yangon yesterday morning.

First, the Union Minister, along with officials, visited the natural gas and waste-to-energy power plants operated by Myanmar Ahlone Power Plant Co Ltd and Toyo Thai Power Myanmar Co Ltd in Ahlon Township. During the meeting, officials from the relevant companies provided information on the power plants, including gas consumption, plant operations and their connection to the national grid for electricity transmission and distribution, as well as maintenance and repair activities. The Managing Director of the Electric Power Generation Enterprise gave supplementary reports.

Regarding the presentations, the Commission Chairman noted that the installed capacity of natural gas and waste-to-energy power plants in Myanmar accounts for about 40 per cent of the total electricity generation capacity, second only to the hydroelectric sector, emphasizing



Union Minister U Tin Aung San inspects the power generation fed to the national grid in the control room in Yangon yesterday.

the need for systematic planning and maintenance of machinery to prevent interruptions in power production, ensure full operational capacity, and maintain continuous generator operation, while also calling for the provision of necessary spare parts for timely repairs and for increasing electricity generation from these plants to support continuous power supply in Yangon Region, where many

factories, workshops, and businesses consume large amounts of electricity.

Afterwards, he toured the gas turbine and steam turbine generation conditions of the 183 MW power plant of Myanmar Ahlone Power Plant and the 121 MW power plant of Toyo Thai Power Myanmar, inspected the power generation fed to the national grid in the control room.

Then, he visited the nat-

ural gas and waste-to-energy power plants operated by U Energy Thaketa Power Co Ltd and MaxPower (Thaketa) Co Ltd in Thakayta Township, with officials from the relevant companies explaining current production conditions in the power plants' explanation hall, and following clarifications by the Union Minister for Electric Power, U Nyan Tun, and other officials, the Chairman of the Elec-

tricity and Energy Development Commission urged relevant departments to work together to ensure full access to natural gas for electricity generation, focus on improving power plant efficiency to reduce waste, emphasize workplace water safety, and presented souvenirs to factory employees.

Next, the officials inspected the construction of the 119.73 MW generating gas turbine and steam turbine of U Energy Thaketa Power and the 53.6 MW gas engine generating plant of MaxPower (Thaketa) with 16 gas engines, as well as current production conditions and the connection of the power plants to the national grid in the control room, with officials providing a detailed presentation and the Commission Chairman issuing the necessary instructions.

Natural gas and waste heat power plants — including Myanmar Ahlone Power Plant in Ahlon Township, Toyo Thai Power Myanmar, and U Energy Thaketa Power Plant and MaxPower (Thaketa) in Thakayta Township — are connected to the national grid, generating and distributing 428 megawatts of electricity to Yangon. — MNA/TH

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Printed and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.  
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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.



NATIONAL

MoC Union Minister observes bridge technologies in ROK

A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant visited the Republic of Korea from 25 to 30 August to observe construction and maintenance technologies for large cable-stayed bridges in connection with the Myanmar-Korea Friendship (Dala) Bridge project.

During the trip, the Union minister and party met with companies responsible for construction and consultancy works of the Dala Bridge, discussing project progress, challenges and long-term durability measures.

They also visited the Korea Authority of Land and Infrastructure Safety (KALIS)



Union Minister U Myo Thant meets companies responsible for construction and consultancy works of the Dala Bridge in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

headquarters in Mokpo to learn classification of bridge types, regular inspection systems, and

advanced monitoring technologies applied to super bridges. The delegation then observed

construction sites to study design integration with maintenance systems.

In Anyang, they explored the Anyang Smart City Integration Centre, where officials explained the city's decade-long development using AI technologies for urban management, security, and infrastructure. The delegation also visited Seoul to observe modern city planning along the Han River, cultural heritage preservation works, and urban road design standards.

Furthermore, the Union minister held discussions with Korean companies engaged in Myanmar's infrastructure sector on enhancing cooperation in road, bridge, and urban development projects through technology and investment. — MNA/KZL

Second day of the Future Front Myanmar: Youth Strategy Forum 2025 in progress

THE second day of the Future Front Myanmar: Youth Strategy Forum 2025, held under the theme "Myanmar Moving Forward with the Power of Youth," continued yesterday at the Myanmar Convention Centre (MCC) in Yangon.

First, ethnic youth performed a traditional Kachin dance, and students from the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, as well as from various regions and states, took part in an energizer quiz programme, answering questions on geopolitics and geoeconomics.

Then, Mr Lorenzo Maria Pacini, an Associate Professor from Switzerland (SUPDI), discussed the topic "The Changing World and Myanmar — Geoeconomics". He addressed the definitions of geoeconomics, its importance for sovereign states, and its impact on national economies, analyzing it from various perspectives such as its relationship with geopolitics, the adoption of trade policies for geoeconomic benefits, and cases where the economic sector is prioritized over politics, while also highlighting the need to develop safe and secure national economic systems, pursue superpower status for balance of interests, form



Associate Professor Mr Lorenzo Maria Pacini from Switzerland (SUPDI), discusses during the second day of the Future Front Myanmar: Youth Strategy Forum 2025 at the MCC in Yangon yesterday.

alliances, and recognize the use of political leverage by powerful countries to dominate the global market, further explaining how governments can apply short-, medium-, and long-term strategies to achieve their goals, along with the importance of drawing long-term economic roadmaps and planning for the future of national economies.

In the discussion, young students asked questions and explored topics such as political theories in the Asian region, factors necessary for ensuring economic stability and strengthening national financial systems, global geopolitical challenges,

considerations regarding digital currencies, the situation of China's financial market in terms of geoeconomics, the potential of cryptocurrencies to address inflation, the role of AI and digital currencies in geoeconomics, the challenges Myanmar youth may face in a changing world, and India's Look East Policy alongside Myanmar's geopolitical vision.

Then, Mr Lorenzo Maria Pacini discussed the topic "Myanmar, Economy and the Multipolar World," addressing issues such as Myanmar's strategic geoeconomic position in the region, trade routes and market conditions, economic

policies and the tax system, the geoeconomic positions of neighboring countries, maintaining and protecting economic independence, developing strategies to achieve political and economic advantages, providing financial policies and market infrastructure, establishing common policies with allied countries, safeguarding political and economic interests, and creating a safe and secure environment.

In the discussion, young students asked questions on topics including China's economic policies, the benefits Myanmar can gain from the Belt and Road Initiative, managing

power to suit the country's situation, the impact of neighbouring countries' economic policies — particularly those of China and India — on Myanmar, and the requirements for establishing economic policies compatible with Myanmar.

The panelists discussed topics such as youth perspectives on Myanmar's geoeconomic role in the ever-changing global agenda, regional connectivity and trade opportunities for youth, innovation and skills for a multipolar economy, strategies for balancing sustainable development, and youth-based solutions for economic inclusion. Afterwards, each youth representative presented their group's discussion and analysis by topic, and the Vice-Chairman of the Yangon Region Youth Affairs Committee, the Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs, and other officials presented awards to the youth groups.

Afterwards, U Zaw Oo, Executive Director of the Myanmar Narrative Think Tank, presented a summarized review. This was followed by a performance of traditional Rakhine dances by ethnic youth, after which the Regional Minister of Social Affairs delivered the concluding speech. — MNA/TH



## Emphasize the improvement of the youth’s capabilities

UNDER the guidance of the Head of State, youth development programmes are being systematically implemented and nurtured with a long-term vision in Myanmar. As such, Myanmar youths must also prepare in advance to actively participate in the changing world, not only by contributing strength to national development but also by ensuring the new generations can take part energetically.

The role of youth is vital in leading the future of the nation. Young people need to have the right way of thinking, the right outlook, and the right mindset. Today’s world is changing rapidly, and many forms of extremism are being encountered globally. Therefore, it is necessary for young people to be able to guard against and avoid the dangers posed by extremism and its various approaches.

Currently, the Future Front Myanmar: Youth Strategy Forum 2025, with the participation of foreign experts, focuses on enhancing of youth’s capacity and strengthening their ability to table promising pathways for the development of Myanmar. Moreover, it emphasizes the establishment of an active youth network that can contribute to national and regional-level initiatives in the future. Hence, youth need to set powerful ambitions to shape the nation and themselves as the best.

investment for the future of the nation.” Therefore, youth development has been designated as one of the State’s priority undertakings, with comprehensive efforts being carried out through various approaches. In addition, training is being provided for young people to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, not only for their own lives but also for the benefit of the country and its people.

Currently, the Future Front Myanmar: Youth Strategy Forum 2025, with the participation of foreign experts, focuses on enhancing of youth’s capacity and strengthening their ability to table promising pathways for the development of Myanmar. Moreover, it emphasizes the establishment of an active youth network that can contribute to national and regional-level initiatives in the future. Hence, youth need to set powerful ambitions to shape the nation and themselves as the best.

HAVE you ever wondered what makes a city truly perfect? As people from all walks of life flock to urban areas, the allure of a city that offers everything without flaws grows stronger. Modern cities evolve constantly, with towering skyscrapers and vibrant cityscapes that attract millions. Yet, while urban life offers numerous advantages, it also brings challenges. Let us explore the complexities of city living, showing why it is both captivating and demanding.

### The Idea of a Perfect City

What defines a perfect city? Different people are drawn to different urban landscapes, but everyone dreams of one that has everything – without flaws. Compared with rural life, most people prefer urban living because it feels more exciting, modern, and full of opportunities. As a result, city populations rise every day, leading to massive megacities.

The 21st century has witnessed rapid architectural growth. Urban planners compete with innovative designs; tall towers replace small homes, and large garages replace cosy local pubs. Cities change daily, driven by technology, ambition, and demand. But a perfect city is not just about buildings, it must also be sociable and unique, offering

attractions, natural beauty, and a sense of character.

### The Evolution of Cities

In the past, cities lacked tall towers and modern amenities. Today, they offer 24-hour security, shops, Wi-Fi, and glamorous malls. This evolution reflects centuries of transformation, from small marketplaces to sprawling metropolises shaped by industrialization and technology. Cities now boast advanced infrastructure, efficient transportation, and amenities for diverse populations.

They are also hubs of culture, innovation, and economic growth. Urban life attracts people seeking education, healthcare, jobs, and social opportunities. The diversity of city residents fosters creativity, while the convenience of urban services makes daily life smoother.

### The Personal Connection

As someone who grew up on a farm and later moved to Yangon, he will have experienced both worlds. Yangon, with its busy streets, skyscrapers, and nonstop energy, has become his home. The city is alive from dawn to dusk, filled with opportunities and challenges. At night, LED lights brighten the skyline, theatres and cinemas entertain crowds, and malls welcome shoppers. Job op-

# Cities of Today, Cities of Tomorrow



Ms Monn

portunities draw countless newcomers, making the city feel like a paradise of endless possibilities.

### The Merits of City Life

Urban living offers countless benefits. Transportation is quick and efficient. Education is accessible at a high level. Housing, social activities, and leisure facilities, such as libraries, parks, pools, and cybercafes, make life vibrant. Healthcare is advanced, with clinics and world-class hospitals within reach. Cities also offer cultural richness, from art exhibitions to international music concerts.

### The Challenges of Urban Living

However, the city is not without flaws. Traffic congestion frustrates commuters daily. Pollution, noise, and overcrowding cause stress and fatigue. Environmental issues such as energy consumption and reduced green spaces

threaten sustainability. Social inequality is another major concern, with stark divisions between rich and poor visible in almost every metropolis.

The constant rush of city life can feel dehumanizing. Amidst the hustle and bustle, some people long for the slower pace and closeness to nature found in rural communities. The larger the city, the smaller the chance to enjoy peace, silence, or greenery.

### Rural versus Urban

The contrast between rural and urban life highlights their unique qualities. Rural areas offer fresh air, open spaces, close-knit communities, and a relaxed lifestyle connected to natural rhythms. People may live self-sufficiently, often working in agriculture or small trades.

Urban areas, in contrast, are fast-paced, filled with convenience and modern amenities. They

provide diverse jobs, advanced healthcare, and cultural opportunities, but at the cost of stress, crowding, and anonymity. Choosing between rural and urban living depends on individual values and priorities – whether one seeks peace and simplicity or excitement and opportunity.

### Cities as Symbols of Progress

Cities embody human ambition. Their skyscrapers, bustling streets, and vibrant culture are symbols of innovation and achievement. But they also reveal the costs of progress – stressful living, environmental degradation, and widening socioeconomic divides. The dream of a perfect city remains elusive because progress always comes with complexity.

### Building Better Cities

The future of urban living depends on how well cities balance growth with sustainability. Planners must focus on public transportation, affordable housing, green spaces, and equality. Sustainable energy and environmental protection are crucial. With careful planning, cities can be both progressive and livable, not just centres of economic activity but places where all people thrive.

### A Look Ahead

As urbanization continues, cities will play an even greater role in shaping the world. They bring real challenges, but also opportunities for innovation. If designed thoughtfully, cities can be inclusive, sustainable, and inspiring. For those who live in them, cities are not just places – they are part of identity.

Having transitioned from rural to urban life myself, I’ve come to appreciate the dynamism of city living, even with its flaws. The rural offers peace, but the city gives purpose and possibility. In the end, whether rural or urban, the choice reflects personal aspirations.

As we look to the future, cities will continue to expand, adapt, and redefine what it means to live in an urban environment. I predict that the cities of tomorrow will not only rise higher into the sky but also dig deeper into sustainable solutions, blending technology with nature. Green architecture, renewable energy, and smart transportation will dominate city planning. Despite the challenges of overcrowding and inequality, innovation will keep pushing boundaries. Cities will become more inclusive, livable, and resilient, serving as both symbols of human progress and as guardians of the environment for generations to come.

# Where the Stars Forgot to Shine

By Min Zan

THE night stretches before me, infinite and heavy with stars – each one a flickering echo of you. It is impossible not to ache for “another time”, another whispered conversation beneath the sky where you might say again, “*The stars are quite beautiful, and so are the clouds.*” My dear Bro, I want so badly to be strong, to be whole, to be *okay* – if not for myself, then for you. And so, in the quiet hours when the world is asleep, I send my love to you in fragments, in prayers that dissolve like mist into the dark.

Tonight, I have braided my hair with a crimson rose – the

flower you loved most. Its petals are soft against my fingers, its scent faint but persistent, like the memory of your voice. I chew sunflower seeds absently, though you always scolded me for it. “*You’ll ruin your teeth,*” you’d say, frowning. But I eat them anyway, as if the taste could summon you back, as if defiance could rewrite the past.

Do you remember the last day? I do. I remember standing before you, my eyes tracing every line of your face, every shadow, every curve, as if I could press the image of you into my soul forever. You were leaving, and I could do nothing but watch. And when you

were gone, I walked home alone beneath a sky so full of stars it felt like a cruel joke. The night was cold, the streets empty, and my heart; oh, my heart was a fragile, shattered thing.

You asked me once, your voice quiet with guilt, “*Will you blame me? For us never meeting as we should have?*” And I shook my head, even though the motion tore something inside me. What good would blame do? If fate brought us together, then fate tore us apart, and all that remained was this endless, gnawing sorrow.

Tonight, the sky is alive. Orion’s belt gleams, the Pleiades shimmer, the Seven Stars pulse like a heartbeat. But my eyes do not reflect their light. Instead, they fill with tears, hot and relentless. I do not know why the

storm inside me refuses to pass, why grief still drowns me even now. Nearby, a couple stands entwined, pointing at the stars, whispering promises of forever. “*We’ll never part,*” they vow, their voices trembling with conviction. I pray for them, though my own prayers went unanswered. Let them have what we could not. Let their love be steadfast where ours was broken.

Bro, if you were here, you would laugh at me. You would tease, “*What about me? Do you pray for me, too?*” And what would I say? Should I pray for you and her – the one who holds you now – to be happy? Or should I pray for myself, the one who came too late, who loved too quietly, who still clings to the ghost of your touch? The thought is too

heavy, too cruel.

Now, I walk toward my grandmother’s farm, crossing the hills we once loved. The early winter air bites at my skin, sharp as regret. This was the place I once spoke of with such hope, gripping your hands and whispering, “*One day...*” But that day never came. And now, as the cold seeps into my bones, I wonder – would you come to me now, if I called? Would you leave behind the life you’ve built, the love you’ve chosen, and step into this fragile dream of mine? I dare not hope.

Bro, I am the one who freezes at the memory of your voice, your hands in my hair, your whispered “*I love you.*” I am the one who cannot forget the warmth of your palms, the way they cradled my face as if I were something pre-

cious. And now, in the silence, I write and erase the same words over and over on my phone: “*May you be happy with her.*” Each time I do, the world feels like it is ending all over again.

You told me I would forget you – that distance and silence would erase me from your heart as easily as ink from paper. But you were wrong, Bro. I have tried. Oh, how I have tried. Yet every night, I drown in the memories, in the love I cannot feel.

Have you truly forgotten me? Or do you lie to yourself, pretending I was never more than a fleeting dream?

The farm is near now. The stars are fading, the first hints of dawn bleeding into the horizon. Soon, the night will be gone, and with it, the last traces of my courage. I will send one final message – not to you, but to the stars, carrying the words I can no longer speak aloud.

SEE PAGE 10





# ARTICLE/NATIONAL

## Yangon Zoo welcomes more rare red pandas

ACCORDING to the Zoological Gardens (Yangon), more of the rare and adorable red pandas have arrived at the zoo.

The endangered red panda population has dwindled to fewer than 10,000 in the wild, and the Yangon Zoo is pleased to welcome them again.

The new arrivals came from Kampaiti of Kachin State, near the Chinese border, and were transported to the Yangon Zoo on 30 August, with the help of the Myanmar Airways International (MAI) Flight 8M-627 and a team of veterinarians

and supervisors.

As red pandas are listed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, the Yangon Zoo is carefully protecting them from extinction, and visitors are welcome for observation at the zoo, which opens daily.

Red pandas are mammals that live in the eastern Himalayas and western China. They have a peaceful nature and feed before dawn and at dusk, sleeping in the afternoon.

The Yangon Zoo is a public recreation area open from 8



This photo showcases the new red pandas that arrived again at the Yangon Zoo.

am to 4 pm daily. The entrance fee is K2,500 for adults and K1,500 for children. — MT/ZN

## Four-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K101.776B

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat the illicit trade are continued effectively by the law.

On 27 and 28 August, the combined teams impounded four unregistered vehicles worth K33.5 million in Myeik and Bokpyin Townships, illegal timbers valued at K890,040 in Pyu and DaikU Townships and a Mitsubishi Rosa (approximately K25 million) carrying foodstuff worth K140.4 million without official documents near the checkpoint on the outskirts of Thanetpin Township. The action was taken under the Export/Import Law, the Forest Law, and Customs procedures.

Additionally, on 26, 27 and 29 August, combined on-duty teams seized illegal fuel oil and lubricant worth K1.36 million at the Yadanabon bridge (Hnapauk) checkpoint, illegal teaks, hardwoods and other timbers from an unregistered vehicle and an unregistered motorbike valued at K86.428 million in PyinOoLwin, Kyaukse, TadaU, Patheingyi, Amarapura, Thazi and Yamethin Townships, illegal timbers worth K250,340 in Kyangin Township, industrial material worth K346.185 million without official documents from a



Photos show confiscated illegal tobacco, Cash register with accessories and LED head light.

container at the Thilawa Port, industrial material valued at K31.5 million without official documents from a container at the Asia World Port, foodstuff, consumer goods and industrial material valued at K13.103 million without official documents from four Chinese travellers at the Yangon International Airport, 0.5 kilogramme of Synthetic stones valued at K11.109 million without official documents at the Yangon International Airport (Warehouse), seven vehicles and a trailer

worth K301 million carrying consumer goods, industrial material and foodstuff worth K933.490 million near Myogyi in Ywangan district and four unregistered vehicles and 23 unregistered motorbikes. The action was conducted under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law, the Forest Law, and Customs procedures.

The Steering Committee reported 79 arrests on the four consecutive days from 26 to 29 August, seizing illegal goods worth approximately K101.776 billion. — MNA/MKKS

## Where the Stars Forgot to Shine

FROM PAGE 9

*May you be happy. May you be warm. May you be loved.*

And may the sky keep my sorrow a secret forever.

The stars vanish. The night is over. And I am still here — alone, aching, and so terribly in love with a ghost.

The dawn comes, as it always does, indifferent to my grief. The stars fade one by one, retreating into the light, and I am left standing in the empty field, the remnants of night clinging to me like a shroud. The farmhouse is quiet, its windows dark. My grandmother will wake soon, humming as she prepares breakfast, unaware of the storm inside me.

I sit on the old wooden porch, the cold seeping through my clothes. My phone is heavy in my hand, the unsent message still glowing on the screen. “I miss you.” Three words. A lifetime of longing.

But I do not send it. Instead, I press my fore-

head against my knees and let the tears come at last – great, heaving sobs that shake my entire body. The pain is unbearable, a raw, open wound that refuses to heal. I think of your smile, your laugh, the way your eyes crinkled at the corners when you teased me. I think of the future we might have had, the dreams we once whispered beneath these very stars.

And then I think of *her* who gets to hold you now. The one who hears your voice every day, who knows the warmth of your hands, the sound of your heartbeat. The one who took my place.

A bird sings somewhere in the distance, the first notes of morning. The world is waking, moving on, as if my heartache means nothing.

I wipe my tears, take a shuddering breath, and stand. The stars are gone. The night is over. And you are gone too.

I will love you until the last star falls from the sky.

But I will never tell you again.

## Japan hires 1,500 more workers from Myanmar

ABOUT 370 Japanese companies have offered new recruitment of more than 1,500 Myanmar workers, according to the Myanmar Embassy to Japan’s statement on demand letters.

The embassy has carried out timely verifications of demand letters received from the Ministry of Labour via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it said.

It verifies whether labour supervisory companies and factories or companies which offered jobs in Japan are officially established or not, and resubmits its findings and remarks to

the Ministry of Labour through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

It is about 369 demand letters that the embassy submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after verification until 3 June 2025. According to it, more than 260 Myanmar male workers and more than 1,300 Myanmar female workers, totalling over 1,500, would be employed.

A statement on 15 August said up to 360 Japanese companies would provide jobs for around 1,500 Myanmar workers. — MT/ZS



Myanmar workers are at the airport before departure.





The restoration faced technical challenges, including incomplete negatives and problematic audio, but showcases the film’s humanism and social themes still resonant today. **PHOTO: ANI**

# Restored classic ‘Do Bigha Zamin’ premieres at Venice Festival

The 4K restoration of Bimal Roy’s 1953 film ‘Do Bigha Zamin’ will premiere at Venice Film Festival’s Classics section, highlighting its enduring relevance.

WITH the 4K restoration of master Bimal Roy’s ‘Do Bigha Zamin’ (Two Acres of Land) set for its world premiere at this year’s Venice Film Festival’s Classics section, India’s Film Heritage Foundation director Shivendra Singh Dungarpur is reflected on the efforts to restore the 1953 Indian cinema landmark and why the film remains essential viewing seven decades later, reported Variety.

“Bimal Roy made ‘Do Bigha Zamin’ two years before Satyajit Ray’s ‘Pather Panchali.’ Satyajit Ray said about Bimal Roy that he was able to sweep

aside the cobwebs of the old tradition and introduce a realism and subtlety that was wholly suited to the cinema,” as quoted by Variety.

For Dungarpur, Roy’s film represents cinema’s power to endure across generations. — ANI

# Lady Gaga to perform at MTV Video Music Awards 2025



The song’s arrival coincides with the release of the second half of the Netflix show on the same day. **PHOTO: ANI**

SINGER Lady Gaga is the latest addition to the slate of performers for the MTV VMAs, taking place on 7 September and airing on CBS and Paramount+, according to Variety.

Gaga received the most nominations for this year’s ceremony, racking up a dozen nods for ‘Die With a Smile,’ ‘Abracadabra,’ and her latest album ‘Mayhem.’ Bruno Mars trailed behind her with 11 nominations, followed by Kendrick Lamar with 10, Sabrina Carpenter and Rose with eight, and Ariana Grande and the Weekend with seven, reported Variety.

Additional performers include Carpenter, Post Malone, Sombr, Doja Cat, Conan Grey, Alex Warren, DJ Snake, Jelly Roll, J Balvin and Tate McRae, reported Variety. — ANI

# Japan erotic art destigmatized in new exhibit

A rare Tokyo exhibition showcases around 150 pieces of shunga, traditional Japanese erotic ukiyo-e art from the Edo period, focusing on female pleasure and empowerment.

Despite its explicit depictions of nudity, genitals, and sex, shunga is distinct from male-centred pornography and reflects a deep appreciation of female sensuality, including vulva, oral stimulation, and same-sex intimacy.

The genre was suppressed during Japan’s 19<sup>th</sup>-century westernization and remains stigmatized, often mistaken for commercial porn.

Experts and visitors highlight shunga’s artistic craftsmanship by masters like Hokusai and Utamaro, noting its humor, technique, and realistic portrayals despite exaggerated elements.

The exhibition, held in Tokyo’s Kabukicho district, aims to shift public perception from taboo to cultural and artistic value, encouraging interest in ukiyo-e and traditional kabuki theatre.

Organizers acknowledge ongoing prejudice but hope the vibrant colours and humanistic themes will inspire broader appreciation and destigmatize this unique art form. — AFP



Despite their seedy image, shunga represents the craftsmanship of some of Japan’s finest ukiyo-e artists. **PHOTO: AFP**

# Disney announces ‘Ice Age: Boiling Point’ release date 2027

DISNEY has unveiled the release date and title for ‘Ice Age: Boiling Point,’ the sixth instalment in the animated prehistoric franchise, reported Variety.

The announcement was made during Saturday’s Destination D23: A Journey Around the Worlds of Disney in Orlando. The film is set to hit theatres on 5 February 2027.

According to an official description, “Boiling Point” is a “dinosaur-and-lava-filled madcap adventure that takes Manny, Sid, Diego, Ellie, Scrat and the rest of the herd to visit never-before-seen corners of the treacherous Lost World,” as quoted by Variety.

According to the outlet, Disney and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Animation had earlier announced that the sixth ‘Ice Age’ film was in the works, and that series stars Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Queen Latifah, Denis Leary, and Simon Pegg would return.

The last ‘Ice Age’ film, ‘Collision Course,’ was released in 2016 and went on to gross US\$408.5 million at the worldwide box office. The first film bowed in 2002, spawning four mainline sequels, a spin-off film and a series of shorts on Disney+. — ANI



ECONOMY  
WORLD

# In whirlwind tour, Qatari royal commits \$70 bln to southern Africa



Qatari royal Sheikh Mansour bin Jabor bin Jassim Al Thani during his visit to Mozambique. **PHOTO: MOZAMBIQUE PRESIDENCY/AFP**

*Analysts view these investments as strategic moves amid declining US funding in the region, signaling growing Qatari influence in southern Africa's development landscape.*

QATARI investment firm Al Mansour Holding has pledged \$70 billion in investments across four southern Africa countries in a 10-day tour, a move analysts call strategic as US funding retreats from the continent.

Group leader and royal family member Sheikh Mansour bin Jabor bin Jassim Al Thani has met the leaders of Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe to sign commitments of major financing for projects spanning energy, agriculture, tourism and mining. In Maputo this week, he signed a \$20 billion partnership

agreement with President Daniel Chapo aimed at supporting government initiatives including in health and education, the Mozambique presidency announced.

Days earlier, across the border in Zimbabwe, his company committed to opening its purse to the tune of \$19 billion, including \$500 million for a hydro-electricity project, the government said.

It has also pledged \$19 billion for Zambia, reportedly among the biggest bilateral pacts in the country's history, and \$12 billion in Botswana, the countries announced. — AFP

## In Guyana, remote dirt road seen as future economic lifeline

GUYANA is upgrading its historic 500-kilometre "Trail" road, linking the capital Georgetown to Lethem on the Brazilian border, into a major highway expected to transform the economy. The nearly \$1 billion project includes four highway sections and about 50 bridges, with completion targeted by 2030.

Currently, the rough road takes 15 hours to traverse, challenging truckers like Ramdial

Metleash, who earns about \$290 per trip hauling goods despite difficult conditions.

The new highway will connect to the Takutu Bridge into Brazil, opening access to a market of 20 million people, vastly larger than Guyana's population of 800,000. It will also link to the Palmyra deepwater port near Suriname, reducing shipping times for Brazilian goods from 21 days to 48 hours. — AFP



A car drives on 'The Trail' in Guyana's Essequibo region, which could greatly benefit from the road's modernization. **PHOTO: JOAQUIN SARMIENTO / AFP**

## Shrimp exports to fall 15-18% this fiscal as US tariffs push duty above 58%: Crisil

INDIA'S shrimp export volumes are expected to decline by 15-18 per cent in the current fiscal year following a sharp hike in US tariffs, which will take the total import duty to 58.26 per cent, effective 27 August, according to a report by Crisil Ratings.

The rating agency said that the move will also hit realisations, even as Indian exporters attempt to shift their product mix and explore alternative markets.

The reciprocal tariff imposed by the US stands at 50 per cent, but for shrimp exports, a countervailing duty of 5.77 per cent and an anti-dumping duty of 2.49 per cent were already in place before the recent tariff announcements took effect.

Export revenues, which have remained flat over the past four years, are now projected to decline 18-20 per cent year-on-year, despite a

temporary surge in shipments during the first quarter as exporters rushed to fulfil orders ahead of the tariff hike. — ANI



India's shrimp export volumes are expected to decline by 15-18 per cent in the current fiscal year following a sharp hike in US tariffs. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/PIXABAY**

## Argentina police carry out raids in Milei sister graft probe

ARGENTINE police on Friday raided the offices of the National Disability Agency and a pharmaceutical company at the heart of a corruption scandal embroiling President Javier Milei's influential sister.

The allegations against Karina Milei, her brother's right-hand woman and general secretary of the presidency, are the most damaging yet involving a member of the Argentine leader's inner circle.

The libertarian president and his sister were pelted with stones while campaigning for mid-term elections this week in a suburb of Buenos Aires, amid widespread anger over the affair. — AFP



# Tourists dice with danger on Hanoi’s train street

IN Hanoi, a unique “train street” has become a popular tourist attraction despite safety concerns and government attempts to shut it down. Visitors gather in cafes lining the narrow railway tracks, inches away from slow-moving trains, creating a thrilling experience widely shared on social media. Originally built by French colonial rulers in the early 1900s, the railway was damaged during the Vietnam War but still serves budget travelers on old metre-gauge tracks managed by Vietnam Railways Corporation. The area, once a rough neighbourhood known for drug use and squatters, has transformed into a cleaner, safer, and more vibrant spot thanks to tourism. Local cafe owners oppose closure efforts, viewing the street as a valuable tourism asset. Tourists appreciate the organized safety measures, with staff guiding visitors to clear the tracks when trains approach. Vietnamese and foreign visitors alike consider the train street a distinctive and irreplaceable part of Hanoi’s tourism scene. Meanwhile, Vietnam plans a \$67 billion high-speed rail project to modernize its infrastructure and boost economic growth. — AFP



Authorities have repeatedly tried to shut down the tumbledown quarter of the Vietnamese capital for safety reasons. PHOTO: NHAC NGUYEN / AFP

# 160 development projects completed in Afghanistan’s Kandahar province

THE Afghan Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development has said that 160 development projects, designed to bolster agricultural and rural infrastructure, have been completed in the southern Kandahar province. The projects, at a cost of over 275 million afghani (approximately US\$3.96 million), were carried out on the outskirts of Maiwand district, the ministry said. The projects included canals, dams, culverts and roads. — Xinhua

# Japanese camera makers ramp up mirrorless lineups amid growing demand

MAJOR Japanese camera manufacturers are ramping up their mirrorless offerings as they seek to tap into growing demand for advanced features such as artificial intelligence-assisted shooting. While global shipment volumes of digital cameras have declined with the rise of camera-equipped smartphones, makers are moving to seize new business opportunities amid an era of high-quality content creation driven by social media. According to the Camera & Imaging Products Association, global shipments of digital cameras by major Japanese manufacturers totaled 8.49 million units in 2024, less than 10 per cent of the peak of 121.46 million units in 2010. But mirrorless cameras are helping to boost numbers, with global shipments rising 22.5 per cent in the first six months of 2025 from the same period last year. Meanwhile, single-lens reflex cameras fell 21.5 per cent. — Kyodo



Nikon mirrorless cameras on display at an electronics store in Tokyo on 7 August 2025. PHOTO: KYODO

# New express trains from Narita airport to Tokyo Skytree planned for FY 2028

NEW express trains linking Narita airport outside Tokyo with the Tokyo Skytree broadcasting tower in just over 30 minutes are slated to begin service in fiscal 2028 at the earliest, the operator’s president said in a Kyodo News interview. The plan comes as Keisei Electric Railway Co seeks to meet record inbound tourist demand, which is expected to grow with the ongoing expansion of Narita airport, while improving access to one of Tokyo’s most popular attractions. The new direct services will shorten the current 45-minute trip to Keisei’s nearest station to the tower by about 10 minutes and allow passengers to reach Tokyo Skytree without transferring to a local line, Keisei Electric Railway President Takao Amano said in the recent interview. — Kyodo

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BAJO VOY.NO. (V.905N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR BAJO VOY.NO. (V.905N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-9-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES**

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V OTANA BHUM VOY.NO. (233N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V OTANA BHUM VOY.NO. (233N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-9-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT/MITT** 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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES**



ROLLING UPDATES  
WORLD

Putin arrives at SCO Summit Venue in  
China’s Tianjin

*Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in Tianjin, China, to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) leaders’ summit, the largest in the organization’s history.*

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin arrived at the venue of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) leaders’ summit in the Chinese city of Tianjin on Sunday.

Chinese President Xi Jinping, accompanied by his wife, Peng Liyuan, greeted Putin with a handshake before a photo session.

The event begins on Sunday

with a reception held for heads of national delegations in President Xi’s name.

The SCO summit, the largest in history, is being held at the Meijiang Convention and Exhibition Centre from 31 August to 1 September. It is expected to draw more than 20 foreign leaders and representatives of international organizations. — SPUTNIK



The summit, held at the Meijiang Convention and Exhibition Centre from 31 August to 1 September, began with a reception hosted by President Xi for heads of national delegations. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

Japan to give \$5.5 mln aid to UN  
for better living conditions in Syria

JAPAN has decided to provide a UN agency with \$5.5 million for a project to improve living conditions in Syria, as residents who had fled the country amid a civil war are increasingly returning following the collapse of former President Bashar al-Assad’s government last year.

The grant aid scheme, signed by Japan and the UN Human Settlements Programme, or UN-Habitat, on 12 August, targets Aleppo and Homs, two of the hardest-hit regions in the Middle East nation, and aims to rebuild essential infrastructure in slums and other informal settlements, the Japanese Foreign

Ministry said.

With the continuing “serious humanitarian situation” in Syria and more refugees returning to their homes, helping people secure a safe living environment has become a “pressing issue”, the ministry said in a recent press release. — Kyodo



Illustrative: This photo taken on 30 July 2017 shows a United Nations and Syrian Arab Red Crescent convoy delivering aid packages in the rebel-held town of Nashabiyah in eastern Ghouta for the first time in five years. **PHOTO: AMER ALMOHIBANY/AFP/FILE**

Yemen’s Houthis  
vow retaliation after Israeli  
airstrikes kill PM of  
Houthi-run govt

TOP officials of Yemen’s Houthi group on Saturday vowed to retaliate against Israel as the group confirmed earlier in the day that Prime Minister Ahmed al-Rahawi of the Houthi-backed government, along with several other ministers, was killed here in Israeli airstrikes on Thursday.

Earlier on Saturday, the group acknowledged in a statement that the officials were hit in

Sanaa during a workshop reviewing government activities over the past year, and that several other ministers were wounded and remain in hospital. The statement did not say how many ministers were killed. Meanwhile, Houthi-run al-Masirah TV reported that the group’s deputy prime minister, Mohammed Miftah, was appointed to run a caretaker government in Sanaa. — Xinhua

Report: White House mulls plans  
for Department of War

THE administration of US President Donald Trump is drawing up plans to rebrand the Department of Defence as the Department of War, the Wall Street Journal reported Saturday, citing a White House official. The move came after Trump’s recent indication to revive a name last used in 1947.

Restoring the discarded name of the Department of Defence could be done by an act of Congress, but the White House is mulling other methods to make

the change, said the report.

The Pentagon started developing legislative proposals to make the change in the early weeks of the second term of Trump, who has floated the idea of a name change repeatedly. “One idea was to ask Congress for authority to restore the former name during a national emergency, while also reviving the title of secretary of war for the department’s top civilian official,” it said. — Xinhua



SPORTS

ISPE FC advance in AFC Women’s Champions League qualifiers



THE ISPE FC women’s team beat the Philippines’ Stallion Laguna FC 3-1 in their final Group A match of the 2025-2026 AFC Women’s Champions League qualifiers, played at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon on 31 August, thereby securing qualification.

Although ISPE trailed early after a 13<sup>th</sup>-minute goal by La-

ISPE striker Yoon Wady Hlaing launching an attack. **PHOTO: SOE NYUNT THAW**

guna’s Davidson, they turned the match around in the second half. Substitutions strengthened their attack, with Sandar Lin equalizing in the 50<sup>th</sup> minute. Yoon Wady Hlaing’s 70<sup>th</sup>-minute involvement led to San Thaw Thaw’s header for the second goal, before captain Khin Marlar Tun sealed the win with the third goal in the 89<sup>th</sup> minute.

Despite missing striker May Htet Lu, ISPE fielded a strong line-up with Khin Marlar Tun, Phyu Phyu Win, San Thaw Thaw, Lynn Myint Mo, and Shwe Yee Htun. Laguna FC, with sev-

eral Philippines internationals, needed only a draw to top the group but were unable to withstand ISPE’s comeback.

ISPE topped the group with a perfect record, beating Guam’s Strykers 9-0, Mongolia’s Khovd Western 8-0, and Stallion Laguna 3-1, collecting nine points from three matches.

The final stage of the tournament will be held from October 2025 to May 2026, featuring 12 clubs, including champions from Japan, South Korea, Australia, China, and other Asian nations. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Vardy set to complete move to Serie A side Cremonese: source

JAMIE Vardy is close to completing a move to Cremonese, who are level on points with Serie A leaders Napoli, a source at the promoted club confirmed to AFP on Sunday. The source told AFP that former Premier League winner Vardy will arrive in Milan on Sunday evening ahead of completing a one-season deal with an option for another should Cremonese stay in Italy’s top flight.

Cremonese are on a perfect six points from their first two fixtures of the new Serie A season after beating Sassuolo 3-2 on Friday and winning against AC Milan at the San Siro last weekend.

Vardy left Leicester City after 13 years at the end of last season, bringing down the curtain on a relationship which created one of the most romantic stories in recent football history.

The 38-year-old signed for Leicester from non-league club Fleetwood town while in his mid-20s, having previously combined playing with a job as a factory worker.

He quickly made an impact in England’s



Jamie Vardy won the Premier league with Leicester City in 2016. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

second-tier Championship, which he helped Leicester win in 2014 before becoming the goalscoring hero in their stunning Premier League triumph two years later.

During that title-winning season he broke a record previously set by Manchester United icon Ruud van Nistelrooy by scoring in 11 consecutive Premier League matches, and he won the Golden Boot for top scorer in the 2019-20 campaign. — AFP

Myanmar judo team receives funding for one-month joint training in Japan



President of the Myanmar Judo Federation U Tun Tun presents US\$12,800 to the Myanmar judo athletes for taking part in joint training with university judo clubs in Tokyo, Japan.

IN preparation for the 33<sup>rd</sup> South-east Asian Games, Myanmar judo athletes will take part in joint training with university judo clubs in Tokyo, Japan.

A ceremony to provide financial assistance to the athletes was held on 30 August at the meeting hall of the Institute of Sports and Physical Education (Yangon), located within the Kyaikkasan Sports Grounds in Yangon.

At the event, U Kyaw Oo, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Sports and Physical Education, and the Principal of the ISPE (Yangon) delivered words of honour. Afterwards, the

Department of Sports and Physical Education under the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs provided US\$7,000. On behalf of the Director-General, the Deputy Director-General and officials handed over the funds to the athletes who will participate in the joint training.

Later, U Tun Tun, President of the Myanmar Judo Federation, also contributed US\$12,800 to support the athletes during their stay in Japan.

The joint training judo team, comprising one coach and seven athletes, will undergo training in Japan for about one month. — Arkar Linn/KZL

Japan's Yamaguchi cruises to third badminton world title

AKANE Yamaguchi beat former world number one Chen Yufei of China 21-9, 21-13 on Sunday to win the women’s singles badminton world championship final.

The Japanese fifth seed rarely looked troubled on court in Paris and needed just 37 min-



Akane Yamaguchi won gold in Paris. **PHOTO: AFP**

utes to add a third world title to her gold medals from 2021 and 2022.

Chen, a Tokyo 2020 Olympic gold medallist, battled past top seed and reigning champion An Se-young of South Korea in a semi-final win marked by a nasty-looking ankle twist early

in the second game.

The 27-year-old received treatment on the court Saturday and went immediately to have her ankle examined after the match. — AFP





# WORLD

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Sunday told Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi that China and India are cooperation partners, not rivals, and that the two countries are each other's development opportunities rather than threats.

As long as the two countries stick to this overarching direction, China-India relations can sustain steady and long-term growth, Xi said when the two leaders met in the port city of Tianjin ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit 2025.

Xi said China and India should become neighbours on good terms and partners helping each other succeed. A "cooperative pas de deux of the dragon and the elephant" should be the right choice for the two countries, he said.

Noting that this year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of China-India diplomatic relations, Xi said the two countries need to view and handle bilateral ties from a strategic and long-term perspective.

He called on the two countries to strengthen strategic communication to deepen mutual trust, expand exchanges and win-win cooperation, heed each other's concerns to seek harmonious coexistence, and enhance multilateral collaboration to safeguard common interests.

The two Asian neighbours should work together to ensure peace and tranquillity in their border regions, and should not let the border issue define the overall China-India relations, Xi said. — Xinhua

## China and India are cooperation partners, not rivals: Xi

*Xi highlighted the importance of adhering to this cooperative approach to ensure steady and long-term growth in China-India relations.*



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Tianjin, north China, 31 August 2025. Modi is in China to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit 2025. PHOTO: XIE HUANCHI/XINHUA

## Malaysia marks 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence



Performers are pictured during a celebration event marking Malaysia's 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence in Putrajaya, Malaysia, 31 August 2025. Malaysia celebrated its 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence on Sunday. PHOTO: CHONG VOON CHUNG/XINHUA

MALAYSIA marked the 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence on Sunday, with national leaders joining a huge public turnout at the administration centre of Putrajaya to witness a parade celebrating the National Day.

Over 14,000 people were forming 81 contingents representing various segments of Malaysian society, according to the Malaysian national news agency Bernama.

The country's King, Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar, oversaw the parade, with Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim and cabinet members joining him. The country's air force put on a show with fighter aircraft and various helicopters flying in formation and performing manoeuvres. — Xinhua

## TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

### Sri Lanka to import 2,000 pickup trucks to support rural development

THE Sri Lankan government will import 2,000 pickup trucks in the first quarter of 2026 to improve transportation facilities for officials working for rural areas, a deputy minister said on Sunday.

Deputy Minister of Provincial Councils and Local Government Ruwan Senarath said there is a severe shortage of vehicles across state institutions.

He noted that in recent months the government has launched several rural development and poverty alleviation programmes, and officials are required to travel to rural areas more frequently.

The deputy minister added that the government will also import other vehicles, equipment, and tools needed for rural development. — Xinhua