

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

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



Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, inspects the Tatmadaw TV Broadcasting Unit in Hmawby Station yesterday.

Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by his entourage and officials, yesterday afternoon, inspected the Tatmadaw TV Broadcasting Unit in Hmawby Station.

Officials and staff of the unit warmly welcomed the Senior General and party.

At the meeting room, Director Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun of the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare and the commandant of the Tatmadaw TV Broadcasting Unit (Hmawby) re-

TV broadcasting must serve public with beneficial programmes

Continuous, accurate, and timely release of domestic and international news, special reports, and public-interest events is essential.

ported to the Senior General on the brief history of the unit, accomplishment of the guidance given by the SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and general requirements. In his response to the reports, the Senior General gave guidance that it is necessary to continuously release both domestic and international news, special reports, and events of public interest accurately and in a timely manner. **SEE PAGE 3**

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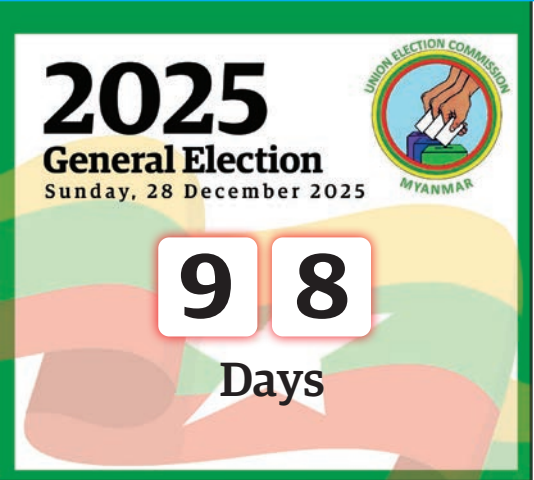
NATIONAL



2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

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

Union Election Commission



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

EARTHQUAKE

(Issued at 11:15 pm MST on 20 September 2025)

A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.5 Richter Scale with its epicentre inside Myanmar (about 18 miles south-southeast of Maukmai), latitude 19.98 °N, longitude 97.79°E, depth 10 kilometres, about 63 miles south of the Namsang Seismological Observatory was recorded at 22 hours 57 minutes 2 seconds MST on 20 September 2025. — DMH

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Saturday 20 September 2025)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal and moderate elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 21 SEPTEMBER 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Sagaing Region and Kachin, Rakhine and northern Shan states, fairly widespread in Mandalay and Magway regions and Chin State and widespread in the remaining regions and states with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayin and Mon states. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing and Ayeyawady regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine, and

(southern and eastern) Shan states. In the area along the cumulonimbus clouds, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur, and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasionally, squalls with rough to very rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35-40 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-13 feet in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along the Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 8-10 feet off and along the Rakhine Coast.

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

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 21 SEPTEMBER 2025: Iso-

lated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 21 SEPTEMBER 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 21 SEPTEMBER 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

Bay of Bengal Condition

Issued at 2 pm MST on 20 September 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 12:30 pm MST today, a low-pressure area may form over the Eastcentral Bay and adjoining Northeast Bay of Bengal (off the Myanmar- Bangladesh coasts) on 25 September 2025. — DMH

Special Weather News

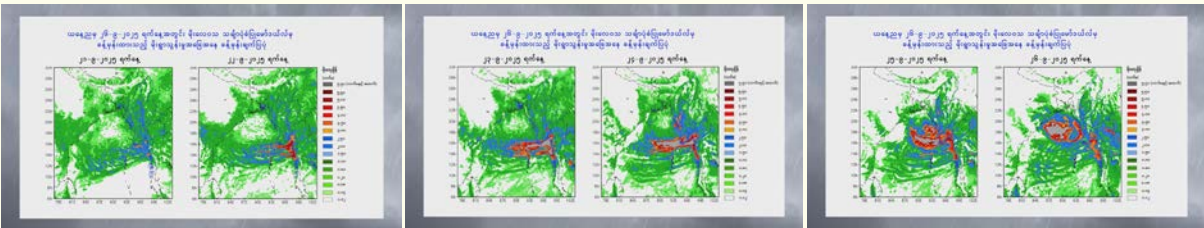
Issued at 7 pm MST on 20 September 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, due to the strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal, due to the unstable air condition over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal and due to the easterly waves, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in upper Sagaing Region and Kachin and northern Shan states and fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan states with regionally

and isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon and Rakhine states during tonight to 26 September 2025. Occasional squalls with rough to very rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35-40 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-13 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

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



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)

FROM PAGE 1

He continued that as presentation of entertainment comprises both audio and visual effects, it is important not only to ensure good audio quality but also to have attire and appearance that match the nature of the programme being presented.

He stressed that broadcasting of news and programmes must be systematically based on a proper editing process.

The Senior General urged editors and supervisors to systematically supervise all functions of broadcasting.

TV broadcasting must serve public with beneficial programmes

He underlined that it is necessary to create beneficial public-oriented programmes that can bring advantages to the people and provide them with knowledge and awareness.

After visiting the Tatmadaw TV

Broadcasting Unit (Hmawby), the Senior General gave necessary guidance to officials.

He signed the guests' book of the unit. The Senior General then inspected the progress in the construction of

the new staff mess of the unit and gave necessary instructions. The Senior General presented cash awards for Tatmadaw members and staff of the unit to the commandant and viewed the unit by car. — MNA/TTA

Myanmar delegation attends 8th China-Myanmar Ministerial Meeting on Law Enforcement and Security

At the invitation of Mr Wang Xiaohong, Chinese State Councilor and Minister of Public Security, a Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung attended the 8th China-Myanmar Ministerial Meeting on Law Enforcement and Security Cooperation, the Lancang-Mekong Ministerial Meeting on Law Enforcement and Security Cooperation, and the 2025 Conference of the Global Public Security Cooperation Forum held in Beijing.

On the evening of 14 September, the Myanmar delegation led by the Union minister arrived in Beijing via Guangzhou. On the morning of 15 September, they attended the 8th China-Myanmar Ministerial Meeting on Law Enforcement and Security Cooperation at the Rui An Hotel in Beijing, where they discussed bilateral security and law enforcement cooperation and signed an MoU.

In the evening, the Myanmar delegation attended the Lancang-Mekong Ministerial



Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung delivers a speech at the 2025 Conference of Global Public Security Cooperation Forum in Beijing.

Meeting on Law Enforcement and Security Cooperation along with representatives from regional countries. Discussions focused on strengthening regional security, stability, and law enforcement cooperation,

enhancing mutual trust and understanding among Lancang-Mekong countries, and promoting peace and stability in border areas. That evening, they also attended a dinner hosted by Mr Wang Xiaohong.

Subsequently, the Union minister and his delegation attended the 2nd Public Security Technology Exhibition and the 2025 Conference of the Global Public Security Cooperation Forum, on 17 and 18 September,

together with representatives from international organizations. The Union minister highlighted the need for practical cooperation in the fields of security and the rule of law, joint efforts to combat traditional and non-traditional security challenges, information exchange, and peaceful dispute resolution.

The Myanmar delegation arrived in Shanghai on the evening of 18 September and, on 19 September, visited the Putao District Police Headquarters of the Shanghai Public Security Department to observe police work related to criminal investigation. They returned to Yangon by air on the afternoon of 20 September.

During the visit, the delegation led by the Union minister strengthened China-Myanmar bilateral ties and cooperation between the two ministries, achieved positive outcomes in fostering friendly relations with the Lancang-Mekong countries, and exchanged views with representatives from various regions of the world on security and legal issues. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

Union Defence Minister visits military technology companies in Beijing



Union Minister General Maung Maung Aye meets staff and families of the Myanmar Embassy and the Myanmar military attachés office and students attending training in Beijing, at the Myanmar Embassy on 20 September 2025.

MEMBER of the State Security and Peace Commission and Union Minister for Defence General Maung Maung Aye attended the 3rd and 4th plenary sessions of the 12th Beijing Xiangshan Forum held on 19 September in Beijing, People's Republic of China.

On 18 and 19 September afternoons, the Union minister and delegation visited advanced military technology companies based in Beijing. They observed unmanned aerial vehicle production, aviation technology equipment, electronic warfare systems, and air defence technology weapons. The delegation also

discussed potential areas of technical cooperation with company officials.

On the morning of 20 September, the Union minister and delegation met staff and families of the Myanmar Embassy and the Myanmar military attachés (Army, Navy, Air) office, as well as students attending training in Beijing, at the Myanmar Embassy. The Union minister explained the current situation of national development and presented gifts.

In the evening, the Union Minister and delegation returned to Yangon by air from Beijing. — MNA/KZL

Myanmar delegates hold talks on digital banking and cybersecurity in China

THE Myanmar delegation, led by Central Bank of Myanmar Governor Daw Than Than Swe, attended the Digital Yuan-related meetings, including the digital banking, cybersecurity, and cloud services conferences, as well as the digital finance high-ranking officials' meeting and the Huawei digital finance 2025 conference held in China from 15 to 19 September.

The meetings discussed the foreign exchange management and regulatory policies of the People's Bank of China, clarifications on cross-border payments involving China's currency, the renminbi (RMB), at the international level, plans to implement the Chinese yuan in digital currency form under the leadership of the People's Bank of China to meet the public's demand for secure and reliable digital money in line with the development of the digital economy and challenges arising from the use of cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin, including weakness in reliability in currency and fluctuations in exchange rates.

The Bank of China (BOC) and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of Chi-



Central Bank of Myanmar Governor Daw Than Than Swe observes the function of the Huawei Global Cyber Security Transparency Centre.

na (ICBC) discussed regarding their provision of financial services in China's banking sector, including retail banking, corporate banking, financial market services, and international banking services, China's Cross-border Interbank Payment System (CIPS), emphasizing the participation of Myanmar banks in CIPS could

enhance banking and financial services between the two countries and facilitate trade, investment, and cross-border payment transactions.

The delegation also attended the digital finance senior officials' meeting of Huawei company that mainly provides IT Solution products and IT Infrastructure

services to Myanmar's banking sector, held in Shenzhen and Shanghai and the discussions focused on the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology in various sectors, including government, finance, telecommunications, transportation, energy and electricity, healthcare, and public services.

The attendees discussed AI technology applications in the banking sector in customer service provision, risk management processes such as credit assessment, fraud prevention, and transaction monitoring, the necessity of AI adoption in Myanmar's banking sector, the control processes for the reduction of risks associated with cloud computing utilization in banking operations, inspections on products of Huawei at Huawei's Global Cyber Security Transparency Centre by the world organizations, best practices for third party testing and Internet of Things (IoT) system implementation.

The delegates exchange views and experiences on the use of AI in smart banking and digital banking in China through the collaboration of BOC, ICBC and Huawei. — MNA/KTZH

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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)



76th PRC anniversary and 75 years of China-Myanmar
diplomatic ties commemorated

THE concert marking the 76th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) and the 75th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Myanmar and China took place at the National Theatre in Yangon yesterday.

Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn and his wife, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture U Tin Oo Lwin and his wife, Union Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw Sein, relevant officials, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Ma Jia, partner organizations, Chinese Wu Opera members and invitees.

The artistes of the Department of Fine Arts under the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture performed the episode of Ramayana - Prince Rama chasing a golden deer.

The Chinese Ambassador made a greeting speech.

Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn then said today, just as countries have been promoting and showcasing their national symbols and cultural images through ‘cultural diplomacy’ as a form of soft power, Myanmar has also been presenting and highlighting its traditional culture



Union Ministers U Maung Maung Ohn, U Tin Oo Lwin and Dr Chaw Chaw Sein and dignitaries view the performance of the Zhejiang Wu Opera Troupe yesterday.



and characteristic traits.

Almost every country in the world are presenting their cultural diplomacy in their own ways to promote friendship between countries and to make its unique cultural traits respected by others. It can also be seen that these days, soft power has become stronger and more effective than hard power. Moreover, the ‘Wu Opera’, also known as ‘Jing Hua’, is the main traditional opera of Zhejiang Province in eastern China and has a history of over 500 years. This year, the Wu Opera troupe

performed in Germany, Spain, and Andorra. Myanmar audiences are very proud and delighted to have the opportunity to watch the performances of this famous Wu Opera troupe.

Similarly, the Myanmar artistes performed the main episodes of the Ramayana Jataka’s ‘Rama Thamin Lait’ (Prince Rama chasing deer) and ‘Dattha Pan Site Khan’ (Demon King planting flowers), and such actions are a chance to exchange culture between the two countries. Such cultural exchanges and mutual learning between

China and Myanmar help to deepen friendship and understanding between the people of both countries and can also strengthen relations at the national level. The Union minister also called for continuously preserving and promoting the cultural ties between the two countries across all sectors.

The Chinese performers performed the Wu Opera, which is known as “Jing Hua”. Union Minister U Tin Oo Lwin presented flower bouquets and gifts to Chinese artistes.

Chinese Ambassador Ms Ma

Jia presented the bouquets to Myanmar artistes.

The Union ministers and the Chinese ambassador posed for the documentary photo together with the artistes.

The Zhejiang Wu Opera Troupe, the Wu Opera Research Institute of Zhejiang Province, will continue to perform for the audiences at the National Theatre in Yangon at 3 pm on 21 September (today). The opera troupe has staged over 200 performances in 26 countries, and this is their first-ever performance in Myanmar. — MNA/KTZH

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise



NATIONAL

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Statement 11/2025

1. The United Nations was established to safeguard and promote global peace and security free from the perils of World Wars and conflicts that had brought immense suffering to humankind. In order to ensure that efforts for peace would be more effective and successful, 21 September 1981 was designated as the International Day of Peace.

2. Peace is a fundamental necessity for all of humanity to live in safety and security. As stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, peace is the foundation for everyone. Likewise, the United Nations Declaration on the Right to Peace (2016) affirms that peace is indispensable for the full enjoyment of all human rights. Furthermore, all nations are giving special attention and efforts to “The promotion of peace and justice” as outlined in the UN Sustainable Development Goal 16.
3. It is heartening to learn that Myanmar is preparing to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), which is a historic milestone in the efforts to achieve a lasting and sustainable peace based on justice.

4. The theme for the International Day of Peace 2025 is “Act Now for a Peaceful World.” As all citizens long for peace, every individual is also urged to contribute responsibly and conscientiously in their respective capacities, so that the right to peace may be fully enjoyed by all humanity. With this call to collective action from today onwards, we honour the International Day of Peace.
- Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
21 September 2025

Weekly Roundup

15 September Myanmar and Guangxi to promote trade and investment

Prime Minister U Nyo Saw, who was currently in Nanning of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China to attend the 22nd China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) and the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit, received Mr Chen Gang, Secretary of the CPC Committee of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, at Liyuan State Guesthouse in Nanning, China.

List of Hluttaw constituencies not to hold elections announced

The Union Election Commission issued announcement 103/2025 that elections will not be held in the following constituencies: 56 constituencies of the Pyithu Hluttaw constituencies, nine First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) constituencies of the Amyotha Hluttaw, and 56 FPTP constituencies of the Region or State Hluttaw. These constituencies have been deemed not conducive to holding free and fair elections in the multiparty democratic general election scheduled for 28 December 2025, in accordance with Section 10 (f) of the Union Election Commission Law.

Deadlines for submission, scrutiny and withdrawal of Hluttaw candidate lists amended

The Union Election Commission, exercising authority entrusted under Rule 16 of the Relevant Hluttaw Election Rules, issued announcement 104/2025, on the designated dates for submission, scrutiny and withdrawal of Hluttaw candidate lists for relevant Hluttaws under the notification 57/2025 dated 20-8-2025.

16 September PM U Nyo Saw visits Liuzhou Industrial Museum, Wuling auto factory

Prime Minister U Nyo Saw, accompanied by Union Ministers Dr Charlie Than and U Chit Swe, Myanmar Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China U Tin Maung Swe, Chinese Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ms Ma Jia, and officials, visited the Liuzhou Industrial Museum and the Wuling auto factory of SAIC GM-Wuling Auto Co Ltd in Liuzhou.

Early Voting Guide for Voters Away From Home

The Union Election Commission stated that the relevant subcommissions and leaders should work together for the eligible voters for early votes from schools, trainings, detention camps and hospitals outside the listed townships and the temporarily displaced people not to lose their chance to cast votes.

17 September Trees planted for third time in Nay Pyi Taw

The third monsoon tree-growing ceremony of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory 2025 took place near

the precinct of Maravijaya Buddha Image in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, attended 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 led the ceremony by growing a neem sapling.

Myanmar and China to enhance trade and investment

Prime Minister U Nyo Saw held talks with Vice-President Mr Han Zheng of the People’s Republic of China at the Liyuan State Guesthouse in Nanning, China.

Myanmar opens investment opportunities for Chinese businesses

The Myanmar-China business matching took place at the Myanmar economic representative office in Nanning of the People’s Republic of China yesterday afternoon, with an address by Prime Minister U Nyo Saw.

Applications for Election Observation Permits announced

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.

18 September China, ASEAN to boost trade and economic ties

An inauguration ceremony of the 22nd China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) and the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit took place at the Nanning International Convention Centre in Nanning, and Prime Minister U Nyo Saw delivered a speech on the occasion.

China, ASEAN launch business leaders forum

A ceremony to open the China-ASEAN Business Leaders Forum in line with the theme: Connecting ASEAN through AI for Innovation of Digitalization and sharing the Future of Development was held at the Grand Metropark Hotel in Nanning, China, and Prime Minister U Nyo Saw delivered a speech at the opening ceremony.

NDSC appoints Supreme Court judges

The National Defence and Security Council has appointed and assigned U Win Myint, Daw Soe Khet Khet and Daw Thin Thin Cho to the duties of Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union under Subsection (b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and allowed U Nyo Tun to

retire from the duties of Judge of Yangon Region High Court.

19 September Value-added products drive regional development

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, met departmental officials and town elders at the city hall of Dawei in Taninthayi Region to talk about regional development undertakings.

City Hall inaugurated, outstanding students honoured in Dawei

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, attended the opening of the city hall in Dawei of Taninthayi Region and the ceremony to honour student Ma Myat Yadana Thin, who passed the matric exam with six distinctions.

Prime Minister arrives back in Nay Pyi Taw from China

The Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister U Nyo Saw, who attended the 22nd China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) and the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit held in Nanning of the People’s Republic of China, left Nanning by the special aircraft for Nay Pyi Taw. In the afternoon, the Prime Minister and party arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw. They were welcomed back at the Nay Pyi Taw Tatmadaw Airport by members of the State Security and Peace Commission and Executive Chief U Aung Lin Dwe, Union ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and officials.

20 September Education sector builds secure future for nation

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, met departmental officials and town elders at Pearl Yadana Hall in Myeik of Taninthayi Region to talk about regional development undertakings.

Peace, security and stability key to successful election

Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, inspected local security measures in the area of the Coastal Region Command and met families of the station.

— GNLM/TTA

Discipline means encouraging performance of rightful actions and prohibiting inappropriate ones

❖ Discipline means encouraging the performance of appropriate and rightful actions while prohibiting actions that are inappropriate or unacceptable.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on his inspection tour of the local training depot in Taungnyo Station on 22 January 2025)

Bidding opens for high-end Thumingala Market rental in PyinOoLwin

THE PyinOoLwin Township Development Committee will rent out the high-end Thumingala Market (Nyantaw market) in Ward 2, PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Region, under a tender system.

The well-functioning market include five places for banks, 17 shops for brands, 26 spots for fresh meat and green groceries with cold facilities, three places for restaurant, one place for super market on the ground floor; 50 spots for branded shops on the first floor; 15 restaurants and snack shops and 85 spots for other shops on the fourth floor; fifth floor and roof top, one place (Wedding Hall) for wedding reception and events with seating capacity for 300 persons on the fifth floor and shops on

the rooftop.

Moreover, the book encompasses underground parking for cars and bikes, three signboards for AD outside of the market, five signboards for the view of Mandalay-Lashio Road, 10 for ring roads, seven for Thumingala Road, and one LED 28 feet by 165 feet signboard.

Tender form will be sold between 19 September and 10 October 2025 (from 9 am to 5 pm). Individuals or a group can submit a tender.

Interested entities can observe the conditions of the shop at the market. They can also enquire about details through the contact number of the committee at 09 5037699. — NN/KK



This image displays the poster for the Thumingalar Market.

DTVET opens applications for rice processing technology courses

THE Department of Technical and Vocational Education and Training under the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) will offer Rice Processing Technology training as a Public-Private Partnership. Fully-funded training (Certificate and Higher Certificate in Rice Processing Technology) will be conducted through practical and theoretical approaches, in collaboration with the School of Industrial and Training Education and MRF.

This course is tailored to those who attended GTHS, AGTI, those with industrial ex-

perience in rice milling businesses, and those who have worked in factories. Trainees will be selected via the entry interview.

The course will take three to four months. Trainees will be provided with accommodation and food. This free-of-charge course is employment-guaranteed training at rice mills and companies upon completion. Only those trainees who meet the credit hours will receive a certificate and a higher certificate.

Those interested need to submit necessary documents (citizenship scrutiny card,

household registration card, ward administrator's verification, police clearance certificate, education certificate and recommendation letter from rice mills, factory and companies) between 22 September and 10 October 2025. The Application form can be downloaded via www.myanmarricefederation.org.

They can enquire about details through the SITE located at 1st Natmauk Street, Bahan Township, Yangon, at 09 268237552 and MRF located at UMFCIT Tower, Lanmadaw Township, at 01 218266-68 and 01 2301128/29. — NN/KK

CBM injects CNY758K, US\$500K into financial market

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) pumped 758,400 yuan and over US\$500,000 into the financial market on 19 September.

Those US dollar injections went to edible oil-importing companies (over \$368,100), fuel oil-importing companies (over \$79,000) and those who made non-trade payments (over \$58,000).

CBM sold over \$1.15 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$540,056 to fuel oil-importing companies on 18 September.

CBM sold over \$1.15 million to edible oil-importing companies on 17 September.

CBM announced on 16

September that it would pump \$25 million into the fuel oil import sector.

In addition to the injection of \$100,000 and over 566,400 yuan on that day, CBM sold over \$1.6 million to edible oil-importing companies, \$437,000 to fuel oil-importing companies and over \$140,300 to those who made non-trade payments.

CBM sold \$1.25 million to edible oil-importing companies on 15 September after sales of \$1,488 to CMP companies.

CBM sold over \$1 million, 11 million yuan and four million baht in August. Furthermore, CBM also pumped over \$32 million, purchased from the

companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis, into the financial market. 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

Act now for a peaceful society

IF ANYONE is in fear of everything, they will not have a safe and sound place and situation. Consequently, everything will not be safe and secure. If so, suspicion, hate, hostility, grudge, conflicts, enemies, fighting, wars, and so on will influence society. If so, can everyone accept such a situation?

Negotiation plays a key role in easing the suspicion, hate, hostility, grudge, conflicts, fighting and wars, and reconciliation is as well. The capability of those who are taking a leadership role in negotiation as well as reconciliation activities is very important. In order to restore durable peace, the most capable persons have to thoroughly lead the process. Those genuine leaders should not emphasize selfishness but sacrifice their lives and

interests for the sake of the nation and all nationalities.

Generally, everyone aspires to the restoration of peace in society. In this regard, those wishing to disrupt the peace process should be identified as perpetrators to hinder the peace process. In a time of turbulence, tumult, and uncertainty, it is critical for everyone to take concrete action to mobilize for peace.

For the International Day of Peace, the United Nations stated, “From peacekeepers on the front lines of conflict, to community members, to students in classrooms around the world, everyone has a role to play. We must speak up against violence, hate, discrimination, and inequality; practise respect; and embrace the diversity of our world.”

Recently, the government stated extending further invitations to the peace process through different forms of State media. The government invited all armed groups, including the PDF, to return to the legal fold with the expectation of building a Union based on democracy and federalism.

The statement said that armed groups, including PDFs, are once again invited to cooperate with the government and Tatmadaw if they wish to contribute to the upcoming general election and help build a genuine, disciplined democracy and a Union based on democracy and a federal system, which everyone hopes for.

If they all work together in building the Union based on democracy and federalism, the entire nation will be peaceful, stable and prosperous due to the fact that no one would strictly grasp pessimistic attitudes and opinions. Without even intention in activities, they will all keep peace in mind in the working process. If so, all communities of Myanmar are sure to enjoy the fruits of peace in the future. So, everyone has to march forward in the peace process.



Book Title - Kaung Kin Yae Phatsar Hnint Khan Sar Hmu Album
Writer - Maung Myint Aung
Publishing House - Kanote Pann
Publication Date - August 2025 (1st Edition)
Price - K4,000

Kaung Kin Yae Phat Sar Hnint Khan Sar Hmu Album

MAUNG Myint Aung is a writer who has been active in the literary field for a long time, consistently producing short stories. He writes not only under the name Maung Myint Aung but also as Maung Moe Oo, contributing essays and reflective pieces. The book ‘Kaung Kin Yae Phat Sar Hnint Khan Sar Hmu Album’ is a collection written with the name Maung Myint Aung, comprising 17 short stories.

The foreword of publisher Ko Oo Maung-Tekkatho (Kanote Pann Publishing House) reads, “In the fast-paced world of the 21st century, Maung Myint Aung’s short stories are remarkably relevant and effective. As a writer who has consistently paved new paths by creating excellent one-page short stories, the Kanote Pann Publishing House is proudly compiling and presenting this collection.”

The writer successively wrote one-page short stories in

the past, and the readers have to read these stories now. Regarding the one-page stories, the writer said, “A one-page story is such a kind of story that always wins the readers. Then, it must have a hidden plot. It must leave certain thinking. Writing a short story is like aiming at a target of a circle with the size of a bamboo tray, whereas writing a one-page story is like trying to hit a 0.5-inch spot. Just like a sharpshooter, the writer must not miss the target.”

Readers will see whether the writer’s words and actions match in this book. In the short story “Story and plot by mother,” the son went to bed later than his mother and younger sister, who were already sleeping in the mosquito net. Inside, he noticed something strange; his mother had lifted her Longyi up to her thighs. Thinking she might get mosquito bites, he gently spread a blanket over her legs. The mother

woke up and asked, “What are you doing, son?” He replied, “I saw your legs uncovered, so I covered them with the blanket.” But the mother pulled the blanket away and explained...since we entered, mosquitoes have been in the net. I didn’t want to use a candle to chase them because I was afraid of fire. If I covered your sister with a blanket, she would sweat too much. So, I lifted my Longyi, let the mosquitoes bite me instead.” Hearing this, the son was amazed and could only say, “Oh... Mother!”

In another story, “Kaung Pin Yae Phat Sar”, the character moves to the town to work, and only the mother and older sister remain in the village. At first, he could support his mother in the village, but after getting married, he could no longer help as he had before. When he had children and lived in a rented house, he could no longer fully support his moth-

er. The mother, however, waited eagerly for her son’s return to the village. So, he would occasionally go back to the village alone, which made the mother very happy. He brought some medicine and medical supplies for her. During the days he stayed, he would also bring her simple joys and comforts. The story ends like this... On the day I was about to leave, my mother came along with me to the ferry at the edge of the village. When I got on board, she said, “Wait a moment,” and went back into the village. Soon, she returned carrying a large black plastic bag and handed it to me. Inside were dried catfish. I refused, saying I couldn’t take it. But my mother insisted, “Take it, so I will feel good in my heart.” Though I didn’t want to accept it, I had to because dried catfish was very expensive. We bid farewell with our own tears. We waved. The boat and the bank were slowly getting farther away. Mother removed her headscarf and waved with her hand. On her face, I noticed something I had never expected. Instantly, I cried out loudly, “Mother!” But she could no longer hear. She kept drifting farther and farther away... Soon, even her figure was no longer clearly visible. I sat down with my legs and arms dropped and opened the large black bag my mother had given me. What I saw inside was not dried fish as I had thought, but instead the two empty ear holes of mother...



Book Title - ‘Udan Thit’ Short Stories Volume I
Authors - Various Authors
Publishing House - Udan Thit
Publication Date - July 2025 (1st Edition)
Price - K8,000

‘Udan Thit’ Short Stories Volume I

THE ‘Udan Thit’ Publishing House published a book titled ‘Udan Thit’ Short Stories Volume I. Those short stories are a must-read collection of short stories published in the ‘Udan Thit’ magazine, filled with fantasy, political ideas, adventure, fiction, nature, compassion and memoir. The design of the book was created by Artist Zaw Maung.

Some of the novels can make readers feel immersed in the story. Some embedded deeper meanings engage readers’ imagination and intellect, prompting them to brainstorm questions, judgements and connections about the story’s characters, plot, themes, predictions and hidden messages. This book embodies 11 short stories written by Moe Kyaw Zin, Than Myint Aung, Pangu Wah Wah, Aye Min Saw, Moe Han, Khin Hlaing Kyu, Ko Nyi, Yazanyein, Myat Thin, Nay Win Myint and Ye Shan.

Saya Mang Khaing Latt is the only one who left a monologue about this book. “Look at the lists of the writers. Isn’t it amazing? They are all outstanding writers of compelling short stories. The different writing style, tones and mood of the story can be observed. Rather than a literary piece of policies and suffix “-ism”, denoting philosophy and theory, they mostly incline towards tangible positive outcomes. Lee Kuan Yew’s speech came to my mind that “I was never a prisoner of any theory”.

The issues of the ‘Udan Thit’ Magazine were forced to stop under some circumstances. Nonetheless, short stories, essays and a collection of short stories are still published. Yet, they struggle to attract readers among a vast range of other fiction books. I would like to show my appreciation to the writers for their inherent passion and

the publishing house, even if that kind of book does not appeal to a broader market.

Saya Moe Kyaw Zin’s novel titled “Kids Wandering the Market Street” sheds light on the surroundings of the bazaar; the invisible life of street children and their golden dream, sparking empathy. Sayama Than Myint Aung’s “Destiny” novel is based on the attachment of a grandmother living in Twilight Villa, the Myanmar Centre for the Aged. The story highlighted the compassionate hearts and caring hands of the nurses and the attachment of Grandma Daw Tin Tin under themes of memory and longing.

Saya Aye Min Saw’s old diary is a throwback to the early days of memories of a father, feeling nostalgia. Sayama Khin Hlaing Kyu’s Last-Minute Call on heartbreaking and sorrowful recollection of the deceased husband. Saya Myat Thin is excellent at writing short stories to captivate readers. His


fantasy story titled A Country in the Ear illustrates background scenic views, adorable moments of animals by travelling time and transporting to a fantasy world.

National Literary Awardee writer Nay Win Myint wrote a story about a snake charmer, magician and rural people’s honesty, integrity and charity. A boy named Awtoo followed a magic show touring in different cities and returned to the village only after he had two sons, pointing out the nature of life.

Moreover, different writing patterns of Sayama Pann Ngu Wah Wah, Moe Han, Ko Nyi and Yanza Nyein are also enchanting. Saya Maung Khaing Latt, in the preface, noted how writers craft masterpieces with concise, precise and logical sentences. He applied the metaphor that he would shiver and have a high temperature from astonishment.

Saya Soe Bar Daing, who is a literary critic, mentioned that those literary collections are insightful and satisfying. Fans of Udan Thit Magazine’s short stories will feel elated over the book. The stories will touch their soul and provide a perfect reading experience in one sitting. He also expressed his regards to the publishing house.


“Like acid is used in testing gold, readers will decide whether it is worth reading or not,” Ye Shan remarked.



Character

By Mya Thae (Research)

Some wealthy persons’ character is worse. They are selfish and carry out many faults. Some poor persons’ character is better. They can earn a little money and can stay forever. Poverty and wealth are not a concern for human lives. Good character is the most essential for the cycle of life.



Together Against Human Trafficking

By Min Zan

On every thirteenth of September bright,
We raise our voices for justice and right.
Together we stand, both near and far,
To end the trade that leaves its scar.
The helpless are trapped by poverty’s chain,
By lies and deceit, by hunger and pain.
We vow to protect, to shelter, to care,
And show the victims the love we share.
Let nations unite, let wisdom ring,
With law and with truth, an end we bring.
For freedom is priceless, none should be sold,
A future of dignity must unfold.

(Dedicating to the global fight for freedom and dignity)

Awareness given by the summer

By Maung Swan Yi (Translated by Myint Zan)

before I was born
in the days of yore
this banyan tree
as always
old leaves are discarded
new leaves sprout
in summer it gets old
in summer it also renews itself
they say
'tis been the case for
forty, fifty years

after i am dead
this brownish banyan
wet and dried (alternately)
like this summer

will shed (its leaves)
sprouting new leaves

a tree that sheds its leaves
also renew itself with new leaves
the evergreen tree
when summer comes
will remain and continue to be
green:
if ye want to have evergreen
(habitat)
plants and cultivates green trees

Composed on 3 April 1969
Translated on 19 September 2025

Translator’s note: Poet Maung Swan Yi (born 17 February 1937) composed this poem over 56 years ago. It displays the perennial nature of change and renewal, and also has the theme of environmental protection.



နွေကပေးတဲ့ အသံ

ငါ မမွေးခင်၊ ရှေးယခင် က
ဒီပင်ညောင်ညို၊ ဒီလိုနဲ့ပဲ
ရွက်ဟောင်းလဲကာ၊ ရွက်သစ်ကာနဲ့
နွေမှာဟောင်းပြီး၊ နွေမှာသစ်
နှစ်လေးငါးဆယ် ကြာပြီတဲ့။

ငါသေတဲ့နောက်၊ အခြောက်အစို
ဒီညောင်ညိုကြီး၊ ဒီလိုနွေမှာ
ဒီလိုကြွေပြီး

ဒီလိုဝေလိမ့် နောက်ရွက်သစ်။
ရွက်ကြွေပင်ဟာ၊ ရွက်လဲတာပဲ
အမြဲစိမ်းပင်၊ နွေကိုဝင်လည်း
စိမ်းမြဲစိမ်းလိမ့်
အမြဲစိမ်းချင် အမြဲစိမ်းပင် စိုက်
ကြကုန်။

“ မောင်စွမ်းရည်
၇ ဇွလီလ ၁၉၆၉ ခုနှစ်

NATIONAL

Entertainment



Aung Kyi Nyunt (Tekkatho)
ON 18 September, a ceremony to honour Sayagyi Aung Kyi Nyunt, patron of the South Okkalapa Township Writers' Association, for receiving the Pakokku U Ohn Pe Literary Award, and a ceremony to provide stationery and donate Waso robes were organized at the office of the association in South Okkalapa Township. Saya Aung Kyi Nyunt (Tekkatho) received the first prize for research with 'Study and Presentation of the History of Myanmar's Efforts in Public Education'.

Phoe Chit
THE fourth respect-paying ceremony for aged theatrical performers was organized on 18 September under the lead of theatrical performer Phoe Chit, who is also the Myanmar Theatrical Association (Central) chairman. The-



atrical actor U Moe Di said, "Ko Phoe Chit is one of the most successful chairs I have ever met. He can accomplish things that others can't. Whether in social activities or in developing traditional performance arts, he has made great progress. Now, not only has he managed to build the Mindhamma Thabin office, but

he is also implementing plans to establish a Thanbin Village, where thespian performers will soon be able to live".

Aye Wuttyi Thaung
ON 18 September, actress Aye Wuttyi Thaung wrote a post, "Don't spend today forgetting about what might happen to you tomorrow. If you get the chance to create the life you want, flowers will bloom easily." She posted it alongside a poster for the 'Naychi Phya Ywe Lin Say Thar' film. The actress took the main lead in that film.



Cherry Thin
VOCALIST Cherry Thin grabbed the applause of audiences with 'Hsaung Win Tot Mel' and 'Bama Ma Lay Par Shint' songs. Her upcoming new song will feature the natural living style of an elderly Myanmar grandma smoking a cheroot. The song was composed by Htet Shan Hmue, the music by Mikhel Shine, and the director is Ko Pandita. It is not a romantic song but depicts Myanmar culture, said Cherry Thin.

Composer Aung Naing San

PUBLIC criticism is on the rise currently regarding singing contests. Composer Saya Aung Naing San said, "As a judge, one of the most memorable competitions I recall is the Karaoke World Championship (KWC). Both the Starlets' Sky and KWC were contests where the judges' decisions were fully respected and given complete authority. I feel fortunate that there were no events where I had to endure harsh criticism or mocking from the audience. Among the milestones in my career, they stand out as wonderful and meaningful memories that I truly appreciate".



Min Taw Win
ACTOR Min Taw Win stars in the movie 'Yinn', which is a crime, drama and suspense category, produced by Zabumin Entertainment. The story and script were by Maung Thitsa and Yan Naing Tun. The director is Ye Yint Thitsa, and the cast are Min Taw Win, Min Bhone Myat, Kyaw Zin Min Myat, Hsu Htet Htet Kyaw, Ohmyat Khin and other artistes.



Two rockers to host Rock Night music concert

VOCALISTS Y Wine and Myo Gyi will host a Rock Night music concert at the Judson Entertainment Bar in Mingala Taungnyunt Township in Yangon, according to Myo Gyi.

"On 6 October, on the full moon day of Thad-

ingyut, I will be at the Judson Entertainment Bar with Y Wine. Just like Rock Night, we will sing Rock songs, and so Rock lovers should not miss it," he said. The Rock Night music concert will begin at 6 pm with Judson Band. — ASH/KTZH



NATIONAL

MoE Deputy Minister attends Intl Conclave 2025 in India



Deputy Minister Dr Zaw Myint speaks at the International Conclave on Transformative Higher Education and Enhancing Student and Faculty Mobility Programme, in Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India.

DEPUTY Minister for Education Dr Zaw Myint led the Myanmar delegation to the International Conclave 2025, a two-day event focused on transformative higher education and enhancing student and faculty mobility, held at the Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) in Vellore, Tamil Nadu, India, from 18 to 19 September.

At the opening ceremony on the morning of 18 September, the deputy minister noted that the high-quality teaching methods, research, and innovations of the Vellore Institute of Technology, which currently enrolls 47,000 students across five campuses, serve as a strong inspiration for the development of Myanmar's higher education sector. He added that the sector can be further

improved by integrating AI technology into teaching, learning, and student projects, in line with the Head of State's guidance to expand the use of AI.

The conference was attended by nearly 150 delegates from 27 countries and addressed a range of higher education topics. To commemorate the 40th anniversary of VIT, the deputy minister also planted a tree.

On 19 September, the deputy minister and his delegation visited VIT's research laboratories, classrooms, library, and high-rise student dormitories. They then met with university officials to discuss the possibility of awarding scholarships for Myanmar universities to participate in VIT's doctoral programmes. — MNA/MKKS

Counter-argument to false information

Reports on Pyay Prison inmates' foul water denied

THE Myanmar Pressphoto Agency has falsely alleged that inmates in the Pyay Prison were forced to drink foul-smelling water.

In reality, the water purifier at the Pyay Prison was constructed and put into use in 2014. It has been inspected annually by qualified technicians, with necessary repairs carried out, most recently on 19 January 2025. Laboratory tests confirmed that the purified water from the plant has a pH value of 7.5. The purified water is supplied in sufficient quantity for daily use by both inmates and staff families.

The report also claimed that inmates developed skin diseases from wearing damp clothing. In fact, inmates' clothes are issued in accordance with prison laws and regulations, and drying racks are provided in each dormitory.

A prison doctor conducts daily health checks on inmates and provides necessary medical care. To maintain hygiene in bathing ponds, Abate powder is applied regularly, and the Ministry of Health cooperates in spraying insecticide in dormitories to prevent mosquito and fly breeding.

The prison administration has given priority to the health of inmates, with systematic supervision by the prison warden and additional oversight by the head of Bago Region Prison Department. Measures for healthcare, food, accommodation, and essential needs are provided in line with laws and procedures. Therefore, the claims made by the Myanmar Pressphoto Agency were aimed at misleading the public and damaging the reputation of prison staff. — Thitsar/KZL

14th free eyesight donation: 2,076 receive eye exams at Sitagu Cakkhu Dana Hospital



Patients at the Sitagu Cakkhu Dana Hospital's 14th free eyesight donation.

DURING the 14th free eyesight donation, Sitagu Cakkhu Dana Hospital provided medical examination for 2,076 people in three days from 17 to 19 September.

The hospital provided medical examination for 687 people

on the first day, 605 people on the second day and 784 people on the third day; of them, 155 people could restore their eyesight with the help of free surgery in two days, said the hospital. For now, medical examination for outpatients has ended, and 471 are left to undergo surgery and laser treatment, it added.

In the previous round, there were some people who allegedly received the free medical service without registering. So, this time, the hospital will ensure its medical treatment for registered patients by giving tokens.

Those who remained unregistered can participate in the next 15th round, it said. — MT/ZS

'Doe' music video premieres

SINGER Shwe Htoo and actress Shwe Hmone Yati released an MV for "Doe" on 19 September, according to singer Shwe Htoo.

The MV was released to celebrate singer Shwe Htoo's birthday and was performed by singer Shwe Htoo and actress Shwe Hmone Yati.

"On 19 September, I gave a new MV as my birthday present with my beloved wife, Shwe Hmone Yati. Please listen to it and support me," said singer Shwe Htoo.

The song "Changed," sung by singer Shwe Htoo and actress Shwe Hmone Yati, has also been released. The MV

of the song "Moe Set Myaka Pyaw Thaw Tha Chin" has also been released, and the MVs of the songs of the singer Shwe Htoo, "Fish", "Toxic", "Char Teik", "Ley Ha Nel", and "Naung Ta", have also been released continuously during this year. — ASH/MKKS

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ECONOMY WORLD

China-Malaysia “Air Silk Road” partnership strengthens regional integration

The partnership aims to boost cargo connectivity across Asia and strengthen regional hubs.



Kuala Lumpur International Airport is Malaysia's main international gateway and one of the busiest airports in Southeast Asia. **PHOTO: ASEAN.BERNAMA.COM**

EFFORTS to integrate China and countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have received a boost through a strategic air cargo partnership between Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) and Zhengzhou Xinzheng International Airport (CGO).

The partnership is designed to expand cargo connectivity across Asia, positioning KLIA and CGO as leading regional hubs while creating new opportunities to accelerate regional economic growth under the Belt and Road Initiative's 'Air Silk Road', participants at the Zhengzhou-Kuala Lumpur "Air Silk Road" Forum for International

Cooperation said on Thursday.

In his keynote speech at the forum, Malaysian Transport Minister Anthony Loke Siew Fook explained that linking Zhengzhou, one of central China's fastest-growing logistics centres, with KLIA, a gateway to ASEAN, will unlock opportunities in high-value sectors such as e-commerce, electronics, pharmaceuticals, and fresh produce.

Through this initiative, KLIA is set to strengthen its position as a central cargo hub in Southeast Asia. Investments in infrastructure, digital logistics, and streamlined customs will enable faster access to key markets, he said. — Xinhua

Trump hits H-1B visas, a tech industry favorite, with \$100,000 fee

US President Donald Trump on Friday ordered an annual \$100,000 fee be added to H-1B skilled worker visas, creating potentially major repercussions for the tech industry where such permits are prolific.

The new measure, which could likely face legal challenges, was announced alongside the introduction of a \$1 million "gold card" residency programme that Trump had previewed months earlier.

"The main thing is, we're going to have great people com-

ing in, and they're going to be paying," Trump told reporters as he signed the orders in the Oval Office.

H-1B visas allow companies to sponsor foreign workers with specialized skills — such as scientists, engineers, and computer programmers — to work in the United States, initially for three years, but extendable to six years.

The United States awards 85,000 H-1B visas per year on a lottery system, with India accounting for around three-quarters of the recipients. — AFP

Farm minister Koizumi joins LDP leadership race, focuses on Japan economy

FARM minister Shinjiro Koizumi said Saturday he will run in the presidential election of the Liberal Democratic Party next month, pledging to boost Japan's economy and revitalize the ruling party after its poor performance in recent national elections.

The 44-year-old son of former Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said he is willing to expand the current ruling bloc, while promising to deal with perceived issues related to foreign tourists and residents.

Koizumi became the fifth, and likely final, LDP lawmaker to officially announce their candidacy for the party's leadership election on Oct. 4, in which the successor to outgoing Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba will be chosen. Campaigning will start on Monday. — Kyodo



Japanese farm minister Shinjiro Koizumi formally announces his candidacy for the Liberal Democratic Party leadership at a press conference in Tokyo on 20 September 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Pentagon scraps \$86.1 bln Sentinel ICBM procurement from 2026 budget

THE Pentagon removed the previously projected \$86.1 billion for Sentinel Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) programme's total procurement from its financial year 2026 budget, after a 2024 review triggered by excessive cost growth led to the programme's recertification, a Sputnik corre-

spondent's analysis of Pentagon budget documents revealed.

Last week, the US Air Force signalled it may need to extend the life of the Minuteman III missiles through 2050 to maintain a viable land-based deterrent until Sentinel is ready.

The pause in procurement reflects a restructuring of the

program following the January 2024 Nunn-McCurdy review, including a \$2.85 billion reduction in development funding, with procurement deferred until the Engineering and Manufacturing Development phase is completed and costs can be more accurately determined. — SPUTNIK



Demonstrators point to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers during a protest outside an ICE processing centre in Broadview, Illinois, on 19 September 2025. **PHOTO: OCTAVIO JONES / AFP**

Australian telco Optus condemned for emergency service failure linked to 3 deaths

AUSTRALIAN federal and state governments on Saturday condemned the country's second-largest telecommunications company Optus, after three people died during a network outage that affected emergency calls.

Stephen Rue, the chief executive officer of Optus, revealed at a snap press conference in Sydney on Friday night that three people died after about 600 customers were unable to make calls to Australia's emergency telephone number, triple-0, on Thursday.

Authorities on Saturday identified those who died as an eight-week-old baby and a 68-year-old woman from South Australia (SA) and a 74-year-old man from Western Australia (WA).

Only Optus customers in SA, WA and the Northern Territory (NT) were affected by the outage, which was caused by a technical fault during a network upgrade.

Australia's Minister for Communications Anika Wells said on Saturday that Optus had "let Australians down". — Xinhua

Porsche slows electric shift, prompting VW profit warning

GERMAN sports car maker Porsche said Friday that it would dramatically slow its shift to electric vehicles amid weak demand, prompting parent company Volkswagen to warn of a multibillion-euro hit.

It was the latest turmoil for 10-brand VW, Europe's biggest carmaker, which is struggling not only with a stuttering EV transition but also fierce competition and tariff onslaught. "We're realigning Porsche across the board,"

said CEO Oliver Blume, as the carmaker announced plans that amounted to a major rollback of its EV ambitions.

"In doing so, we want to meet new market realities and changing customer demands." Volkswagen said the changes to the sports car maker's EV plans and other charges would negatively impact the overall group's operating results by 5.1 billion euros (\$6 billion) in the 2025 financial year. — AFP



Porsche cited 'new market realities' as it scaled back its EV ambitions. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Sweden offers \$23B to finance nuclear power construction

SWEDEN'S government said Friday it was ready to offer up to 220 billion kronor (\$23.3 billion) in loans to utilities for the construction of new nuclear reactors as the Nordic country commits to developing more nuclear power.

The government in 2023 presented a roadmap to massively ramp up nuclear energy production in the country.

"We are facing a decisive moment for Sweden's energy. A secure supply of electricity is a fundamental function of society," Energy Minister Ebba Busch told a press conference.

In late August of this



Several new modular nuclear reactors are planned to be built at the Ringhals nuclear power plant in Varberg on the southeast coast of Sweden. **PHOTO: TT NEWS AGENCY/ AFP/FILE**

year, the country said it had selected modular nuclear reactors for its first nuclear power expansion

in 50 years.

Three or five of the next-generation reactors would be built at the

Ringhals plant in southwestern Sweden, providing around 1,500 megawatts — the equivalent of two classic reactors.

The Scandinavian country voted in a non-binding 1980 referendum to phase out nuclear power, and since then has shut down six of its 12 ageing reactors. On Friday, the government said it was proposing a budget framework for companies seeking government loans — which would be cheaper than loans secured through private financial institutions — to fund the construction of new nuclear power. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V OTANA BHUM VOY.NO. (234N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V OTANA BHUM VOY.NO. (234N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **21-9-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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 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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V HF SPIRIT VOY.NO. (2524S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V HF SPIRIT VOY.NO. (2524S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **21-9-2025** 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 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V SITC YUANMING VOY.NO. (2512S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC YUANMING VOY.NO. (2512S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **21-9-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (269N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (269N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **21-9-2025** 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 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST

SEPTEMBER 20

Afghan senior official slams Trump’s remarks on Bagram airbase

A senior Afghan official has slammed recent remarks of US President Donald Trump on recapturing Bagram airbase in postwar Afghanistan, saying Afghans never accept foreign military presence in their country, reported the state-run Radio and Television of Afghanistan (RTA) on Friday.

“Afghans have never accepted foreign military presence in their land throughout history. Afghanistan and America need engagement on economic and political relations based on bilateral respect and common interests,” the state-owned media outlet cited Jalali, a senior diplomat with the foreign ministry, as saying.

Trump, who has been criticizing his predecessor Joe Biden over giving up Bagram airbase during the US withdrawal in August 2021, told reporters in London on Thursday that “We want to retake it”. — Xinhua

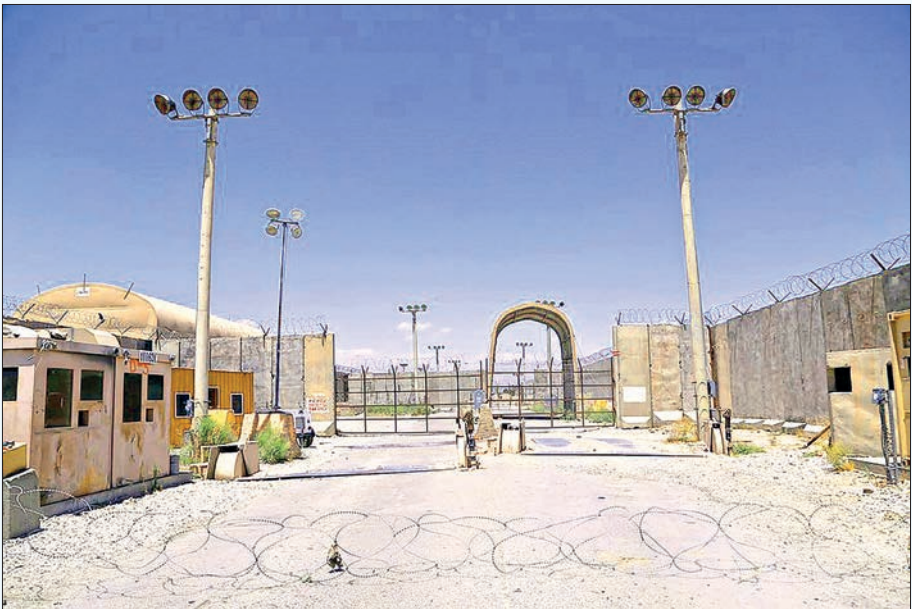


Photo taken on 2 July 2021, shows Bagram Airfield after all US and NATO forces evacuated in Parwan province, eastern Afghanistan.
PHOTO: SAYED MOMINZADAH/XINHUA/FILE

SEPTEMBER 19

Israel threatens “unprecedented force” in Gaza

The Israeli military warned on Friday it would operate with “unprecedented force” in Gaza City, telling residents to flee as it presses its ground offensive on the territory’s largest urban centre.

Israel has pummelled Gaza City with air strikes and tank fire in its bid to seize it, nearly two years into the war that has devastated the Palestinian territory and left Gaza City gripped by a UN-declared famine.

The assault comes ahead of a planned move by several Western governments, including Britain and France, to recognize a Palestinian state at a UN summit next week.

The military launched its ground assault on Tuesday and has for days been telling residents to head south. — AFP

SEPTEMBER 18

Mass rallies on day of anger against Macron

Hundreds of thousands of people protested across France on Thursday over President Emmanuel Macron’s planned austerity policies, disrupting much of the country’s public life.

Heeding a call from trade unions, protesters staged a day of actions that saw public transport stalled, schools closed and people taking to the streets for demonstrations marked by sporadic clashes with the police.

One trade union, the leftist CGT, said that more than a million people across the country had taken part in the demonstrations – higher than the 900,000 it says turned out for a June 2023 protest against the lifting of the retirement age to 64 from 62.

French authorities said more than 500,000 people had demonstrated in the country, including 55,000 in Paris. — AFP

SEPTEMBER 17

Burj Khalifa honours Modi’s 75th birthday

Dubai’s Burj Khalifa was illuminated with a celebratory LED display on 17 September to honour Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s 75th birthday.

The world’s tallest building featured the Indian flag’s tricolor and showcased multiple portraits of Modi, accompanied by messages like “Happy Birthday,” “75 Years,” and “Service is the Resolve”. The tribute, which was captured by Dubai residents and visitors, highlighted the strong diplomatic and cultural ties between India and the UAE.

The display coincided with an outpouring of birthday wishes for Modi from global leaders. Dignitaries who sent their greetings included UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, US President Donald Trump, Russian President Vladimir Putin, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Other well-wishers included European Commission Chief Ursula von der Leyen, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni. In response, Modi publicly expressed his gratitude to the leaders for their warm regards. — ANI

SEPTEMBER 16

Japan’s land prices soar

The average overall price of land in Japan as of July 1 rose 1.5 per cent from a year earlier, marking the sharpest growth since 1992, boosted by solid housing demand and inbound tourism, government data showed Tuesday.

The price climbed for the fourth straight year, also lifted by robust investment demand from overseas on the back of the weak yen. Commercial land prices gained 2.8 per cent with launches of new hotels and stores in urban areas amid a surge in foreign tourists.

“Investment demand from foreigners is growing for condominiums in central Tokyo and resort areas in Hokkaido” in northern Japan, said an official of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

Prices for residential land increased 1.0 per cent due to strong demand for residences in urban areas, as well as for employee dormitories in resort areas. However, some places experienced sluggish growth due to soaring construction costs. — Kyodo

SEPTEMBER 15

China, US hold constructive talks on trade, TikTok

The Chinese and US delegations engaged in candid, in-depth and constructive communication based on mutual respect and equal consultation regarding economic and trade issues of mutual concern, including TikTok, a senior Chinese official said here on Monday.

The two sides fully recognized that a stable China-US economic and trade relationship is of great significance to both countries and also has a major impact on global economic stability and development, said Li Chenggang, China international trade representative with the Ministry of Commerce and vice minister of commerce, at a briefing.

China urges US to respect core interests, avoid politicizing trade issues like TikTok, and resolve differences through dialogue and fairness. — Xinhua

SEPTEMBER 14

Tyler Robinson’s leftist ties spark controversy

Utah Governor Spencer Cox confirmed that Tyler Robinson, arrested for the assassination of conservative influencer Charlie Kirk, was romantically involved with a transgender roommate and held leftist beliefs. Robinson’s partner, a male transitioning to female, is cooperating with investigators and was unaware of the plot.

Cox emphasized it remains unclear if the partner’s transition influenced Robinson’s motives. The suspect, 22, is expected to be formally charged soon.

The revelation has intensified national debates, with far-right activists condemning transgender issues and leftist ideology.

Cox urged political civility and criticized social media platforms for fueling division, likening their algorithms to addictive and harmful substances.

This case highlights the deep political and social divisions in the US. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar to submit Chinlone sport to UNESCO in 2026



Myanmar youths are seen playing Chinlone in a traditional circular formation.

MYANMAR Traditional Chinlone (cane ball) sport will be submitted to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2026, according to U Win Tint, Vice-President of the Myanmar Chinlone Federation.

He remarked at the opening ceremony of the first Waso Chinlone Festival held at Mingala Taungnyunt Township Chinlone Hall in Yangon Region yesterday morning, organized by the Yangon Region Chinlone Subcommittee.

“We are preparing to submit Myanmar traditional Chinlone knowledge to UNESCO. We have started preparations now. We are also collecting evidence showing that Chinlone dates back to the 5th and 7th centuries. After compiling all of these, we will submit them with supporting documents,” he said.

If Myanmar’s traditional Chinlone sport is inscribed on UNESCO’s Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, the game will become more widely known around the world, leading to an increase in players and tournaments.

At the opening ceremony of the Waso Chinlone Festival, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and regional ministers cut the ceremonial ribbon and watched traditional Chinlone demonstrations. — Arkar Linn/KZL

Swiatek shrugs off double duty to reach Korea Open final

IGA Swiatek blazed into the Korea Open final after bad weather forced her to play two matches on Saturday, winning both in a combined time of two and a half hours.

The Polish six-time Grand Slam champion thrashed the Czech Republic’s Barbora Krejcekova 6-0, 6-3 in a quarter-final moved from Friday because of heavy rain, then returned to the court hours later to face Australia’s Maya Joint.

World number two Swiatek was just as clinical against her semifinal opponent, winning 6-0, 6-2 to move into her fifth final of the year. In Sunday’s final, she will face Russia’s Ekaterina Alexandrova, who beat Czech Republic’s Katerina Siniakova 6-4, 6-2 in the other semifinal.



Iga Swiatek reached the final of the Korea Open on Saturday: PHOTO: AFP

“I just focused on myself and on the goals that I had before and continued doing what I was doing throughout the whole tournament, because it’s been working,” said Swiatek.

Swiatek came into the Seoul tournament on the back of a stunning quarter-final defeat to eventual finalist Amanda Anisimova at the US Open. — AFP

Afghanistan claim big win in AFC Futsal Asian Cup Group H opener

AFGHANISTAN defeated the Maldives 10-1 on the opening day of Group H of the 2026 AFC Futsal Asian Cup qualifiers, held on 20 September at the MFF Futsal Stadium in the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre in Yangon.

With only three teams in Group H, the match between Afghanistan and the Maldives marked the start of the group fixtures. Afghanistan’s emphatic victory has put them in a strong position to qualify, as they dominated the game throughout. Group H features Myanmar, Afghanistan, and the Maldives. The second match of the group will see Myanmar face the Maldives on 22 September. Since the Maldives lost heavily in the opener, a commanding win for Myanmar would greatly enhance their chances of advancing.

The qualifiers are being contested in eight groups, with the top team from each group and



Afghanistan and the Maldives in action during the Group H opener. PHOTO: MFF

the seven best second-placed teams advancing to the final tournament, totalling 15 teams. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Liverpool beat Everton to maintain perfect Premier League start

Everton's English midfielder #18 Jack Grealish battles for the ball with Liverpool's Hungarian midfielder #08 Dominik Szoboszlai during the English Premier League football match between Liverpool and Everton at Anfield in Liverpool, north west England on 20 September 2025. PHOTO: DARREN STAPLES / AFP

LIVERPOOL stretched their perfect Premier League start to maintain their stranglehold of the Merseyside derby with a 2-1 win over Everton and open up a six-point lead at the top of the table.

Goals from Ryan Gravenberch and Hugo Ekitike were the defending champions' reward for a dominant first half and enough for a fifth consecutive Premier League win.

But Liverpool ran out of steam after the break and were left hanging on after Idrissa Gana Gueye fired Everton back into the contest.

Arne Slot's men had needed late goals to win all of their previous four Premier League games and Champions League opener against Atletico Madrid in midweek.

This time the Reds did the bulk of their good work inside

the first 30 minutes to leave Everton still without a win at Anfield in front of a crowd in the 21st century.

Slot left both his £100 million (\$135 million) plus signings Florian Wirtz and Alexander Isak on the bench, but Liverpool were all the better balanced for the return of Alexis MacAllister alongside Dominik Szoboszlai and the impressive Gravenberch in midfield. — AFP

Chebet completes golden double by winning women's 5,000m final at Tokyo worlds

KENYA'S Beatrice Chebet capped a golden double at the World Athletics Championships on Saturday, storming down the final straight to win the women's 5,000 metres.

The 25-year-old Olympic champion, who broke the world record earlier this year in Eugene with 13:58.06, added the 5,000m crown to her 10,000m title in 14:54.36. Her compatriot and defending champion Faith Kipyegon, already the 1,500m winner in Tokyo, settled for silver just 0.71 seconds behind.

Italy's Nadia Battocletti, the 2022 European champion, claimed bronze in 14:55.42. — Xinhua

Singapore tops global safety ranking for 12th time since 2006

Perceived safety was high across genders (98 per cent of men, 97 per cent of women).

Singapore has been ranked the safest country in the world for the 12th time since 2006, according to the Global Safety Report released Thursday by Gallup.

In 2024, 98 per cent of Singaporeans said they felt safe walking alone at night, one of the highest figures Gallup has recorded globally. The report highlighted Singapore's consistent performance in terms of the general sense of safety among its residents.

The survey also showed similar levels of perceived safety between genders: 98 per cent of men and 97 per cent of women reported feeling safe in 2024.

The report attributed the results to factors such as low crime rates, effective law enforcement, and strong public order. — Xinhua



The perception of safety was nearly identical across genders in 2024, with 98 per cent of men and 97 per cent of women reporting they felt safe walking alone at night. **PHOTO: XINHUA**



Some zebra stripes could help this cow fend off flies, according to Ig Nobel-winning research. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ REDDIT.COM**

Painting stripes on cows to lizards' pizza pick: Ig Nobel winners

Painting zebra stripes on cows reduces fly bites.

THE 35th Ig Nobel prizes celebrated quirky scientific achievements with winners announced at Boston University. Japanese researchers won the biology prize by showing that painting zebra stripes on cows reduces fly bites. The nutrition prize went to a team studying rainbow lizards in Togo, which prefer four-cheese pizza toppings.

A Dutch-German-UK group won the peace prize for finding that moderate alcohol consumption can improve foreign language pronunciation by boosting confidence. European scientists earned the physics prize for insights into preventing clumpy pasta sauce in cacio e pepe. The aviation prize was awarded to researchers who discovered that alcohol in fermented fruit impairs bats' flight and echolocation. The literature prize honoured William B Bean for meticulously recording his fingernail growth over 35 years. — AFP

Pet-friendly wines for cats, dogs take off in New Zealand

A non-alcoholic, pet-friendly "wine" for cats and dogs has been launched in New Zealand using catnip as a key ingredient to boost the moods of furry friends, with its maker keen on exporting it to countries including Japan.

Named after co-founder

New Zealand company creates non-alcoholic catnip "wine" for pets, planning Japan export.

John Roberts's beloved childhood pet, Muttley's Estate offers catnip-based wines with

playful names like "Sauvignon Bark" and "Purrno Noir" — that have been a hit with cats and dogs alike.

"Sometimes it's nice to just relax with your pet and have a glass of wine," Roberts, 32, told Kyodo News in a recent interview in Wellington.

Priced at NZ\$12.99 (\$7.61) for a 150-millilitre bottle, the wines are currently only for sale in New Zealand, but talks are under way to sell them in Australia and the United States, with Japan also "high on the list" of potential export destinations.

"Japan is definitely a place that we love and would like to try and bring the brand when it's ready," Roberts said, referring to his personal affinity for Japan, where he practiced Ashihara karate growing up and proposed to his wife. — Kyodo



Photo taken on 15 May 2024 shows a cat relaxing on the sofa with a glass of Muttley's Estate "Purrno Noir", a non-alcoholic catnip-based wine for pets. **PHOTO: KYODO**