

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.

Myanmar, Vietnam vow to further strengthen friendship and cooperation

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received a delegation led by Mr Chu Cong Phung, Chairman of the Vietnam-Myanmar Friendship Association, yesterday morning.

At the meeting, they cordially discussed political progress in Myanmar, preparations to hold a free and fair election, and the invitation extended to election observation teams from international communities.

They talked about the enhancement of friendly relations and promotion of cooperation between Myanmar and Vietnam, and aid provided by Vietnam for Myanmar in the aftermath of the devastating Mandalay earthquake.

Their discussions emphasized promotion of cooperation in agriculture and livestock, production and tourism industries, and plans to raise trade and investment between the two countries.

After the meeting, the Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Chairman of Vietnam-Myanmar Friendship Association exchanged commemorative gifts and had documentary photos taken. Also, present at the meeting together



Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Vietnam-Myanmar Friendship Association Chairman Mr Chu Cong Phung exchange commemorative gifts during the latter’s courtesy call on the former yesterday.

with the Senior General were Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Mya Tun Oo, and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ko Ko Kyaw. The Vietnam-Myanmar Friendship Association Chairman was accompanied by his delegation members. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL **PAGE 10**

Naungpain High School reopens in Kyaukme

BUSINESS **PAGE 11**

Macadamia cultivation expands across 12,000+ acres

Article

The Importance of Paragraph Writing in Academic Essays

By Junior Thin **PAGE 8-9**

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

2025

General Election

Sunday, 28 December 2025

72

Days

- 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.



2024 Population and Housing Census



- The 2024 Population and Housing Census was conducted nationwide starting on 1 October 2024.
- The Union Report of the 2024 Population and Housing Census will be released on 24 October 2025.
- To obtain statistical data, visit the Department of Population's website at www.dop.gov.mm.

Enquiries and Reports on Voter Registration Now Accepted

1. To facilitate enquiries and reports regarding voter registration, the Union Election Commission has established call centres staffed by officials from the Union Election Commission, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the General Administration Department, and the Ministry of Immigration and Population. These call centres enable voters to enquire about voter registration matters and report any difficulties they may encounter. Voters can contact the following call centre numbers during office hours: -

(a) Union Election Commission (Nay Pyi Taw)
(1) 067 3404302
(2) 067 3404303
(3) 067 3404304
(4) 09 252116996
(5) For text messages (SMS): 09 252116996

(b) Election Subcommission (Nay Pyi Taw Council)
(1) 067 417967
(2) 067 417963
(3) 067 881750256
(4) 09 5330130
(5) For text messages (SMS): 09 881750256

(c) Election Subcommission (Kachin State)
(1) 01 3331635
(2) 09 422544669
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 400021303

(d) Election Subcommission (Kayah State)
(1) 09 881446686
(2) 09 886834233
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 685636811
- (e) Election Subcommission (Kayin State)
(1) 058 21175
(2) 058 23432
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 778710146

(f) Election Subcommission (Chin State)
(1) 01 3336611
(2) 01 3336622
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 442993233

(g) Election Subcommission (Sagaing Region)
(1) 071 2032095
(2) 071 2032096
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 679779520

(h) Election Subcommission (Taninthayi Region)
(1) 059 2021211
(2) 059 2023525
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 40372990

(i) Election Subcommission (Bago Region)
(1) 052 2221268
(2) 052 2201991
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 251133187

(j) Election Subcommission (Magway Region)
(1) 063 2028889
(2) 063 2028890
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 5202659

(k) Election Subcommission (Mandalay Region)
(1) 02 4069042
(2) 02 4067344
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 36022777
- (l) Election Subcommission (Mon State)
(1) 057 2027256
(2) 057 2024391
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 400070903

(m) Election Subcommission (Rakhine State)
(1) 09 421742428
(2) 09 43094457
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 421715494

(n) Election Subcommission (Yangon Region)
(1) 01 2506293
(2) 01 2306250
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 441651416

(o) Election Subcommission (Shan State)
(1) 081 2124995
(2) 081 2124540
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 254101508

(p) Election Subcommission (Ayeyawady Region)
(1) 042 24616
(2) 042 23783
(3) For text messages (SMS): 09 695837030
2. Please note that any telephone numbers used for purposes other than enquiries or reporting, including nuisance calls, will be recorded and deactivated.
- Union Election Commission

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 State Security & Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses the meeting with Union ministers and chief ministers of regions and states yesterday.

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the meeting with union ministers and chief ministers of regions and states

1. Representatives in the election must be truly capable of working for the benefit of the nation.
2. A government is responsible for carrying out the improvement of the socioeconomy of the State, taking security measures, and earning respect and dignity for its country in the eyes of the international community.
3. Extended cultivation of crops, including industrial crops, will contribute to the development of industries as well as the improvement of manufacturing and service sectors.
4. Systematic management must also be carried out to prevent illegal logging, while efforts should be made to implement environmental conservation activities.

Strong governance earns people's trust

The current government must prioritize strengthening the national economy and advancing development initiatives as part of its preparations to ensure a smooth and sustainable transition for the forthcoming government.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing stressed that representatives in the election should be individuals who uphold the Our Three Main National Causes, possess sound political, security, economic, and administrative perspectives, and are truly capable of working for the benefit of the nation. Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a

speech at the meeting with Union ministers and chief ministers of regions and states yesterday afternoon. In his speech, he said that the current government must emphasize promotion of the State economy and development undertakings as preparations for the forthcoming government. He continued that representatives in the election should be individuals who uphold the Our Three Main National Causes, possess sound political, security, econom-

ic, and administrative perspectives, and are truly capable of working for the benefit of the nation. He stressed that a government is responsible for carrying out the improvement of the socioeconomy of the State, taking security measures, and earning respect and dignity for its country in the eyes of the international community. If so, it will be a strong government which can win the trust of the people.

SEE PAGE 4

NATIONAL

Strong governance earns people's trust

FROM PAGE 3

The Senior General noted that the extended cultivation of crops, including industrial crops, will contribute to the development of industries as well as the improvement of manufacturing and service sectors.

He underscored that the government allows farmers to expand the sown acreage of sunflower and coffee to ensure the sufficiency of cooking oil at home and to produce a larger volume of coffee.

He emphasized that integrating beekeeping activities with agricultural operations will lead to greater benefits and development.

He underlined that, as the government has allowed farmers to grow Robusta coffee across the nation, farmers need to cultivate coffee on croplands at full capacity.

With regard to industrial crops, he highlighted that cotton is planted on some 500,000 acres of croplands in Magway, Mandalay, Sagaing and Bago regions. If the cotton cultivation meets the tar-

get production, it will greatly benefit the State. Hence, region and state chief ministers have to emphasize agricultural tasks for the economic development of their regions.

He pointed out that livestock activities must be raised step by step to ensure food security in relevant regions, depending on the population.

The Senior General urged the people to operate in the livestock sector to have sufficient eggs, livestock and fish. The national objectives of the government are to ensure the prosperity of the nation and food security.

He called for the successful cultivation of industrial crops such as cotton, cocoa, coffee, mango, rubber and cashew under the long-term plans in order to develop the industrial crops.

In the financial sector, he noted that spending the budget can reflect the money circulation and improve the supply and demand process, contributing to further development of infrastructure. The surplus funds must be spent on renovating

and building necessary infrastructures of basic education schools, universities and colleges, in addition to the construction of the laboratories of schools.

He guaranteed that the types of wood needed for the region will be permitted for use in relevant regions in accordance with established rules and regulations, but systematic management must also be carried out to prevent illegal logging, while efforts should be made to implement environmental conservation activities.

Chief ministers of regions and states reported on emphasizing correct per-acre yield of paddy and meeting the target production, providing agricultural inputs and other materials by the State, efforts to ensure swift flow of commodity and stabilize commodity prices, supervision to ensure correct voter lists and set plans of polling booths to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic general election successfully, reopening of basic education schools and universities which were closed temporarily, implementation of

projects under the policies, and progress of rehabilitation for the quake-affected areas after removal of damaged structures.

Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo clarified seizures of narcotic drugs and smuggled goods in regions and states, and the prevention of online gambling.

Commission Vice-Chairman Vice-Senior General Soe Win stressed the need for officials to take special care of the electoral campaign period and the election in relevant portions, take the lessons from the errors of the election in 2020 to ensure the correctness of voter lists without any mistakes in all sectors in the coming election, and ministries, and regions and states to emphasize the correctness and accuracy of voter lists.

Also, present at the meeting were Commission Member and Prime Minister U Nyo Saw, Commission Member and Executive Chief U Aung Lin Dwe, Commission members, Union ministers, the Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, and deputy ministers. — MNA/TTA

Craft Village Training School to open this Nov

A craft (Lethmu Ywa) training school is being established in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, to enable students to study various vocational skills similar to those found in handicraft villages like Chiang Mai of Thailand, and to create more job opportunities for locals.

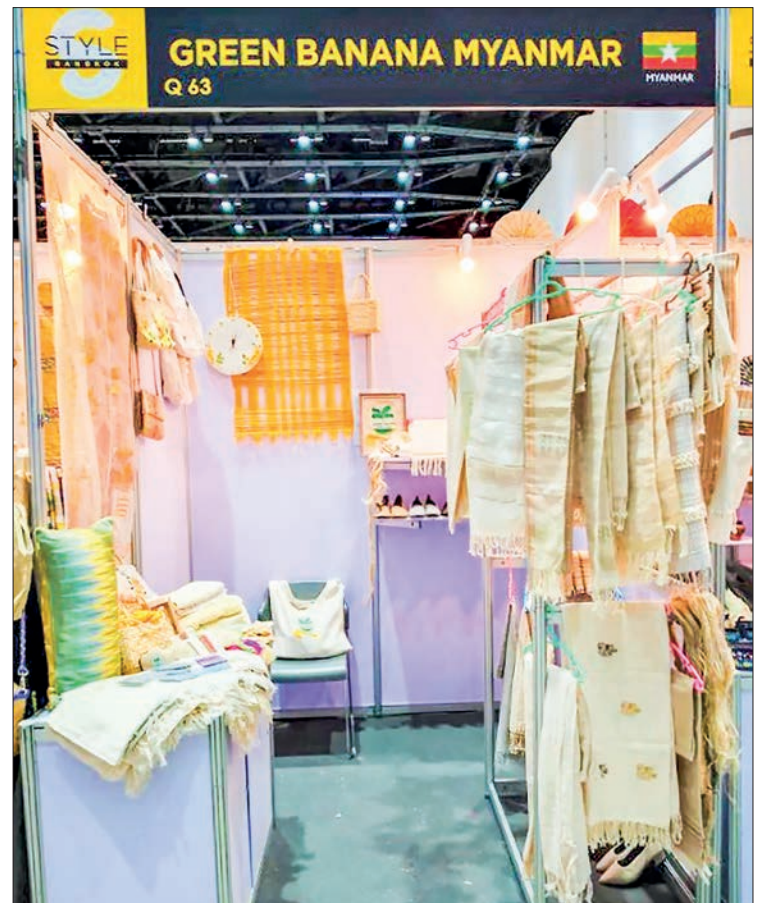
At the training school, students from vocational schools, basic education schools and private schools, community members and locals will be able to learn and practise vocational skills that produce consumer goods from discarded materials such as coconut, areca, bamboo, grass, and rattan, and they will have opportunities to study and receive training in weaving

techniques at the workshop.

“As there is no specific place in Myanmar that produces various goods from discarded materials, a craft village training school is being established on Phaunggyi road in Hlegu township to help students and those interested in vocational education develop their skills. Similar to the handicraft villages in Chiang Mai, Thailand, this training school in Myanmar is being jointly implemented by experts. In addition to producing a variety of handicraft items, experts from relevant sectors will take turns teaching and providing demonstrations for both trainees and visitors,” said U Myint Thein,

a founder of the Green Banana Myanmar.

The opening of the training school aims to promote regional development by creating job opportunities, providing vocational training, and offering a place where various skills can be taught and learned in one location. The school is scheduled to open in November and will produce consumer goods from discarded materials in a centralized location, allowing for high-quality production and export to both domestic and international markets. Visitors from across the country can observe and study different vocational skills. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH



This photo showcases traditional Myanmar handicrafts. **PHOTO: ZWE MARN**

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ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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gnlmnews@gmail.com,
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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

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)



Republic of the Union of Myanmar
National Defence and Security Council Office
Order 43/2025

10th Waning of Thadingyut 1387 ME
16 October 2025

THE National Defence and Security Council has appointed and assigned the individuals persons to the duties of Judges of the Region High Courts, as shown in each of their names under Subsection(b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) U Tun Tun Aung | Magway Region High Court |
| (2) Daw Marlar Htut | Yangon Region High Court |
| (3) U Thaung Htwe | Yangon Region High Court |

By order,
Aung Lin Dwe
Executive Chief

Myanmar Gazette
Appointment of Heads of
Service Organizations

THE National Defence and Security Council has appointed the following individuals as Heads of Service Organizations, subject to each of their names being on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) Dr Naing Naing Latt Pro-Rector Mohnyin University Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education	Rector Mohnyin University Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education
(2) Daw Si Si Chein Deputy Permanent Secretary Union Auditor-General’s Office Office of the Auditor-General of the Union	Director-General Inspection Department Office of the Auditor-General of the Union

10th NCA Anniversary Workshop enters second day of discussions

THE second-day workshop themed “Building a Peaceful Future of Myanmar” marking the 10th anniversary ceremony of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) took place at the Jade Hall of MICC I in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The workshop started with the topic “A Review of the Role of Political Parties in Mobilizing Public Participation in Conflict Resolution Activities and Elections”. The experts from Thailand, Malaysia and India discussed different topics: “elections, regional governance and post-election processes,” “the roles of civilians, political parties, civil society organizations, and peace facilitators in the peace process,” and “humanitarian support, trust-building, third-party mediation, and facilitation pro-



The second day of the workshop. “Building a Peaceful Future of Myanmar” in progress yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

cesses”.

After the discussions, State Security and Peace Commission Member, National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee Chairman, and

Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Ethnic Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae presented gifts to the participants.

At noon, the two groups discussed the peace processes,

and the group 1 discussed “enhancing the capacities of non-armed communities, civilian ethnic leaders, social organizations, women, youth, and future generations for peacebuilding,”

and “identifying the current situation of the country and the practical peace processes that should be carried out to build a peaceful and prosperous future of Myanmar”.

In business sector, the group 2 discussed “identifying geo-economic opportunities in Myanmar’s peace process, promoting the role of businesses in peacebuilding and national reconciliation, and exploring ways to cooperate with neighbouring countries, regional countries, and international organizations,” and “identifying the current situation of Myanmar and the practical peace processes that should be implemented to build a peaceful and prosperous future for the country”.

The workshop will continue to be held on 17 October. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

MoFA Union Minister holds bilateral talks on sidelines of NAM Ministerial Meeting



Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe meets Dr Abbas Araghchi Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Uganda on 15 October.

U Than Swe, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, who is attending the Non-Aligned Move-

ment (NAM) Ministerial Meeting in Kampala, Uganda, held bilateral meetings at the Speke Resort Convention Centre.

On 15 October, the Union Minister held separate meetings with Ms Maria Manuela Lucas, Minister of Foreign Affairs

and Cooperation of the Republic of Mozambique; Dr Abbas Araghchi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Mr Maxim Rvzhenkov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus; Mr Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, Md Touhid Hossain, Foreign Advisor of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Mrs Monica Robelo Raffone, Ambassador of the Republic of Nicaragua to the Republic of Italy.

On 16 October, the Union Minister met General Odongo Jeje Abubakhar, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda.

During the meetings, both sides cordially discussed strengthening existing diplomatic relations, holding bilateral political consultations, and enhanc-

ing multi-sectoral cooperation, including in trade and tourism. Furthermore, they exchanged views on enhancing engagement and coordination on regional and international issues.

Moreover, the Myanmar side reaffirmed its commitment to the repatriation process of displaced persons from Rakhine State following the 2016-2017 incidents, during the meeting with Bangladesh's Foreign Advisor.

Additionally, during the meetings with Uganda and Mozambique, both sides exchanged views on the prospects of establishing diplomatic relations and explored potential areas for cooperation.

Currently, Myanmar has established diplomatic relations with 126 countries, including 21 African nations, out of the 193 countries worldwide. — MNA

Myanmar poised to boost drug control in Greater Mekong Subregion

THE Senior Officials Committee (SOC) Meeting of the Signatories to the MoU on Drug Control in the Greater Mekong Subregion (Mekong MOU) took place at Chatrium Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Kyaw Kyaw said the Mekong MoU signed by the Mekong member states in 1993 serves as a crucial mechanism for combating the production, trafficking, and consumption of drugs within member countries. Member states have been actively implementing drug control measures in their respective regions, including providing drug addiction treatment, educating on preventive measures, enforcing suppression measures, reducing and eradicating poppy cultivation, promoting alternative development programmes, enhancing capacity-building initiatives, exchanging information, and carrying out joint operations.

The production, trafficking, and sale of synthetic drugs have become a concerning issue for countries in the region. The new synthetic drugs, such as "Happy Water," are emerging daily, and ongoing arrests and seizures can also be seen.

The deputy minister also highlighted 40 special operations in combating drug cases between 2013 and 2024, and joint operations between Tatmadaw and the Customs carried out starting from 13 April 2025, participation of ethnic armed groups in drug trafficking, taking advantage of unstable political issues, and other challenges in investigating drug cases for new and different ways of transporting and production.

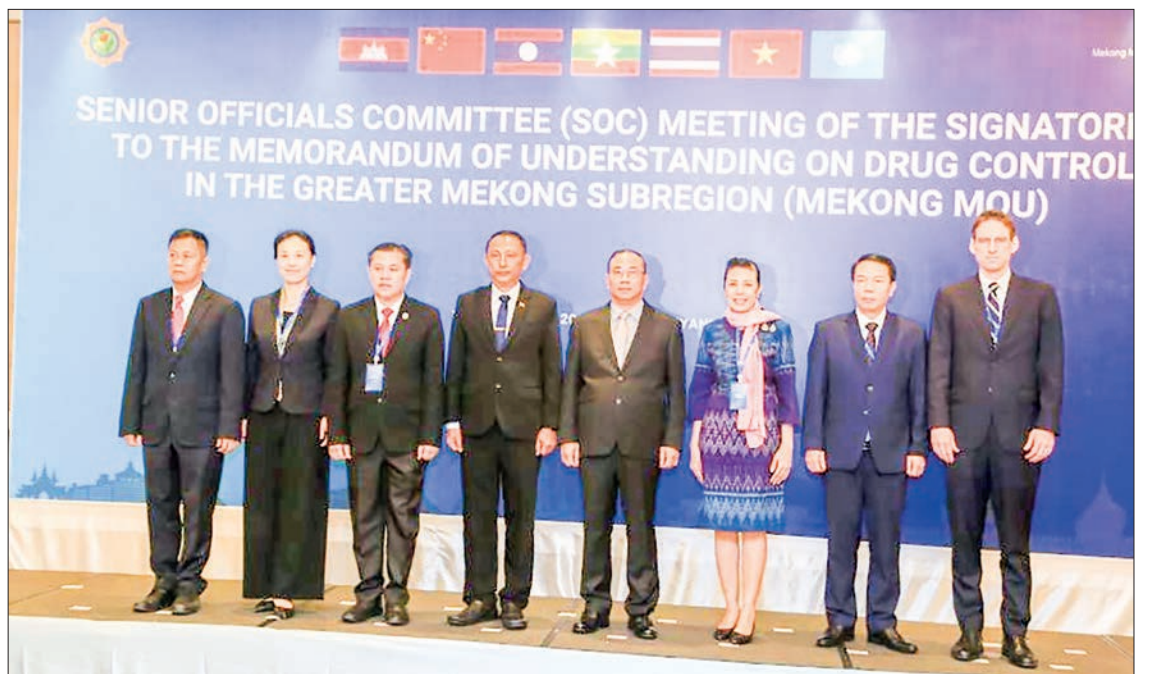
He called for timely information exchange among the member states to arrest the offenders, and pledged to participate in special operations together with the Mekong member states and regional countries, saying the country participated in the Safe

Mekong Operation conducted from 1 June to 31 August 2025.

Then, 15 delegates led by the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control Joint Secretary and 43 leaders and representa-

tives of Mekong states and UN-ODC discussed 12 subregion projects, MoU financial issue, outcomes of session 68th commission on Narcotic Drugs, progresses of Mekong MoU working

groups, work plans to be carried out in 2025-2026, and reviewed and approved the 13 subregion action plans. The meeting will continue on 17 October. — MNA/KTZH



The group documentary photo at the Senior Officials Committee (SOC) Meeting of the Signatories to the MoU on Drug Control in the Greater Mekong Subregion held in Yangon yesterday.

NATIONAL

Agro-based industries must be effectively operated to raise export volume of rice, beans and other crops

- ❖ Since our country’s economy is based on agriculture, being able to export processed products made from agricultural raw materials such as cotton and rubber, as well as increasing exports of rice, beans, and other crops compared to the current level, would bring significant benefits to our nation.
- ❖ The main requirement for achieving such export capacity is the genuine and effective operation of agro-based manufacturing industries.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the opening of the Forum on Myanmar Beyond 2025: Challenges and Opportunities in a Multipolar World held on 21 March 2025)

Myanmar discusses strengthening regional disaster resilience



The fifth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) Plus China in progress yesterday in Cambodia, attended by Union Minister Dr Soe Win.

A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win, currently in Cambodia to attend the 13th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM), joined the dinner hosted by Cambodian officials on 15 October.

Yesterday morning, the Union minister called on Cambodian Prime Minister Mr Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei Hun Manet together with other ASEAN Ministers, and attended the opening ceremony of the 13th AMMDM and related meetings, and other events marking the disaster management day of Cambodia.

He also attended the fifth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting

on Disaster Management (AMMDM) Plus China held at the Sofitel Hotel. During the meeting, he stated that thanks to the development and joint implementation of the ASEAN-China Cooperation Work Plan on Disaster Management (2021–2025) by the People’s Republic of China, positive outcomes have been achieved in the regions. He expressed gratitude for the immediate sending of search and rescue teams and emergency healthcare units during the Mandalay earthquake, providing humanitarian assistance and supporting rehabilitation activities. Myanmar will continue to actively participate in ASEAN-China cooperative initiatives to build

an ASEAN region resilient to natural disasters.

At noon, he attended the fifth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) Plus Japan and expressed gratitude to Japan for participating in the Disaster Emergency Logistic System for ASEAN (DELSA) and sending healthcare units and relief items after the Mandalay earthquake.

He also attended the fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) Plus Korea.

The Rotating Chairmanship Cambodia handed over the chairmanship to Indonesia for the AMMDM 2026. — MNA/KTZH

St Petersburg delegation visits Shwedagon Pagoda

MR Evgeny Grigoryev, Chair of the Committee for External Relations of the Saint Petersburg City Government, and his wife visited Shwedagon Pagoda yesterday morning in Yangon.

They toured the pagoda compound, donated cash offerings to the Board of Trustees, and received a certificate of honour in return. They also fed fish at the pond of Shin Uppagutta statue near the northern stairway of the pagoda.

Meanwhile, Mr Vyacheslav Kalganov, Vice-Chair of the Committee for External Relations, and his delegation, together with Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs U Htay Aung, attended the award ceremony for the Russia-Myanmar Friendship Painting Competition for basic education students held at Basic Education High School No 1 Thanlyin at 10 am yesterday.

They viewed the winning art-

works and enjoyed students performing the “Myanma Kyaung” (Myanmar School Song). Both the regional minister and the Russian vice-chair delivered remarks at the event. Students from Basic Education High School No 2 Thanlyin also presented a poem and dance performance before the officials awarded prizes to the winners.

Mr Kalganov later presented souvenir flower baskets to the performing students. The delegation then visited the Thanlyin District Administration Office, where both sides discussed cooperation in agriculture, healthcare, and economic development in a spirit of friendship.

In the afternoon, the delegation visited the Thilawa Special Economic Zone and the Chitchin Myitta Charity Home in Sayboewa Village, Kyauktan Township, to observe social welfare activities. — MNA/KZL



The Saint Petersburg delegation is seen during their observation tour in Yangon.

Bank Holiday

ALL Banks will be closed on 20th (Monday), October 2025, “Deepavali National Day”, being a public holiday under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

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Supply surplus foods to others in need

WORLD Food Day 2025 is calling for global collaboration in creating a peaceful, sustainable, prosperous, and food-secure future. By working together, across governments, organizations, sectors, and communities, we can transform agrifood systems to ensure that everyone has access to a healthy diet, living in harmony with the planet.

In some places, the severity of food insecurity is overwhelming. An estimated 673 million people are living with hunger. Elsewhere, rising levels of obesity and widespread food waste point to a system out of balance – where abundance and absence coexist, often side by side. Agrifood systems are also a major source of greenhouse gas emissions. Yet they offer real potential to reduce those emissions through the way food is grown, harvested, and shared.

The aforementioned levels of hunger highlight the tragic prevalence of starvation in some countries. Meanwhile, wealthier nations need to ensure proper management of food to prevent waste. Depending on climatic conditions, all countries should emphasize crop cultivation to enable mutual support and help address food security challenges.

Some regions of Myanmar can produce surplus crops and supply them to other states and regions that face food security challenges. While rice is generally the staple food of Myanmar, some ethnic groups do not rely on rice due to their traditions, climatic conditions, and geographical factors. Therefore, people in these areas need to cultivate crops suited to local conditions to help ensure an adequate food supply for their communities.

Currently, Myanmar is striving to ensure food security across the entire nation, as some regions and states face challenges, particularly due to low paddy production. Accordingly, during his inspection tours, the Head of State gave guidance to local authorities to focus on using high-quality crop varieties, increasing per-acre yields, minimizing losses and waste during production, and ensuring the systematic application of agricultural practices and inputs.

Some regions of Myanmar can produce surplus crops and supply them to other states

and regions that face food security challenges. While rice is generally the staple food of Myanmar, some ethnic groups do not rely on rice due to their traditions, climatic conditions, and geographical factors. Therefore, people in these areas need to cultivate crops suited to local conditions to help ensure an adequate food supply for their communities.

Generally, Myanmar has a surplus in food production due to the cultivation of diverse crop varieties. This surplus can be exported to generate foreign exchange for the nation and shared with countries in need as part of humanitarian efforts. Only by sharing surplus food with those in need can the world become more peaceful and prosperous.

The Importance of Paragraph Writing in Academic Essays

By Junior Thin

WRITING is one of the most essential academic skills for students, and the best way to begin this journey is by mastering paragraph writing. Paragraphs are the building blocks of essays, and without strong, well-structured paragraphs, no essay can be effective. Each paragraph serves a specific purpose and helps organize ideas in a logical way. Therefore, understanding paragraph structure is the first step for any student who wants to improve their writing. Learning how to write a clear topic sentence, develop it with appropriate supporting sentences, and conclude with a strong final statement not only strengthens individual paragraphs but also improves overall essay quality. By carefully studying these elements, students can establish a solid foundation for effective academic writing.

Topic Sentence and Main Idea

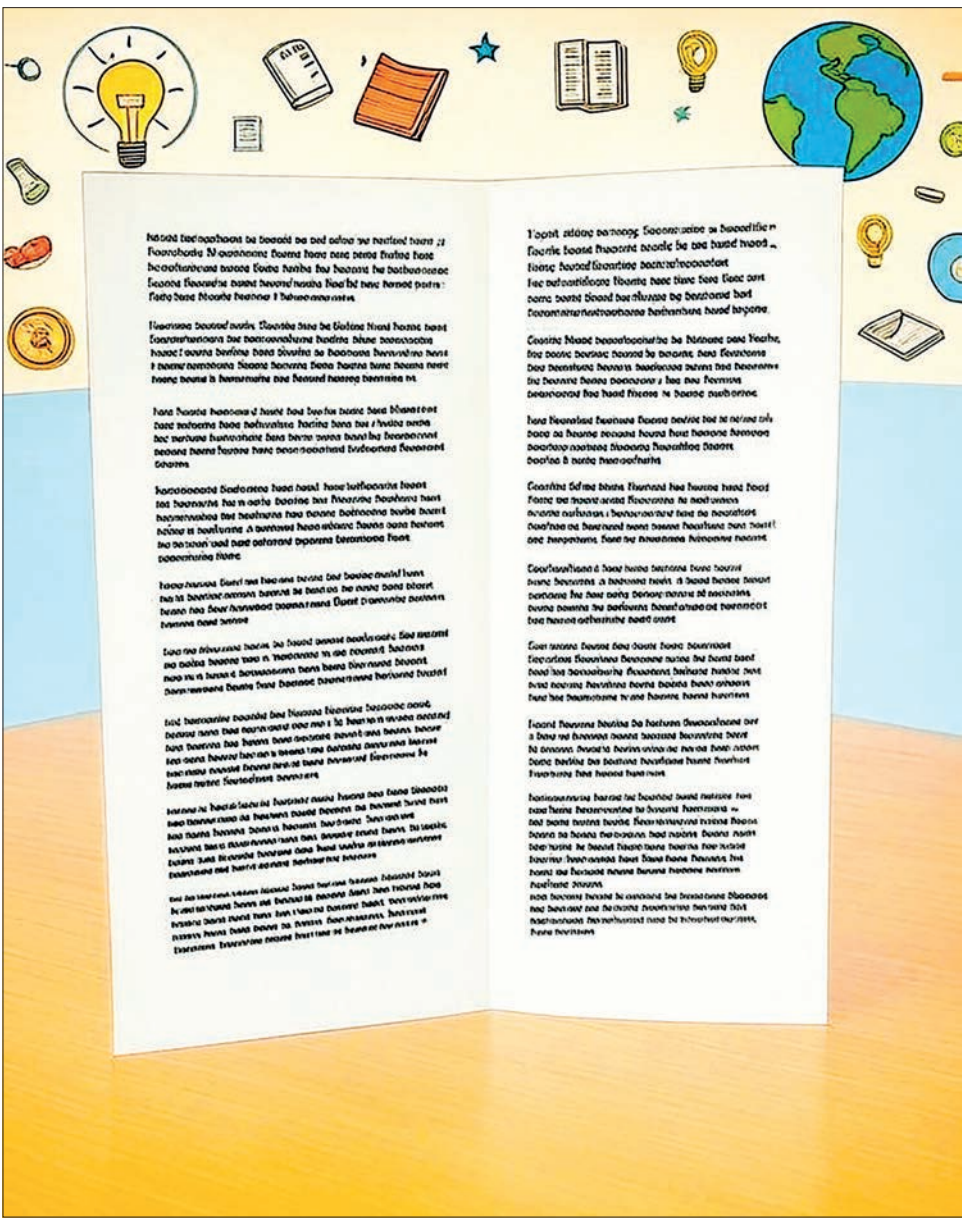
Every good paragraph begins with a topic sentence. The topic sentence introduces the main idea and informs the reader about the paragraph's focus. It is like a guide that directs the reader's attention. For example, in a paragraph about the benefits of reading, a topic sentence might say, "Reading daily helps students improve their knowledge and imagination." A strong topic sentence ensures that all following sentences are relevant. Without a clear topic sentence, a paragraph can appear weak, unfocused, and difficult to understand. This is why students must carefully choose their words when writing the first sentence.

Controlling Idea

Along with the main idea, the topic sentence should include a controlling idea. The controlling idea narrows the focus of the paragraph and gives direction to how the writer will develop the topic. For instance, if the main idea is "Exercise is important," the controlling idea might be "because it improves both physical and mental health." This clarifies the paragraph's purpose and helps the writer stay on track. Without a controlling idea, a paragraph may become too broad, making it confusing for the reader. Therefore, a precise controlling idea strengthens the topic sentence and ensures clarity.

Supporting Sentences

Supporting sentences provide the details, examples, and evidence needed to explain the main idea. They make the paragraph informative and persuasive. For example, when writing about the importance



of exercise, supporting sentences might describe different types of physical activity, explain health benefits, and provide facts or statistics. Every supporting sentence must directly relate to the topic sentence. Including unrelated information weakens the paragraph and confuses the reader. Careful planning of supporting sentences ensures that the paragraph remains focused and easy to understand.

Concluding Sentence

A strong paragraph usually ends with a concluding sentence. The concluding sentence provides closure and reinforces the main idea. It may restate the topic sentence in different words or offer a suggestion, opinion, or prediction. For example, after discussing exercise benefits, a conclusion might suggest, "Therefore, everyone should include regular exercise in their daily routine." A well-written concluding sentence leaves a lasting impression and makes the paragraph complete. Without it, the

retain key information. For example, in a paragraph about the benefits of reading, a concluding sentence might summarize the main benefits and suggest a daily reading habit. Without a concluding sentence, even a well-developed paragraph may appear weak. Therefore, both topic and concluding sentences are essential for clarity and effectiveness.

Connection between Topic Sentence and Concluding Sentence

The topic sentence and the concluding sentence are closely connected. The topic sentence introduces the main idea at the beginning, while the concluding sentence restates or completes it at the end. They act like bookends, providing balance and unity. If the topic sentence is strong but the conclusion is missing or unrelated, the paragraph may confuse the reader. A good writer ensures that the concluding sentence reflects the topic sentence, making the paragraph organized and easy to follow. This connection improves the logical flow of the paragraph and strengthens the overall essay.

Paragraphs as the Foundation of Essays

For students who want to write essays, paragraph writing is the first step. An essay is composed of multiple paragraphs, so understanding paragraph structure is essential. By mastering topic sentences, supporting sentences, and concluding sentences, students can organize their ideas clearly. Strong paragraphs make essays coherent, persuasive, and easy to read. Without a solid grasp of paragraph writing, students may struggle to communicate their thoughts effectively. Therefore, learning paragraph structure is not just an exercise; it is the foundation of academic success.

In sum, paragraph writing is the cornerstone of effective essay writing. Each part of a paragraph – topic sentence, controlling idea, supporting sentences, and concluding sentence – has a specific role and purpose. When students understand these elements and apply them carefully, they can write with clarity, confidence, and logic. Well-structured paragraphs lead to well-structured essays, and well-structured essays lead to effective communication. By mastering paragraph writing, students build the skills necessary for academic achievement and lifelong learning. Therefore, every student should practice paragraph writing thoroughly before attempting more complex essay assignments.

Importance of Concluding Sentence

The concluding sentence is equally important. It reinforces the main idea and reminds the reader of the paragraph's purpose. A strong conclusion makes the paragraph feel complete and helps the reader

Australian rainforests no longer a carbon sink: study

Rainforests in Australia's northern tropics are no longer acting as net carbon sinks, according to new research. In a troubling development linked to climate change, Australia's tropical rainforests are among the first in the world to emit more carbon than they absorb.

AUSTRALIA'S tropical rainforests are among the first in the world to start emitting more carbon dioxide than they absorb, scientists said Thursday, linking the "very concerning" trend to climate change.

The world's rainforests are typically thought of as crucial "carbon sinks" — sucking huge quantities of planet-heating emissions from the atmosphere.

Some models predict that increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere could boost forest growth by offering trees more of the basic fuel they need for photosynthesis.

But new research found extreme temperatures have instead caused more forest death than growth, with rainforests in Australia's northern tropics becoming net carbon emitters.

"This is the first analysis to show this pattern occurring for natural undisturbed forest and as a persistent pattern over many years," senior author of the research Patrick Meir told AFP describing the results as "very concerning".

The researchers pored through records charting the growth of Queensland's rainforests over almost 50 years.

They found that around the year 2000 they began emitting more carbon dioxide from the decay of dead trees than was being taken in and stored by growing trunks and branches.

Modelling showed the main cause was extreme temperatures linked to climate change, and its related effects on the moisture in the atmosphere and drought. Cyclones, which are expected to increase in intensity with climate change, also had an impact.

The findings are in line with some research on the Amazon that showed growing tree deaths weakening the forest's carbon storage capacity, said David Bauman, a research scientist at the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development and second author of the study.

"So in that sense our result is not surprising, but the timing... happened earlier than we expected and the effects of the likely climatic drivers (high temperature, drought) are stronger than we expected," he told AFP.

'More severe' impacts

The study, published in the peer-reviewed journal Nature, suggests other rainforests could experience the same shift, but the authors warned more data and research was needed.

"It appears that all tropical forests are likely to respond fairly similarly," said Meir, but "the exact mechanisms and timings for different regions will differ."

SOURCE: AFP



Rain Forest near Daintree, Queensland, Australia. PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

NATIONAL

Naungpain High School reopens in Kyaukme



This photo captures students calmly engaged in their studies in a Kyaukme classroom.

THE government, Tatmadaw, and local communities have continued their coordinated efforts to reopen schools, ensuring the rapid resumption of education in Kyaukme Township of northern Shan State.

Following the reopening of the No 1 Basic Education High School on 8 October, No 4 Basic Education High School and No 4 Basic Education Middle School on 15 October, the Naungpain Basic Education High School was reopened yesterday, bringing the total number of reopened schools in Kyaukme to four.

School enrolments have continued, with 589 more students registered yesterday, bringing the total to 3,636 students now attending classes peacefully and steadily. The newly enrolled students received free school textbooks, stationery, and other necessary materials provided by the Ministry of Education, while departmental officials offered further assistance as required.

Meanwhile, officials from the Ministry of Immigration and Population have been verifying household lists and issuing citizenship scrutiny cards for re-

turning residents in Kyaukme.

Security forces have been conducting mine clearance operations around departmental offices and public areas in Kyaukme, ensuring safety for the population. Tatmadaw and Ministry of Health's medical teams have also jointly opened a temporary hospital at the Labha Muni Chinese Temple to provide healthcare services. Yesterday, 91 outpatients reportedly received medical treatment, while one patient requiring admission was also given appropriate care. — MNA/KZL

TNLA terrorists raze government offices and homes in Hsipaw

TNLA terrorists set fire to departmental buildings and civilian homes in Hsipaw Township.

Tatmadaw has been conducting counter-terrorism operations to regain control of towns and villages temporarily occupied by TNLA, DPLA, and PDF terrorist groups. Tatmadaw successfully restored control over Nawngkhio on 16 July 2025 and Kyaukme on 1 October 2025, while the government, Tatmadaw, and local people continue joint efforts to rebuild and develop the areas.

Similarly, TNLA and allied terrorist groups temporarily occupied Hsipaw Township and surrounding areas in northern Shan State, carrying out violent

acts. To re-establish security, Tatmadaw units entered Hsipaw. Yesterday evening, smoke was observed at the township entrance toll gate, prompting the troops to clear the town.

It was confirmed that TNLA terrorists ruthlessly torched departmental buildings, including the Correctional Department's office, general administration office, land records office, Hsipaw Hotel, and other government facilities, as well as private residences.

Tatmadaw continues fire-fighting and security operations to prevent further damage to other buildings and maintain public safety in Hsipaw Township. — MNA/KZL



This image shows the blaze engulfing government offices and public buildings torched by terrorists in Hsipaw.

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Thursday, 16 October 2025

BAY INFERENCE: The Southwest monsoon has withdrawn from the whole country. The weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the South Andaman Sea and south Bay, and cloudy to partly cloudy over the North Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 17 October 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Yangon Region and Kachin and Chin States, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Lower Sagaing and Ayeyawady Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and 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 there-

fore it is recommended to be aware of these phenomena in advance.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-6 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS: Scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Magway Regions and Shan State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 October 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 October 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 October 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

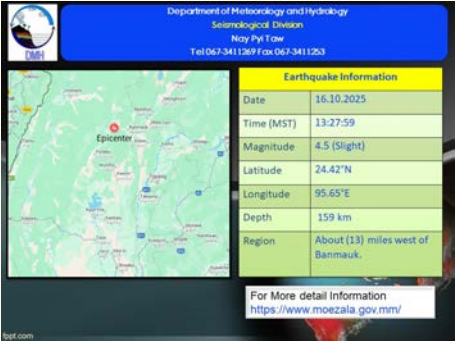
Condition of Southwest Monsoon Withdrawal from the Deltaic Myanmar areas

Issued on 11 October 2025

The Southwest monsoon has withdrawn from the Northeast Bay and the Eastcentral Bay of Bengal, and the Deltaic Myanmar areas. — DMH

EARTHQUAKE

A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.5 Richter Scale with its epicentre inside Myanmar (about 13 miles west of Banmauk), latitude 24.42°N, longitude 95.65°E, depth 159 kilometres, about 46 miles northwest of the Katha Seismological Observatory, was recorded at 13 hours 27 minutes 59 seconds MST on 16 October 2025. — DMH



CBM sells US\$1.19M to edible oil importers

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$1.19 million purchased from the companies working on a Cut, Make, and Pack basis, to edible oil-importing companies on 15 October.

CBM announced on 14 October that it would pump \$27 million into the fuel oil sector.

Furthermore, CBM sold over \$1.79 million to the edible oil-importing companies from the foreign reserves purchased from CMP companies, in addition to the injection of over \$1.455 million into the market.

CBM sold over \$1.8 million to edible oil-importing companies on 13 October, in addition to an injection of \$594,800 into the financial market.

CBM sold \$2.26 million to edible oil-importing companies on 10 October, in addition to an injection of \$400,000 into the market.

CBM sold over \$1.9 million to edible oil-importing companies, in addition to sales of over 354,000 yuan in the market on 9 October.

CBM announced on 8 October that it would sell \$30 million to those engaged in the fuel oil industry. CBM also sold over \$1.87

million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$530,290 to fuel oil-importing companies on that day, in addition to an injection of over 4.98 million baht and over 21,480 yuan into the market.

CBM pumped over \$39 million purchased from companies working on a Cut, Make, and Pack basis into the market in September 2025. Moreover, CBM also injected over \$680,000, 6.2 million yuan and 300,000 baht into the market through the foreign exchange market on-line trading platform last month. 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

MoE aims to cut fuel imports through biofuel production

THE Ministry of Energy is endeavouring to produce biofuel with a view to fulfilling domestic needs and reducing fuel imports.

Biofuel mixing bioethanol made from crops such as corn, sugarcane, broken rice, with locally produced gasoline will be produced.

Myanmar imports 97 per cent of its fuel oil consumption. Myanmar continues exploration of offshore and onshore blocks to reduce imports. The ministry is making efforts to upgrade oil refineries and construct new refineries.

The Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil regulates the market to ensure fair prices, oil quality and measurement. Moreover, the committee manages not to have shortages at fuel stations on main road parts and big cities, in addition to the supply of fuel oil in the respective regions and states.



This photo shows a vehicle refuelling at the petrol station.

Fuel information is now available on the MPTA FM application to look up opening hours of the fuel station, fuel types and prices. — ASH/KK



Female workers sorting Macadamia fruits.

Macadamia cultivation expands across 12,000+ acres

MACADAMIA cultivation expanded over 12,000 acres across Myanmar. Shan State is the largest producer of macadamia, followed by Kachin State, Chin State and Mandalay Region, according to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization under the Ministry of Commerce.

Macadamia nuts are harvested twice a year in Ywangan Township, Shan State, in spring and autumn.

The General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) announced on 22 September phytosanitary requirements for macadamia nuts via its website. China gave the green light to the import of Myanmar's

macadamia nuts processed locally through peeling, drying and sorting process, GACC's announcement.

China identified four quarantine pests: *Trogoderma granarium*, *Mikania micrantha*, *Cenchrus echinatus* and *Chromolaena odorata*. Hard shell nuts need to be dehydrated using drying machines. They must be free from pests and impurities. The macadamia nuts with physical damage, like cracking or mouldy nuts and shells and weed seeds must be removed during the processing stages.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation will inspect the macadamia nuts designated to be exported

to China, whether they comply with China's import standards in farming, processing and storage facilities. Those businesses that meet standards and criteria will be forwarded to the GACC for registration. Macadamia nuts must be packed in clean and hygienic materials in accordance with food safety and plant quarantine standards to prevent leakage during shipping. Before shipping, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation will also check the transport vehicles not to contain pests, weed seeds, insects, plant debris, soil and other contaminants, with a view to meeting hygiene and quarantine requirements. — NN/KK

Construction Ministry invites bids for new Dohtawadi Bridge

THE Ministry of Construction's Tender Accepting and Evaluating Committee invited Myanmar citizen developers to submit a tender for the construction of the new Dohtawadi Bridge at Milepost 358/1-3 on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.

The Department of Bridges (construction team 1 and bridge special task force 4) called for interested develop-

ers to submit a tender for a new bridge project to be implemented under the allocated fund of the National Disaster Management Committee in the 2025-2026 financial year to acquire construction materials worth K200 million through purchase and equipment procurement through rental, including delivery management.

The tender forms can be submitted via the respective

team of the township Bridges Department in Mandalay by 27 October 2025. The tender opening date is at 9:30 am on 29 October.

Individuals can enquire about tender rules and details through the construction team 1 by dialling 09 458955152 and 09 250070718, and the bridge special task force 4 at 09 448548585 and 09 781300409. — NN/KK

NATIONAL

MOST to host biodiversity and ecology workshop

THE Department of Advanced Science and Technology of the Ministry of Science and Technology will launch a training course and workshop on the role of biodiversity in wildfire prevention and water resources conservation.

The training workshop will run for three weeks (15 days), from 27 October to 14 November.

It will cover water resources and biodiversity, local and regional environmental issues, the impact of biodiversity loss on water quality and availability, best practices to conserve freshwater resources, conserving biodiversity in water-dependent ecosystems, restoration methods for flooded and damaged ecosystems, and drafting fire hazard protection and mitigation policies.

In addition, it will also focus on water resources and biodiversity policies and governance, creating effective environment policy and administrative patterns, water and biodiversity management system, their assessment and management, completion test, and group presentation.

Interested persons may contact the Naypyitaw State Polytechnic University via 09 960892606, as stated by the Myanmar Fruit, Flower, and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association. — MT/ZN



Wildfires burning on the slopes near the Shwephonepaw Pagoda in Taunggyi, Shan State, on the night of 14 March.

Minimum wage for private sector casual workers raised to K7,800

DUE to the additional raise in extra allowance, wage per day for casual labourers from the private sector has now risen to K7,800.

The National Committee for Setting the Minimum Wage announced on 14 October that an additional K1,000 of the extra allowance was added to the wage per day of factory workers in the private sector.

With the Union Government's approval, the committee set Myanmar's minimum wage at K4,800 for an eight-hour workday (K600 per hour) on 14 May 2028, applying uniformly across all locations and business types. This marks the third increase since the minimum wage was established in 2018.

The first increase of K1,000



Workers are seen at a local private workplace.

was made on 1 October 2013, and the second increase of K1,000 was made in August 2024. With this third increase, K1,000, the extra allowance has now been K3,000, so the minimum wage of day labourers will be K7,800.

The committee said the entitlement of total extra allowance K3,000 takes effect as of 1 October 2025, under the 1951 Leave and Holiday Act. The additional allowance shall not be counted for small businesses and family businesses with less than 10 workers, it added. — Htun Htun/ZS

'Yapyae Collection' Art Exhibition set to open

THE art show 'Yapyae Collection Exhibition' will be held from 17 to 19 October, and the venue is Attributive Gallery located at Thirilinkar Yarma Kyaung Road in Tarmwe Township.

More than 70 famous old-time artworks by artists - Cartoon Maung Sein, Mg Ngwe Tun, Ko Lay Maung Kyaw, Kyaw Thauang, Mg D, Khin Maung Yin, Mg Mg Thaik, Khin Maung San, Min Zaw, Khin Maung Than, Shwe Talay, Ngwe Kaing, Hla Soe, San Lwin, Lu Tin, Soe Naing, Wa Thon, Nyo Hla, Win Pe Myint, Tun Sein, Thauang Han, Phe Nyunt Wai, Han Shein, Bachi Aung Soe, Ohn Lwin, Ba Lone Lay, Aung Maung and Aung Kyaw- will be featured at the three-day exhibition.

"The art exhibition will take place from 17 to 19 October at



Paintings feature the Yapyae Collection Exhibition.

Attributive. It is the collection by U Soe Nyunt (Yapyae), and all were published by Yarpayae. I invite you to the event, with full respect," said artist as well as actor Pyae Zin. — Htun Htun/ZS

Video submissions for 1st Korean Reading Contest open until 20 Oct

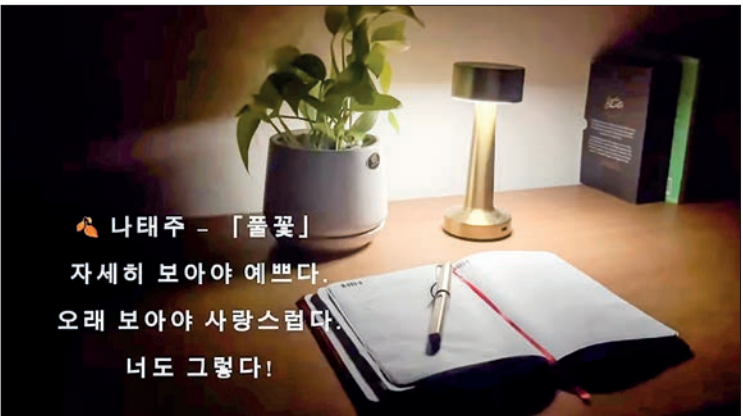
CONTESTANTS of the first Korean Reading Contest (21st Korean Speaking Contest) can submit a video file in speaking Korean language until 20 October, said the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Myanmar.

The embassy will host the Korean reading event for the first time, and interested contestants will have to submit a

three-minute video file, in which the contestant recites a Korean poem or novel or article, either from books they have read or by their own creation, and explain it in the Korean language.

For the first stage, the video must be uploaded from <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfp-CpVgQ3zm9cdcgJ6eol3ualmp-54fzBLjNe-bAkYsnSqk2Gg/viewform?usp=header>. Short-listed contestants will continue to compete in the final stage on 8 November, and the final competition will be aired live.

The contest is an opportunity for interested contestants to showcase their own expression and language skills. — MT/ZS



This image showcases an advert for the first Korean Reading Contest.

NATIONAL

MAVO preps to explore penetrate India, Russia markets for Myanmar avocado

THE Myanmar Avocado Producers and Exporters Association (MAVO) is expected to meet an export target of over 10,000 tonnes in the current financial year 2025-2026. MAVO is also planning to explore new markets in India and Russia.

Myanmar exported over 7,600 tonnes of avocado in the 2023-2024 FY and over 8,000 tonnes in the 2024-2025 FY. MAVO targets to boost avocado export to over 10,000 tonnes this FY. At present, Thailand is the main buyer of Myanmar's avocado.

"Discussions for avocado



This image features Myanmar avocados designated for exports.

export to India and Russia are ongoing. Different types of avocado peak in different seasons.

This year's export volume is at least 10,000 tonnes. The prices are fluctuating at the present

time. They may vary depending on the seasons," said an official of the MAVO.

Avocados have been grown in Myanmar for 75 years. They are commonly grown in Shan State, Chin State, Sagaing Region and PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Region. Commercially valued Hass, Buccaneer and Amara avocado varieties are produced in PyinOoLwin, Ywangan, Yatsauk and Taunggyi cities, designated for exports. High-quality Hass and Buccaneer avocado varieties are grown by grafting, and they are primarily distributed to

Yangon and Mandalay markets.

Avocado offers numerous health benefits, including a source of over 20 vitamins and minerals. The global avocado market has witnessed substantial growth with its popularity. The association is making concerted efforts to enhance avocado cultivation and advance them as potential export items. Myanmar's avocado sees a robust demand in both domestic and foreign markets. Thus, MAVO suggests growers need to choose the most marketable variety to maximize the benefits. — ASH/KK

Restoration underway on Maha Zeyapahta Bridge in Inwa



This photo features a section of the Maha Zeyapahta Bridge in Inwa.

THE Maha Zeyapahta Bridge in Inwa, Mandalay Region, has been undergoing restoration work since early October, according to Dr Than Htike, Director of the Department of Archaeology and National Museum.

The bridge has been undergoing maintenance since early October, following significant damage caused by Typhoon Yagi in 2024 and the Mandalay earthquake in 2025.

"The Ministry of Construction is now in charge of this. The ministry will remove the bridge, which is overlaid with layers of concrete, and re-pave it. Once the paving is complete, the ancient remains, including the side

walls and brick railings, will be restored and preserved," said Dr Than Htike.

The Department of Archaeology and National Museum will carry out conservation work after the Ministry of Construction completes its work. The project is expected to take about six months.

The bridge is about one mile long, stretching from Hanthawady Gate in the south to Mingala Pagoda in TadaU Township. It was first built by King Min Swe, also known as King Min Khaung I, and later renovated by Salin city governor U Oh, the younger brother of Nanmadaw Mei Nu, during the reign of King Sagaing. — ASH/TH

New TV drama 'Thone Nar Nyi' explores love and marriage

A ceremony to mark the start of filming for a marital drama television series exploring the nature of love was held on 14 October at the Maha Wizara Pagoda in Dagon Township, Yangon Region.

The television series, titled "Thone Nar Nyi", is based on a story and screenplay written by Khun Thar Cho. It will be directed by Htoo Htoo for the Khun Thar Cho Film and Video Production company.

"This series isn't about a turbulent marriage; it also incorporates themes of love and compassion," said actor Khun Thar Cho. "It is the first project that brings me, Htet Htet Tun, and Myat Kay Thi Aung together. I am confident that the audience will enjoy it," said actor Khun Thar Cho.

The 15-episode series is scheduled to be broadcast on the Hey Play Application and the Fortune TV channel. The cast includes numerous actors such as Khun Thar Cho, Htet Htet Tun, Academy Myat Kay Thi Aung, Khaing Noe, Academy Khin Soe Paing, Academy Khin Moh Moh Aye, Academy Wah Wah Aung, Maryu Thar, U Myo Thant, Kyaw Zin Htut, Saw Thit, Rooni, Eaint Chuu Pwint, Nyo mie, and Chit Snow. — ASH/KNN



This photo shows the cast and crew gathered together at the commencement ceremony for the 'Thone Nar Nyi' television series.

Artistes attend Yangon premiere of 'Khit Thit Ma Byaing' before nationwide release

THE premiere of the new film, 'Khit Thit Ma Byaing', was held on Tuesday, 14 October, at the President Cinema in Dagon Township, Yangon.

The film, based on a story by Tulip May, was directed by Yazawin Ko for Lavender Film Production.

"Casting the male lead required considerable thought," said director Yazawin Ko. "It was difficult to find an actor who

matched the character's slightly balding appearance. We had to consult carefully before making our selection. The film is a comedy that will bring audiences much laughter and joy".

Scheduled for nationwide release on 17 October, 'Khit Thit Ma Byaing' includes Kyaw Htet Aung, Thatti, Nay Htut, Ye Yint Thaw, Htet Htet Tun, Academy Award-winner Tekkatho Gwan Pon, Academy Award-winner



This photo displays artistes attending the premiere of the film 'Khit Thit Ma Byaing'.

Soe Myat Thuzar, Gwan Pon Gyi, Myo Myo Khaing, Sue, Lin Lin, Joker, Ta Ta, and Thu Zar Pwint. — ASH/KNN

NEWS IN BRIEF

Foreign visitors to Japan surpass 30m at record pace

THE number of foreign visitors to Japan between January and September rose to around 31.65 million, marking the first time on record that the number surpassed 30 million in the first nine months of the year, official data showed.

The nine-month figure rose 17.7 per cent from the same period in 2024, while the annual number is certain to surpass the record 36.87 million logged in 2024, data from the Japan National Tourism Organization showed.

Foreign visitors spent an estimated 6.9 trillion yen (about \$45.5 billion) on accommodation, shopping and other consumption in the first nine months of the year, the highest figure ever for the period, data showed. Meanwhile, the number of foreign visitors in September rose 13.7 per cent from a year ago to over 3.26 million, marking the first time the figure has topped 3 million for the month, according to the organization. — Xinhua

Sri Lanka streamlines visas ahead of tourist season

Sri Lanka will launch several initiatives to improve facilities and services for foreign visitors ahead of the upcoming tourist season, the President's Media Division (PMD) said in a statement on Wednesday. Measures will be taken to facilitate visa issuance and streamline the Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) process, the PMD said. The number of airport counters will also increase to reduce congestion, and more online ticketing options will be introduced at attractions that require paid entry, it added. — Xinhua

Gold prices touch new highs on weak dollar, fiscal worries, central banks buying: Report

GOLD prices continued to surge in 2025, driven by a mix of global fiscal concerns, currency weakness, and strong institutional buying, as per a report by Religare Broking.

The metal has delivered over 65 per cent returns so far this year, one of the highest gains seen in recent years, as investors turn to gold as a safe haven amid rising market uncertainty. At the time of filing this report, Gold prices in Delhi of 24 karat was trading at Rs 1,28,110/10 gramme.

The report highlighted rally is fuelled by concerns over fiscal discipline and mounting government debt, particularly in the United States, that unsettled financial markets.

Investors are in-



Gold prices continued to surge in 2025, driven by a mix of global fiscal concerns, currency weakness, and strong institutional buying. **PHOTO: ANI**

creasingly worried about the sustainability of debt levels, which is reflected in higher US Treasury yields and widening swap spreads.

These developments have prompted investors to seek assets that can preserve value, and gold has once again emerged as a reliable hedge against both currency depreciation and market volatility. — ANI

Strong dealmaking boosts profits at US banking giants



Large US banks continue to report consumer resilience, but experts believe more problems could surface with corporate loans. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

ROBUST dealmaking activity and strong trading results helped boost US bank earnings Tuesday despite lingering worries about a softening job market and a potentially overvalued stock market.

Profits rose in the third quarter at JPMorgan Chase and three other

US lending giants, reflecting strength in core business areas and the still healthy condition of many consumers even after a lengthy stretch of persistently high costs that have stretched low-income households.

At JPMorgan, profits were \$14.4 billion, up 12

per cent from the year-ago level, with revenues of \$46.4 billion, up 9 per cent.

The bank, the biggest US lender in terms of assets, reported somewhat higher credit costs in the quarter as it disclosed details about a \$170 million hit from the bankruptcy of Tricolor, a subprime auto lender. But JPMorgan executives reiterated that consumers remain generally “resilient” and mostly on time with credit card payments, a tone echoed by other large banks.

The large banks “don’t do business with subprime” customers, said Whalen, who suspects more troubles involving banks’ corporate lending will surface in time. — AFP

DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of **Beijing Multigrass Formulation Co.,Ltd** have registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributor name “**Baigreen Crop Science Co.,Ltd**”, to new distributor name “**Farm Link Co.,Ltd**”. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Farm Link Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
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Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI ACTIVE VOY.NO. (807N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-10-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
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SPORTS

Chelsea's Maresca banned for Forest match after wild celebration

CHELSEA coach Enzo Maresca was given a one-match touchline ban on Wednesday for dissent and over-celebrating a last-gasp goal in a 2-1 Premier League win over Liverpool on 4 October.

The Italian will now be banned from the touchline for Chelsea's match away to Nottingham Forest in the Premier League on Saturday. He has

also been fined £8,000 (\$10,685) and the Football Association said Maresca openly admitted the misconduct charge. He was given a yellow card for railing against a penalty decision and picked up a second one in the sixth minute of stoppage time for wildly celebrating Estevao Willian's angled winner during a desperate onslaught. — AFP



Chelsea's Italian head coach Enzo Maresca celebrated with his players after their winning goal against Liverpool. **PHOTO: AFP**

Sumo stars make giant splash in London



A ring-blessing ceremony takes place ahead of the Grand Sumo Tournament in London. **PHOTO: AFP**

FOR one week, a corner of London has been transformed into a pocket of ancient Japan, with dozens of sumo wrestlers descending on the city in a rare

foray outside the sport's homeland.

The Royal Albert Hall, world-renowned as a concert venue, is housing an authentic

soil-and-sand dohyo, or wrestling ring, and a striking roof reminiscent of a Shinto shrine.

Thousands of fans packed the venue in west London for the opening night of the five-day Grand Sumo Tournament on Wednesday featuring 40 rikishi, including megastars Onosato and Hoshoryu.

It is the first time the Japan Sumo Association (JSA) has staged an event outside Japan since 2013, when the wrestlers competed in Jakarta — and marks a return to London after a 34-year absence.

"I want to show people the good things about sumo," said Ukrainian wrestler Aonishiki, who won his opening bout.

"You only usually see sumo in Japan, so there aren't any people walking around Europe with topknots and kimonos. I hope it will be a good chance to interact with people." — AFP

Nepal ask FIFA to overturn Malaysia defeat because of player bans

NEPAL have appealed to FIFA to overturn their 2-0 defeat to Malaysia in 2027 Asian Cup qualifiers in March this year, claiming that their opponents fielded an ineligible player.

Last month, the world governing body FIFA banned seven Malaysian foreign-born players for a year and fined the FA of Malaysia (FAM) \$440,000, saying they had submitted forged ancestry documents.

One of the seven, Hector Hevel, scored Malaysia's open-

ing goal in the match played in Johor, Malaysia.

"We have reached out regarding an ineligible player in the match. Thus the result has to be overturned," Indra Man Tuladhar, CEO of All Nepal Football Association, told AFP.

FIFA accused the FAM of submitting doctored or false documents that said the seven players had Malaysian ancestry, making them eligible to represent the country. FAM denied knowingly doing anything wrong. — AFP



Hector Hevel (second left), who was subsequently banned by FIFA, celebrates his goal for Malaysia against Nepal in an Asian Cup qualifier in March this year. **PHOTO: AFP**

Ahmedabad set to host 2030 Commonwealth Games

THE Indian city of Ahmedabad is in prime position to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games, the Executive Board of Commonwealth Sport announced on Wednesday.

The choice of Ahmedabad, also known as Amdavad, will be put forward to the full Common-

wealth Sport membership, with a final decision to be taken at the Commonwealth Sport General Assembly in Glasgow on 26 November. "The Executive Board of Commonwealth Sport has today confirmed that it will recommend Amdavad, India, as the proposed host city for the

2030 Centenary Commonwealth Games," the Executive Board said in a statement.

Ahmedabad is the key city in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home state of Gujarat, home to a 130,000-seater arena which is the world's biggest cricket stadium. — AFP



Ceasefire takes effect between Pakistan, Afghanistan

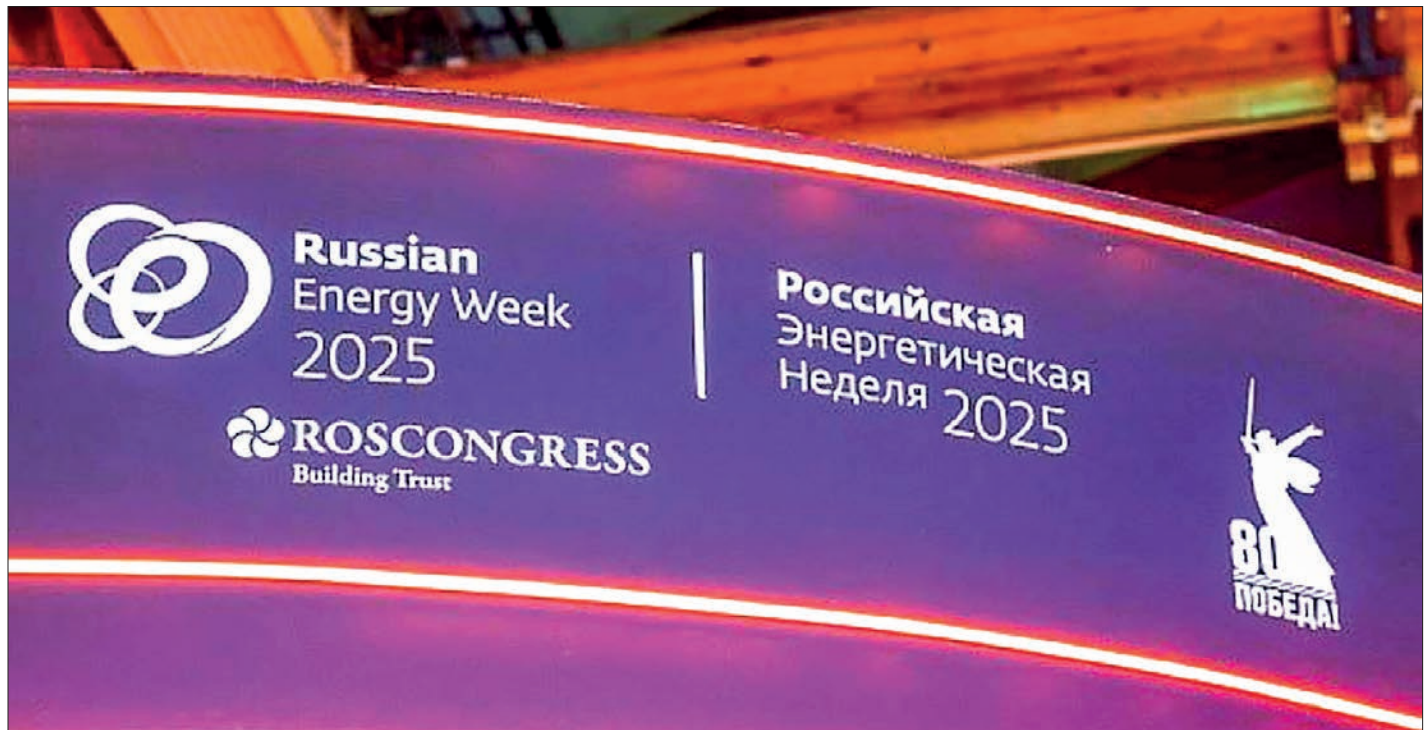
PAKISTAN and Afghanistan on Wednesday issued separate statements to announce a ceasefire between the two sides, which has been implemented later.

Pakistan's Foreign Office said on Wednesday that at the request of the Afghan side, Pakistan and Afghanistan agreed on a temporary 48-hour ceasefire to ease border tensions.

"During this period, both sides will make sincere efforts to find a positive solution to this complex but solvable issue through constructive dialogue," said the Foreign Office.

Afghan government spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid announced on social media on the same day that a ceasefire would be implemented between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Mujahid said that at the request and insistence of the Pakistani side, a ceasefire between the two countries would take effect Wednesday. The Afghan government has instructed all its forces to observe the ceasefire as long as the other side does not launch any attacks. — Xinhua

Russia hosts Energy Week Forum in Moscow, spotlighting global energy trends and cooperation



The event gathers over 7,000 participants from 100 countries. PHOTO: THE RUSSIAN ENERGY WEEK

This year's theme, "Shaping the Energy of the Future Together," unites government officials, energy company leaders, and scientific experts.

THE Russian Energy Week International Forum is taking place in Moscow from 15 to 17 October 2025.

Russian President Vladimir Putin will address a speech at the plenary session of the 8th Russian Energy Week (REW)

International Forum. This year's theme, "Shaping the Energy of the Future Together", brings together government officials, leaders of major energy companies, and experts from the scientific community.

The event gathers over 7,000 participants from 100 countries, featuring more than 60 business sessions on key challenges and innovations shaping the global energy sector. — SPUTNIK

AI investments to exceed US\$500B globally in 2025: WEF chief



The Annual Meetings of the Global Future Councils and Cybersecurity 2025 are organized on 14th-16th October by the UAE Government in partnership with WEF, bringing together more than 700 experts and specialists from 93 countries in 37 Councils. PHOTO: WEF

THE world is in the throes of the "Fourth Industrial Revolution", driven by a surge in artificial intelligence (AI) investment expected to top US\$500 billion this year, World Economic Forum (WEF) President Borge Brende said on Wednesday.

Speaking at the World Future Councils and Cybersecurity Meetings 2025 in Dubai, Brende projected that AI could boost global productivity by 10 percent over the next decade.

He cautioned, however, that the technology would also reshape job markets and intensify global competition.

He also warned that escalating cybersecurity threats were exacting

a heavy toll, with global losses from cybercrime amounting to \$2-3 trillion annually — nearly three per cent of global gross domestic product.

This underscored an urgent need for international cooperation and robust regulatory frameworks to keep pace with technological advances, he stressed.

"Building effective digital governance systems has become a top priority to protect vital sectors and ensure a balance between innovation and cybersecurity," Brende said.

He added that the WEF was working with partners to formulate comprehensive guidelines to support responsible digital transformation. — Xinhua