

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.

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Chief Minister meets departmental personnel and people to facilitate rehabilitation work in Hsipaw, Kyaukme District, Shan State (North)

60th Myanmar Gems Emporium to shine in Nay Pyi Taw from 17 to 26 Nov

Myanmar’s pearls, jade, lots, and gems will be showcased at the emporium, where licensed domestic jewellery traders operating in line with the Myanmar Gemstone Law will be eligible to make purchases.

THE 60th edition of Myanmar Gems Emporium is scheduled to take place from 17 to 26 November at the Maniyadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw, the Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee under the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environmental Conservation notified on 7 November. Myanmar’s pearl, jade, lots and gems will be showcased. Those domestic jewellery traders holding a licence and operating gem and jewellery trading businesses under the Myanmar Gemstone Law are entitled to purchase them. Interested business entities can enquire about details of the 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium through the committee, the Myanmar Gems Enterprise head office in Nay Pyi Taw, and the Myanmar Pearl Enterprise head office in Nay Pyi Taw, the committee stated. — NN/KK



Gem traders evaluate jade at the 59th Myanmar Gems Emporium.

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

47
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.**

Motto for 105th National Victory Day

**Let's march towards
a new golden nation in unity**

10th Waning of Tazaungmone 1387ME
14 November 2025

**Democratic Force Labour Party and
Mro National Development Party
deliver campaign speeches**

THE electoral speeches of the Democratic Force Labour Party and Mro National Development Party are featured on page 10 and 11 of today's issue of The Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper.

Objectives for 105th National Victory Day 2025

- ★ To preserve and protect the perpetuity and stability of the Union by all ethnic people as a national duty
- ★ To build a nation with human resources who have perfect knowledge and skills
- ★ To promote national education for the continued and sustainable development and prosperity of the nation
- ★ To preserve and safeguard national cultural characteristics from disappearing

MPT launches Tazaungdine Festival photo contest

MPT has announced that it continues to invite participation in the “Celebrate Together with MPT: Tazaungdine Festival Commemorative Photography Contest”, held as part of the preservation and promotion of Myanmar’s traditional culture and customs.

On the full moon day of Tazaungmone, 15,000 oil lamps were lit in devotion at prominent pagodas in Yangon, including the Botahtaung Pagoda, Kaba Aye Pagoda, and Sule Pagoda, as well as at Yattawmu Pagoda in Shan State (East). Later, on 6 November, lamps were lit at Shwe Byine Phyu Pagoda in Mon State, and on 8 November at Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago Region (East).

Mr Yoshinori Yagi from the Commercial Department of

MPT-KSGM Joint Operations said, “During the Tazaungdine Festival, alongside the lamp-lighting ceremonies, we are holding a commemorative photography contest from 1 to 13 November. We warmly invite everyone to participate in the ‘Celebrate Together with MPT: Tazaungdine Festival Commemorative Photography Contest’.”

As part of the festival, the photography contest has been ongoing from 1 to 13 November, inviting photography enthusiasts to submit their entries. Those who have not yet participated can still join the contest from their respective regions and view details at: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1HEoB-FEgoG/?mibextid=wwXIfr>. — Oktha/MKKS



MPT staff members light oil lamps on the full moon day of Tazaungmone. PHOTO: KO LWIN

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)

MSEZ Central Working Committee holds 2nd meeting

THE Myanmar Special Economic Zone Central Working Committee held its second meeting for the 2025-2026 financial year in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the meeting, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Kan Zaw, who is also chairman of the working committee, said efforts must be made to increase export volume at the Thilawa Special Economic Zone to reduce the country's trade deficit as much as possible. He also stated that closer cooperation with domestic MSMEs is needed to promote the development of the MSME sector.

Work must also be carried out in accordance with laws, rules, and procedures for the

Kyaukphyu Deep-Sea Port Project. For the Dawei Special Economic Zone, he instructed that all investments must be managed in line with the Myanmar Special Economic Zone Law and its related rules and regulations.

Union Minister for Commerce U Chit Swe, who is vice-chair of the committee, briefed on the ongoing work plans to increase the investment at Thilawa Special Economic Zone and successfully implement the Kyaukphyu Special Economic Zone and Dawei Special Economic Zone projects.

The participants coordinated the discussion, and Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw made proper instructions. — MNA/KTZH



The Myanmar Special Economic Zone Central Working Committee meeting 2/2025 in progress, addressed by Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw.

20th ACCMSME meeting and related sessions held

THE 20th meeting of the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (ACCMSME) and related meetings were held at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Union Minister for Industry Mr Charlie Than, who is also vice-chair of the MSME Development Central Committee, committee members, relevant officials from departments and associations, and Assistant Director-General Mr Wittawat of the Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion (OSMEP) of Thailand, Chair of the 20th ACCMSME, and officials of ASEAN countries joined virtually.

The Union minister said the MSMEs are the backbone of the economies of ASEAN countries and play a vital role in driving economic growth and job creation. The country fully sup-



The 20th meeting of the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (ACCMSME) underway yesterday, with Union Minister Dr Charlie Than speaking on the occasion.

ports ASEAN's common goal of empowering MSMEs through digital technology, innovation, and sustainable practices.

He emphasized that ASEAN member states need to continue strengthening cooperation to promote digital adoption and technological advancement for MSMEs, enhance their competitiveness in regional and global value chains, ensure access to financial mechanisms, and foster inclusiveness and sustainability, the importance of building inclusive market integration frameworks under ASEAN, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing for MSME competitiveness and resilience, and upskilling ASEAN entrepreneurs and policymakers to facilitate a green transition.

The Union minister reaffirmed that Myanmar consistently supports ASEAN's leading initiatives to foster innovative MSMEs and create a sustainable MSME ecosystem. He added that, through partnerships, knowledge exchange, and regional solidarity, MSMEs can become powerful engines for equitable and sustainable growth.

Mr Wittawat then talked about the commitment to conduct a review in 2025 focused on promoting MSME investment, creating an inclusive economic environment, and empowering women entrepreneurs. He added that all should cooperate in regional cooperation and successive development of MSMEs in the future as 2030 analysis.

In the evening, the dinner event for the 20th ACCMSME and related meetings was held at the Parkroyal Hotel. The meeting will last for four days. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

NYRDDC concludes BA, BSc Degree Course 21, AGTI Diploma Course 22



THE graduation ceremony of the BA and BSc Degree Course 21, the AGTI Diploma Course 22, and the job appointment letter handover ceremony of Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Yangon) took place yesterday at the convocation hall of the Degree College in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township, Yangon Region.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae said the Nationalities Youth Resource Development Degree College (Yangon and Sagaing) was established to enable youths from border areas to participate in promoting stability, regional, and socioeconomic development in border areas as reliable government staff.

To date, the degree college in Yangon has produced a total of 3,536 degree holders: 729 arts degrees, 1,559 science degrees, and 1,248 AGTI diplomas.

He then urged graduates to cooperate in im-

Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae presents an honorary award to an outstanding graduate.

plementing the State development and defence sector with the right moral, opinion, stance and spirit together with the people, understanding the goodwill of the government.

The Union minister and the party presented awards to the outstanding graduates and job appointment letters to the graduates.

At noon, the Union minister met with the principal, vice-principal, professor and department heads, and heard the report made by the principal.

The Union minister and party then observed the teaching session, the construction of the sports stadium and basic military training.

The Union minister and party then went to the Central Training School in Dagon Myothit (North) Township and inspected the compound, and presented cash prizes to the staff.

On arrival at the Dagon Myothit District Development Supervisory Office, the head of the office reported on the regional development activities, use of machinery and the storage of supplies.

The Union minister attended the dinner in the evening, watched entertainment programmes of students and presented cash prizes and a flower basket to the students. — MNA/KTZH

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

- 1. Office of the State Administration Council
<https://sacoffice.gov.mm>
- 2. Ministry of Defence
<https://www.mod.gov.mm>
- 3. Ministry of Legal Affairs
<https://www.mlis.gov.mm>
- 4. Ministry of Information
<https://www.moi.gov.mm>
- 5. Myawady Webportal
<https://myawady.net.mm>
- 6. Myanmar National Portal
<https://myanmar.gov.mm>

Russian Pacific Fleet ships arrive in Yangon for Myanmar-Russia naval exercises and goodwill visit



Photos show the Russian Pacific Fleet's frigate Marshal Shaposhnikov, corvette Gremyashchiy, and support vessel Boris Butoma arriving at Thilawa Port yesterday, with Tatmadaw (Navy) senior officers welcoming the visiting delegates.

THE Russian Pacific Fleet's frigate Marshal Shaposhnikov, corvette Gremyashchiy, and support vessel Boris Butoma arrived at Thilawa Port in Yangon, Myanmar, yesterday evening for the third Myanmar-Russia joint naval security exercise and a goodwill visit.

They were welcomed by senior officers and servicemen of Tatmadaw (Navy), as well as Vice-Admiral Aleksei Anatolievich Kiiashko, Deputy Commander of the Russian Navy, and the Russian Military Attaché to Myanmar.

The visiting vessels are com-

manded by Captain 1st Rank Ulyanenko Aleksey of the Russian Pacific Fleet, accompanied by officers and crew members. During their visit, they are scheduled to tour notable sites in Yangon, participate in friendly sports competitions, and conduct harbour-phase exercises. — MNA/MKKS



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We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email aungthuya@gnlm.com.mm with your name and title.

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

NDSC Information Team Leader briefs public on upcoming multiparty democratic election

EVERYBODY, Mingalaba! Today, I would like to inform our fellow citizens about the upcoming multiparty democratic general election in our country. All the people know that the first phase of the election will be held on 28 December. As of today, there are only 48 days to go until the first phase. The second phase will take place on 11 January 2026, and the third phase will be held two weeks after the second phase. Regarding the election, we have observed that some individuals who oppose it are spreading misinformation and encouraging misleading beliefs among the public. I am here today to provide clear information to ensure that citizens are well-informed and understand the facts.

In our country, under its own monarchy, there were no elections. However, during the colonial period, as the political awareness of the Myanmar people grew, the British colonial government had to introduce and reform administrative systems. In 1920, the GCBA (General Council of Burmese Associations) emerged and demanded Home Rule. Instead of granting full Home Rule, the British colonial authorities introduced and implemented a dual-administration system called Diarchy. Under the Diarchy system, elections for the Legislative Council were held on 11 November 1922. Historical records show that this was the first election in the history of Myanmar.

Looking back at the elections held in Myanmar, from 1922 to 1947 there were six elections, during the parliamentary period (1948-1962) there were three elections, under the era of the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party (1962-1988) there were four elections, during the State Law and Order Restoration Council/State Peace and Development Council period (1988-2010) there was one election, and in the democratic era (2010 to the present) there have been six elections, of which three were general elections and three were by-elections. These records show that the people of our country are not unfamiliar with the voting system and have had close experience with it. The government has held elections, and throughout different periods, citizens have exercised their rights by actively participating in voting and making their choices.

In our country, the multiparty democratic system that the people desire has been implemented according to the 2008 Constitution. The first multiparty democratic election was held on 7 November 2010, and the first Hluttaw session convened on 31 January 2011. The second general election under the multiparty democratic system took place on 8 November 2015, with the second Hluttaw

session convening on 1 February 2016. The third general election was held on 8 November 2020, during which numerous electoral irregularities occurred. According to the official statement of the Election Commission at that time, there were about 38 million eligible voters, and the number of irregular votes identified was approximately 10.4 million. This is not a mere thousand, ten thousand, or even a million – it exceeds ten million, which accounts for roughly one-fourth of all eligible voters. For these irregularities, political parties and Tatmadaw initially called on the Union Election Commission to resolve the issues according to legal procedures. When this was rejected, they formally requested a special session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as a second step, which was also denied. Even when a third request was made to the government, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, and the Union Election Commission to find a solution, it was again refused. After all these steps, even when there were two separate requests to convene a meeting of the National Defence and Security Council, no resolution or action was taken. Because of this lack of resolution, the third Hluttaw was convened, and an attempt was made to form a government through force, which led Tatmadaw on 1 February 2021, to assume the responsibilities of the state in accordance with the provisions of the state of emergency in the 2008 Constitution. The reason why all this is being recounted is to clarify history: who lawfully and properly requested legal remedies, and who ignored and violated the law. During this period, I personally, as part of Tatmadaw's information team, repeatedly held press briefings and provided evidence-backed explanations in front of the international media. All the claims were supported by solid evidence. It was the NLD government and they appointed the Union Election Commission that, instead of resolving the electoral fraud through legal channels, attempted to seize state power unlawfully. They deliberately sabotaged the nationwide, lawfully conducted multiparty democratic system that the public desired. What we are doing now is systematically rebuilding that multiparty democratic system, which the people wanted and which had been deliberately destroyed.

Under the democratic system we practise, the people themselves elect the representatives who will serve in the Hluttaw. For the upcoming multiparty general election, I strongly encourage every eligible citizen to vote. Why is this important? It is because an election is the fastest and most effective mechanism to hear the voice of the people and fulfil



Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun.

the public's wishes for their well-being. Let me repeat: an election is the fastest and most effective mechanism to hear the voice of the people and address their needs and aspirations. In this election, the people have the right to personally identify and choose candidates who share their views, can closely fulfil their desired goals, and will faithfully represent and work for the interests of the state and the welfare of the public. The representatives you elect can be monitored and held accountable to ensure they fully take responsibility for you and your community. When voters actively participate in elections, the elected representative becomes more responsible. From your personal needs and aspirations to the development and well-being of your neighbourhood, town, village, or region, the representative you choose acts as a direct channel to convey your requests and wishes to the government. I want to emphasize that all citizens should not miss or neglect this opportunity. At this point, I also want to speak about the international recognition and credibility of elections.

In the elections held worldwide in 2024, we can also observe instances where the international community interfered in existing governments, often applying strict and coercive measures. According to the annual election reports on the websites of international democracy and election support organizations, out of 74 elections conducted globally, only 22 were carried out peacefully. In the remaining elections, there were strikes, disputes over results, protests, and even some instances of violence. Criticism and intervention from the international community were also evident. The ability to conduct an election properly depends largely on the political maturity of the respective countries. Even countries that are considered strong democracies globally often face criticism, challenges, and scrutiny regarding the results of their elections.

Our country, by both historical and political context, is a sovereign and independent nation. The authority of our country stems from the people of Myanmar and exists throughout the entire Republic

of the Union of Myanmar. Moreover, our country's foreign policy is conducted independently, actively, and non-aligned. Myanmar has never, and will never, interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. Similarly, our country's electoral processes, carried out according to our domestic affairs, national context, and history, are matters that concern only our internal affairs and our citizens. I want to make it absolutely clear that no foreign influence or interference can disrupt or alter the course of Myanmar's elections. We are the people of Myanmar, and it is only the people of Myanmar who have the right to shape the future of Myanmar. Decisions concerning Myanmar must be made by us, the citizens who cast our votes in the elections. That is sufficient.

In Myanmar, a free and fair general election will be conducted under the Constitution, led by the Union Election Commission. In the upcoming election, a total of over 5,000 candidates will compete, representing 57 political parties and 95 independent candidates. To ensure broad representation of ethnic groups and all social strata in the Hluttaw, the election will use the FPTP system for the Pyithu Hluttaw and a mixed-member proportional system (MMP) for the Amyotha Hluttaw and the State/Region Hluttaws. Although there are varied international reactions to Myanmar's elections, support from partner countries remains strong and solid. The country's election processes are widely recognized and acknowledged. Because Myanmar's elections are conducted transparently and securely, partner countries, international organizations, and other nations are invited to observe and study the election process. Domestic and international media are also invited. Modern technology, including MEVM machines, is being used to prevent election fraud. As a result, the parliament formed from this election will be able to demonstrate to the world that it is a legitimate and credible legislature.

A genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system will only become strong – and a union based on democracy and federal principles can only be built – if the government, the people, Tatmadaw, and all relevant organizations work together in unity towards that common political goal. Therefore, I would like to urge all citizens across the nation to actively participate and cast their votes in the upcoming multiparty democratic general election to be held in December this year and in January next year, so that it can be successfully and smoothly completed. The 2025 multiparty democratic general election must be a definite success. Thank you all.

NATIONAL

Now, I'm safe under the care of the Myanmar authorities; Xu You Qiqng (Chinese)

A LARGE number of foreigners entered Myanmar illegally through the border crossings, including Thailand and other neighbouring countries, and engaged in online scams, online gambling, and other criminal activities in areas of Maehtawthalay, KK Park in Myawady Township, Kayin State. They were arrested and are being transferred systematically to their respective countries in accordance with the law and procedures.

Currently, the government and Tatmadaw continue combating both local and foreign criminals involved in various illegal activities, including unlawful online gambling, which hinders the development of the country, and demolition is being conducted on buildings inside KK Park, where those criminals had been living and operating.

The following are the interviews of those involved in online scams and gambling operations based in KK Park, and are now being repatriated to their respective countries in accordance with the law and procedures.



Distribution of meal boxes.



Gladys Muthoni (Kenya)

A friend contacted me through Telegram and Facebook, saying there was a computer-related job in Thailand. So, I flew from Kenya to Ethiopia, then from there to Bangkok of Thailand. From Bangkok, I came alone by car to Myanmar and arrived at KK Park. I didn't know it was an online scam job. I thought it was a normal computer-related job. Only after I arrived there, I had to work on an online scam operation. I had to work about 18 hours a day. Now, I've been told that we will be sent back to our home countries through our embassies.

for HR, I actually did online scam work, about 12 hours a day. They contacted me through Telegram. Sometimes, when we didn't meet the daily targets, they punished us. I even saw my friends being punished. Inside KK Park, there were buildings numbered 1 to 6, and I estimate around a thousand Filipinos were working there.

At the holding centre, the Myanmar government is providing food, medicine, and all necessities. What I knew was that we would be repatriated within two weeks through our embassy. I really want to return home as quickly as possible.



Benson Koech (Kenya)

I was working in Dubai and came to Bangkok for a visit. Through a Telegram account, a company contacted me, offering a job. I was interested in it and decided to work in Bangkok. Then, they asked me if I wanted to work at a place that was about eight hours away from Bangkok. They came to pick me up in luxury cars, so I followed them — but I ended up here. I asked my friends about the job, whether it was good or not. They said it was a good job and the salary was high, and proper chances were awaiting. Therefore, I came here. When I arrived here, I refused to work, but I had no choice. Even though I arrived in KK Park, I just thought I was in Bangkok. Here, I couldn't go anywhere. They trained us for a month on how to do the job, gave us four phones, and instructed us to send thousands of messages daily. When the other side sent a message such as hi or how are you, the senior taught us how to reply. When I arrived here, I came to know KK Park, which I hadn't

heard of before. We followed Beijing time, working from 9 am until 2 am. If we didn't respond fast enough, we were punished, sometimes even denied food for two or three days or forced to sleep elsewhere.

Now, I am OK at the detention centre of Myanmar, and conditions are much better than at KK Park. When I was in KK Park, I told my manager that I wanted to return, but they didn't accept. I'm happy and grateful to the government for the good food for breakfast, lunch and dinner, water, and facilities.

About 80 per cent of us came through Thailand, most from African countries. In the past five months, fewer people have come through Thai visas. When I first came, my trip took about 18 hours. The injuries on my body are from electric shocks used as punishment. I also saw people being hit on the head with tables. When severe punishment was to be given, they took people into offices to beat them.

At KK Park, we were only allowed to use phones for one hour under strict supervision and no passwords were allowed. They monitored all data and only allowed us to contact one or two family members. Anyone asking for help from the authority was threatened with death. We were initially paid 30,000 baht, but later received nothing except for food. If we were late for work, we were fined. Our families of all Africans believed we were working in Bangkok or China, because we were not allowed to tell them that we were working in KK park.



Mumtaz Tahir Khan (Pakistan)

I knew about this job online. I arrived in Bangkok through a certain contact,

and when I got there, I drank some juice. When I woke up, I was in a jungle area guarded by three armed men holding swords and pistols. They told me I was now in KK Park. Two Chinese women brought me to an office. I hadn't seen these Chinese people, and I didn't even know. They offered a job with 15,000 baht for the first three months. But I never received a single payment. I had no choice and I had to stay there. I thanked the Myanmar government for rescuing me. I stayed there for five months. I had to work in message-sending operations. There was 1 to 5 KK Park. I tried to escape, but I failed. My wife and brother were also working there. Therefore, I needed much support. As I wanted to escape, I left everything when I came here. I also thank all who provided me with the needed support at the detention centre. I hope I can return after contacting with embassy. Before I came here, I worked in real estate in my country. I came to Bangkok because someone offered a high-paid job. I thought it would be a legal typing job like in India, but only after arriving did I realize it was a scam operation. I worked from 8 am to 2 pm. I had only a 30-minute lunch break. Then, I had to work from 5 pm to 4 am, and I worked 17-18 hours a day. Now, I'm safe at the detention centre, and I sincerely thank the government for their help and coordination with embassies. I only wish to return home as quickly as possible.



Zhang Hao Nan (Chinese)

I came from China, not knowing what company I would work for. I was cheated and didn't know what kind of job I would

SEE PAGE 7



Mary Jane a Vicente (Filipino)

I came from the Philippines to Thailand by flight. To reach from Thailand to Myanmar, I had to cross a mountain. A Chinese man brought 27 of us in three cars. We crossed a river at night from the Thai side and arrived at KK Park. I was told I would work as an HR position with a high salary. I didn't know it was an online scam job. They never mentioned Myanmar to work, but they said I had to work in Thailand. But I arrived in Myanmar. I didn't have an idea to work in Myanmar. I didn't come to Myanmar but to Thailand.

Here, although they said I was hired

NATIONAL

Democracy is an administrative system,
while federalism ensures the sharing of powers and entitlements

❖ “Our ultimate goal is to build a Union-based nation founded on democracy and a federal system. Democracy is an administrative system chosen by the people, while federalism serves to share powers and entitlements.”

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman and Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the opening ceremony of the Peace Forum 2025 on 25 June 2025)

FROM PAGE 6

have to do. I didn't come for an online issue. I arrived here recently, about for only two months. I haven't worked yet. My friend called me to work in Thailand. From Thailand, I arrived here. I was told to take the debts in Thailand, and so I arrived in Thailand. They lied to me to take the money. When I arrived in Thailand, strangers took me. Five people took me in a car and I arrived in KK Park.

I came through Thailand and then arrived here. I've been here for only about two months and haven't worked yet. I was told I would collect some debt in Thailand, but I was tricked and brought here by five men in a car.



Bong Bong (Chinese)

I arrived in Thailand from Guangdong. Then, I was forced into a car and beaten when I resisted. At KK Park, I did not work, so they locked me in a room and beat me. I only realized I was in Myanmar after arriving in KK Park. For five

months, I was detained and given just one meal per day. Now, I'm safe thanks to the Myanmar government, but I want to go back home. I'm still waiting as my side (officials) haven't come to take me yet.



Xu You qing (Chinese)

I left China and came to Thailand through illegal routes. I didn't know I was entering Myanmar from Thailand. I've been at KK Park for just over two months. Since I didn't know how to work, they locked me in a small room. I was allowed to contact my family once a day, and I had to say everything was fine. I met someone named Phyto Phyto online, who told me there were logistics jobs involving cargo loading and unloading. Now, I'm safe under the care of the Myanmar authorities, who are keeping us secure. I only hope for a quick process as I want to return home soon. — Aung Gyaing/KTZH



Photos show the control office delivering healthcare services and distributing meal boxes to undocumented foreign entrants. **PHOTOS: MIN MIN**



An advert poster for MPT's new programme. **PHOTO: MPT**

MPT rolls out customizable plan for data, calls, SMS, and entertainment

ACCORDING to MPT's Yangon office, MPT has introduced a new programme today titled “Your Choice, Your Style DIY”, which features a new package combining data, voice calls, SMS, and entertainment services.

Mr Yoshinori Yagi from the Commercial Department of MPT-KSGM Joint Operations said, “We are committed to continuously providing better services that meet the needs of

our customers. Today, we are delighted to introduce the ‘Your Choice, Your Style DIY’ package, which allows users across the country to create and customize their own packages based on their preferences and usage.”

The newly launched packages include data options ranging from a minimum of 100 MB to 20 GB, voice call options from 10 minutes to 200 minutes, SMS bundles from 10 to

200 messages, and entertainment packages covering movies, songs, and games.

As part of the benefits, users can play a lucky draw once to win up to 200 GB of data, earn MPT Club points, and send gifts to their family and loved ones. The packages, which can be purchased through the MPT4U application, are valid for up to 90 days. — Oktha/MKKS

The people are urged to receive vaccination of COVID-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of COVID-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.

Enhance livelihoods of rural people to reduce poverty

POVERTY could result from two main causes: failure in economic enterprises and inability to work due to natural disasters. If efforts could be made to ensure the success of agricultural and livestock breeding activities — which are the main livelihoods of rural people in Myanmar — it would greatly contribute to poverty reduction.

To alleviate poverty, it is necessary to implement programmes that promote increased production capacity and create more employment opportunities. Therefore, the State is striving to enhance agriculture-based production industries that benefit the entire population, aiming to achieve national economic growth

Therefore, ensuring good market prices for agricultural products and making agricultural employment income attractive have a direct impact on reducing poverty among rural populations. Regarding poverty alleviation, responsible authorities in each sector must wholeheartedly implement measures to ensure the success of these initiatives.

33.4 per cent. Households working in non-agricultural sectors have the lowest poverty rate at 13.2 per cent. As such, it is necessary to find solutions to address low income in the agricultural sector and to create income-generating opportunities.

In addition, households with many children and large family sizes, or those headed by persons with disabilities, by individuals with no education, or with only limited education, often lack sufficient skills and human resource capacity for earning a livelihood, making them more likely to experience poverty.

It is necessary to expand agricultural and livestock activities according to the region and population to ensure that daily food requirements are met. By doing so, the social and economic conditions of rural populations will improve and develop further. All agricultural and livestock activities are implemented with a focus on rural areas, which will increase rural incomes and gradually reduce poverty indicators.

Therefore, ensuring good market prices for agricultural products and making agricultural employment income attractive have a direct impact on reducing poverty among rural populations. Regarding poverty alleviation, responsible authorities in each sector must wholeheartedly implement measures to ensure the success of these initiatives.

and improve the overall social and economic well-being of the people.

It can be found that poverty is more prevalent in rural areas, with 87 per cent of all poor people in the country living in rural regions. The poor and vulnerable are more likely to suffer from rising food prices, serious illnesses, accidents, low prices for agricultural products, and sudden natural disasters. As a result, rural residents are more affected by such hardships than those living in urban areas.

Among those engaged in agriculture, landowners have better social and living conditions than those without land. Households engaged in farming but without land ownership have the highest poverty rate at 45.8 per cent, while households without land but engaged in both farming and other types of work have the second-highest poverty rate at

CULTURE is defined as the collective values, customs, norms, arts, social institutions, and intellectual achievements of a particular society. Culture is the significance of any society, and at its heart lies intangible cultural heritage (ICH), the living expressions, traditions, and knowledge passed down through generations. Unlike monuments or artefacts, intangible cultural heritage includes oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, traditional craftsmanship, and indigenous knowledge systems. Though invisible, these elements are vital for maintaining the cultural identity, continuity, and cohesion of communities across the world.

The intangible cultural heritage (ICH) means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills, as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith, that communities, groups and, in some cases, indi-

viduals recognize as part of their cultural heritage. This intangible cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity.

One of the most significant roles of intangible cultural heritage is in shaping and preserving cultural identity. In a rapidly globalizing world, where dominant cultures can overshadow local traditions, ICH serves as a powerful reminder of a community's unique values, beliefs, and ways of life. Whether it's the storytelling traditions of West Africa, the tea ceremony in Japan, or the Sufi music of South Asia, these practices keep local histories and perspectives alive. They give people a sense of belonging and pride in their heritage.

Moreover, intangible cultural

The Importance of Intangible Cultural Heritage

heritage fosters social cohesion and intergenerational continuity. By participating in cultural practices, from folk dances to religious rituals, individuals strengthen their bonds with family and community. These practices are often transmitted from elders to youth, creating a link between generations. This transmission not only preserves knowledge but also instils moral values, respect, and cooperation.

In addition to cultural value, intangible heritage holds practical and economic importance. Traditional knowledge related to agriculture, medicine, and natural resource management offers sustainable alternatives to



Unlike tangible artefacts, ICH preserves cultural identity, continuity, and community cohesion worldwide. This photo captures artistes performing Mahagita, Myanmar's traditional classic music. **PHOTO: GNLM**

By Dr Than Lwin Tun

modern practices. For example, indigenous knowledge of herbal medicine has informed scientific research and led to the development of new pharmaceuticals. Similarly, local festivals and traditional crafts can boost tourism, create jobs, and support local economies without sacrificing authenticity.

Furthermore, intangible heritage contributes to peace and dialogue. It promotes respect for cultural diversity and human creativity. When communities share and celebrate their intangible heritage with others, they build mutual understanding and reduce prejudice. However, intangible cultural heritage is under threat. Modernization, urbaniza-

tion, environmental changes, and even conflict can cause traditions to be forgotten or suppressed. As older generations pass away without transferring their knowledge, valuable aspects of heritage risk disappearing forever. Safeguarding intangible heritage, therefore, requires active documentation, education, and support from governments, communities, and individuals alike.

Additionally, intangible cultural heritage is not just a legacy of the past; it is a living, evolving source of identity, wisdom, and creativity. Its preservation is essential for cultural diversity, social harmony, and sustainable development. Therefore, protecting and promoting intangible heritage helps strengthen social bonds, foster mutual respect, and sustain cultural diversity in a rapidly globalizing world.

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WHAT is a short story? Many writers and critics will probably have different answers to this question. Even though I don't know whether to agree with them, I am strongly of the opinion that a short story is a kind of writing that can be read in one sitting, which may take 10-15 minutes to read. In general, a novel is longer than a short story in length, but some novels are considered short stories from the point of view of subject matter inclusion. Short stories tend to tell many truths about life, like novels. Unlike most novels, short stories always spotlight only one theme rather than several themes. Of course, a short story looks like a window on the world, that is to say, a mirror of times. If we want to see ourselves in the mirror, we should have known the elements of a short story at first.

There can be categorized five elements in a short story as theme, plot, character, setting, and style.

Simply and clearly, the theme of a short story is just the subject matter concerned with the story. Even so, it includes the basic issue or problem related to a story as well as the moral or lesson which can be extracted from the story. Some stories are famous

The Elements of a Short Story

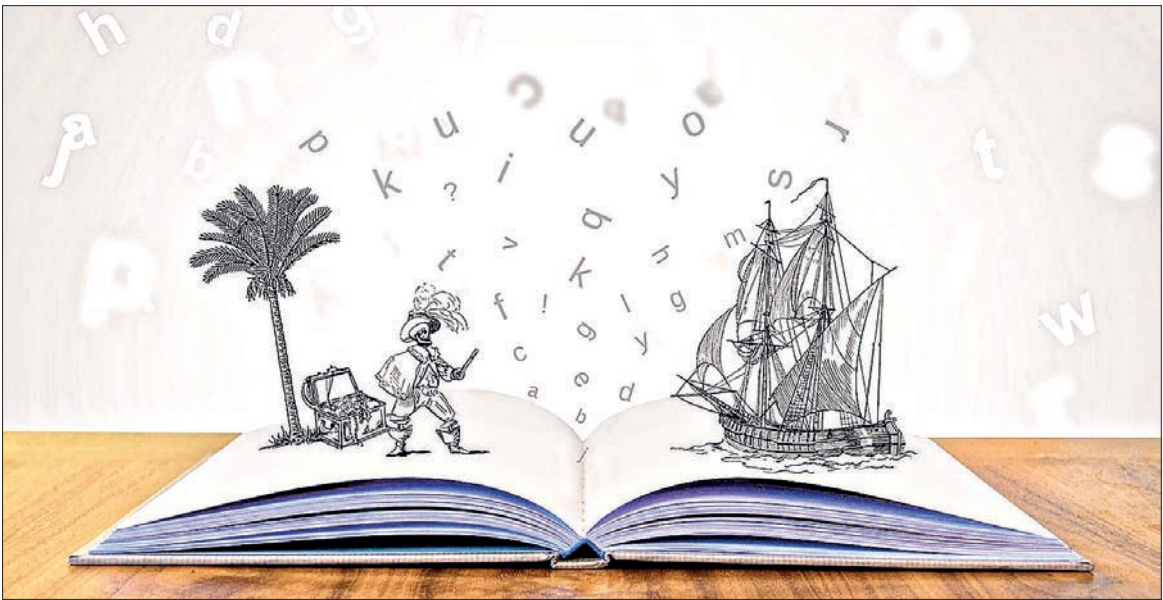
By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

for their interesting theme only; some are popular with their key message itself, not because of other things. That is why a short story writer is able to choose a theme that he really and truly can write well, and his purpose is short and to the point. No mat-

ter whether the theme of a short story is new or old, it will always be in the hands of a skilful writer.

A short story's plot is generally a deliberately arranged sequence of interrelated events that make up the basic narrative structure of a story. Never-

theless, the creation of a plot in short stories usually depends only on their writers, as far as I can see. A conservative plot likes to move through five different stages, namely exposition, complication, crisis, falling action, and resolution. As the beginning part



Unlike articles or essays, short stories feature a reliable theme, valid plot, living characters, real setting, and sharp style — elements some authors mistakenly overlook. **ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY**

of a story, exposition provides the necessary background information, sets the scene, establishes the situation, dates the action, introduces the characters or the conflict and even the potential for a conflict as always. Certainly, complication, also the rising action, will break the existing equilibrium as well as introduce the characters and the underlying conflict, if not yet mentioned by the exposition. The conflict is then gradually developed and intensified. Thirdly, a crisis means the moment at which the plot reaches its highest point of emotional intensity. It is also the turning point of the plot, directly causing its resolution. Next, falling action refers to that the tension is relieved and the plot moves towards its appointed conclusion after the crisis has been resolved. At last, resolution unknots or unties the conflict. We should be aware that all five of these parts cannot be expected to take place in composing a short story. Even if all five parts are included in the narrative, a short story can never give time

or space to them for their detailed description. And by Sayagyi Shwe Ou Daung, resolution is the life of detective stories. Though other parts of a story can be caused quite easily, a detective story will surely fail if its resolution is not handled very skilfully.

In writing a story, characters play a must role as regards the plot. Without any characters, there would be no plot or story. Also, characters are the primary attraction to the reader for the simple reason that the characters must get involved in a plot by following the plot or even going ahead. The major character of a plot is called the 'protagonist', while his opponent 'antagonist'. In most common stories, there is a tense situation or an emotional conflict between the protagonist and the antagonist, which is made a distinctive motive by many fine writers. What is more, there can be seen round characters and flat characters in a story, that is, the former characters are given to changing to act suitably to the time and circumstance of a situ-

ation, whereas the latter do the same thing from beginning to end in the story. Despite this, every character has its own unique features in a story. Strange to say, whether a story is good or bad does not only rely upon its plot, but sometimes that is founded on the features of a character. Character-oriented stories as well as plot-based stories are known among readers.

The setting of a story contains the place, time and conditions of the events of the story. As usual, they provide the background for an action, create an appropriate atmosphere, reveal the character and reinforce the theme in spite of the fact that there may be many different kinds of settings in fiction. In fact, as characters in a story are moving under the setting, the reality of an age about life and the world can be well known by means of the characters' manner — what they say, what they do and how they think — from that setting.

Finally, a writer's style expresses his choice of words and the characteristic ways he applies the resources of language to achieve a certain effect in a short story. The theme, plot, character and setting of some stories are not strange to readers at all; these

are merely simple things that they have ever experienced from day to day. But when the simple things of a story are composed by a writer in a clever way and also in his own style, they must have become so great and serious that those things seem to be thought so. Rather than in other types of literary works, a writing style is a matter of the utmost importance in a story. Despite having good characteristics like theme, plot, character and setting, some stories have not been as excellent as readers expected due to their writers' poor style.

What is the difference between those who know the elements of a short story and those who do not? Readers who have learnt the short story's elements will enjoy more pleasure from short stories. Actually, a short story is neither an article nor an essay. Some authors write a short story similar to an article or essay by mistake. It is certain that short stories mostly have a reliable theme, a valid plot, living characters, a real setting and a sharp writing style. Whatever is given in a short story will always be stored in readers' long-term memory, not because they have memorized it by rote but because they got to feel it.



2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

Democratic Force Labour Party talks about its policy, stance and work procedures

U Win Myint Maung, General Secretary of the Democratic Force Labour Party, presented the policy, stance and work procedures of his party through radio and television on the evening of 10 November. The full text of the presentation is as follows: -



Esteemed people,

Our Democratic Force Labour Party, based in Mandalay Region, will participate in the multiparty democratic general election to be held on 28 December 2025.

Let me introduce myself. I am U Win Myint Maung, General Secretary of the Democratic Force Labour Party. I will present future plans of our party, the responsibilities for both the nation and the various ethnic nationalities.

1. to ensure that all citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, regardless of ethnicity, gender, or wealth, fully enjoy political freedom.
2. to promote social freedoms and the equal development of human rights and democracy throughout

Myanmar.

3. to enable all the people of Myanmar to participate in every sector in accordance with the law.
4. to secure the necessary funding to effectively carry out all of the party's activities.
5. to ensure that all male and female ethnic people participate equally at every level of the party.
6. to promote mutual respect, trust, and cooperation among the various ethnic groups living in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
7. The loyalty of the members of the Democratic Force Labour Party shall be based on:
 - (1) Loyalty to the ethnic peoples of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
 - (2) Loyalty among party members themselves.
 - (3) Diligently fulfilling the responsibilities of the party.
 - (4) Always safeguarding and protecting the interests of the people living within the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The party will abide by these four principles of loyalty with utmost sincerity.
8. We will prioritize and strive to successfully implement national reconciliation, democratic processes, and peace-making initiatives for the stability, peace, and prosperity of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, working together with our fellow ethnic brethren.

9. We accept as our party's responsibility the development and progress of the Union alongside the 135 ethnic nationalities residing within the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
10. The Democratic Force Labour Party will strive to ensure that the fundamental freedoms and rights inherent in a democratic system, such as liberty, justice, and equality, are fully enjoyed by the people. This includes political and economic freedoms, judicial independence, and the freedom of speech and assembly.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Democratic Force Labour Party, we extend our heartfelt wishes for safety, peace, and prosperity to the esteemed leaders who are striving to ensure the success of multiparty democracy, and to all our fellow ethnic brethren, monks, parents, workers, and citizens living within the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Thank you all.



Voter list verification, field checks underway in Bilin



Voter list Verification and field checks in progress yesterday in Bilin Township, Mon State.

IN Bilin Township, Mon State, the Township Field Verification Supervision Committee conducted a field inspection yesterday morning to oversee ongoing work aimed at ensuring the accuracy of the township's population register, verifying household lists on

the ground, and confirming the completeness and correctness of the second-round voter lists. The inspection was led by Township Administrator U Sithu Aung, officials of the Ministry of Immigration and Population and the Township Election Commission.

At the Township General Administration Department office in Bilin, the committees examined the e-ID Server data from the Ministry of Immigration and Population, specifically the population register of residents aged 18 and above as of 28 December 2025. The verification process included on-site cross-checking of residents by ward and village tract and reviewing the Form 66/6 register for residents aged 18 and above. The process also involved, confirming the inclusion or exclusion of applications submitted during the first-round voter list announcement using Form 3 and Form 3-A, and reviewing objections filed using Form 4. These inspections were carried out to ensure that all voter lists were complete, accurate, and up to date. — Township IPRD/MKKS

Verification of voter lists conducted in Kalaw

THE verification of voter lists was carried out at the Township Election Subcommission Office in Kalaw Township, on 10 November.

To ensure the completeness of the voter lists for the 2025 General Election, voter requests, amendments and objections were reviewed. The updated voter lists will be displayed at the respective ward and village tract commission offices from

15 to 28 November under the relevant Hluttaw Election Law and Rules.

Officials and representatives of political parties in the township are jointly verifying the completeness of the voter lists in Kalaw Township.

The process continued at the township subcommission office, from 8 to 10 November. — Township IPRD/MKKS



Voter list verification processes underway in Kalaw Township, Shan State.

2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION



Mro National Development Party talks about its policy, stance and work procedures

U Maung Win Hlaing, Joint Secretary of the Mro National Development Party, presented the policy, stance and work procedures of his party through radio and television on the evening of 10 November. The full text of the presentation is as follows: -



ESTEEMED people, I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes, hoping that you may enjoy complete well-being, peace of mind, and that all your hopes and desires are fully realized.

I am U Maung Win Hlaing, Joint Secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the Mro National Development Party. I will represent the Mro National Development Party as a candidate for the Pyithu Hluttaw to compete in the constituency of Sittway Township in Rakhine State, in Phase I of the multiparty democratic general election to be held on 28 December 2025.

Esteemed people,

The State is responsible for holding the multiparty democratic general election continuously in accord with the Constitution (2008). The Hluttaw will emerge through the multiparty democratic general election. Various Hluttaws have to form the governments at different levels.

These different levels of government have to build the Union based on disciplined democracy and a federal system in coordination with the Hluttaw by exercising the legislative, executive and judicial powers. In building the Republic of the Union of Myanmar based the genuine, disciplined democracy and a federal system, it can be seen that the role of political parties formed by ethnic people is very important. Only when these political parties are active

will the multiparty democratic general election be held successfully. Likewise, only when the general elections are held will the political parties compete. Hence, they rely on each other.

Hluttaw representatives elected by the people in the multiparty democratic general election must be qualified Hluttaw representatives of the people. Especially, those representatives must comprise intellectuals, intelligentsia, youth and women representatives in addition to the representatives of ethnic minorities.

Intellectuals and intelligentsia have to initiate formulating the laws, while youth representatives need to emphasize the enhancement of future entrepreneurship youths and the emergence of sharpened youths. Moreover, it is necessary to increase the number of women representatives to be able to enjoy equal rights for women and the leading role for women. I would like to point out that to address fundamental social, economic, educational, health, and transport development for basic communities effectively, as well as to preserve, promote, and implement traditional cultural practices, literature, and the arts that are at risk of fading, representatives of ethnic minority groups should play a central role. A single ethnic affairs representative in the regional or state Hluttaw cannot adequately safeguard and address the rights of ethnic minority groups.

Esteemed people,

At present, it is understood that the Union Election Commission has announced that a genuine and fair multiparty democratic general election will be conducted with a new voting system and new electoral procedures. Whether it is the previous “First-Past-The-Post (FPTP)” system for the Pyithu Hluttaw elections or the combined use of the First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) and Proportional Representation (PR) systems for the Amyotha Hluttaw and regional/state Hluttaw elections, the participation and representation of ethnic groups are expected to increase significantly.

Esteemed people,

The Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization (MKNSO) was established in 1988 to serve the interests of the nation, the local region, and to preserve and document their traditional culture, customs, literature, and artistic heritage. On 22 December 1988, the Union Election Commission officially recognized it as a legitimate political party. On 7 January 2015, the party changed its name to the “Mro National Development Party”. It continues to operate as a party representing Kyauktaw, MraukU, Pauktaw, Ponnagyun, and Buthidaung townships in Rakhine State. At present, the party has been active for 37 years.



Esteemed people,

Our party will compete in the genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic general election Phase I to be held on 28 December 2025. There will be a candidate of our party to compete in the Sittway Constituency for the Pyithu Hluttaw, one more candidate in Sittway Constituency for Rakhine State Hluttaw through the FPTP system and two candidates through the PR system, respectively.

The emblem of the Mro National Development Party is the “Drongo” bird. The choice of the “Drongo” bird as the party emblem is based on traditional Mro folklore, in which this bird symbolizes safety from danger, leadership, unity, honesty, integrity, and the full embodiment of morality, ethics, and virtues.

The motto of the Mro National Development Party is: “To coexist with all ethnic groups in a friendly manner — Our Cause!”

I conclude my presentation with my wishes for all people to cast their votes peacefully. Thank you all.

Verification of voter lists conducted in Htantabin

IN order to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the voter lists before the second announcement, a verification process was carried out at 10 am yesterday in the meeting hall of the General Administration Department in Htantabin Township, Toungoo District. Representatives of political parties, members of the Township Election Subcommission, ward and village administrators, chairpersons of ward and village subcommissions, and clerks

participated in the verification of the voter lists. During the processes, township management and administration committee chairman and township subcommission chairman U Than Htike Aung, instructed to verify Form 3, Form 3 (a), temporarily displaced people attached File 1 and Form 1, whether there are returns or deceased before the release of the second time voter lists. — Township IPRD/KTZH



Verification processes of voter lists underway in Htantabin Township, Toungoo District.

NATIONAL

Chief Minister meets departmental personnel and people to facilitate rehabilitation work in Hsipaw, Kyaukme District, Shan State (North)

SHAN State Chief Minister U Aung Aung met departmental personnel and residents at the Hsipaw Township Hall yesterday morning to discuss the implementation of reconstruction projects in Hsipaw, Shan State (North).

At the meeting, Chief Minister U Aung Aung called on departmental personnel and local people to work together in close cooperation with the government to restore Hsipaw to its original condition. Basic food and drinking supplies were also distributed to the residents.

Following this, the chief minister met township-level departmental officials at the Hsipaw Township Development Affairs Office and stressed the importance of ensuring education, healthcare, transport and road connectivity, and the availability of essential goods. He also instructed that priority be given to initial tasks that need to be addressed first.

The chief minister then of-



Shan State Chief Minister U Aung Aung warmly greets locals and departmental personnel in Hsipaw, Shan State (North).

fered words of encouragement to patients receiving treatment at Hsipaw People's Hospital, provided nutritious food and refreshments, observed the hospital's mobile clinic and the vaccination of children, and presented monetary awards to the hospital's doctors and nurses.

Following this, at the Kon-

etaw Monastery in Hsipaw, the chief minister held talks with officials from the Department of Immigration, engaging with residents regarding household population registration and the issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards. They also met firefighters from the Township Fire Services Department, offered words of

encouragement and presented monetary awards.

Later, at the Shwe Zedi Monastery, respect was paid to the resident monks, and donations of ceremonial items and contributions for religious rites were made.

The chief minister also visited the Shwezedi Monastery to

pay homage to the monks and offer donations.

Afterwards, at the Myoma Police Station in Zatzu Ward, the Chief Minister presented monetary awards to members of the police force. He also visited the Township General Administration Department and the Prison Department, offering words of encouragement to staff and presenting monetary awards.

Following this, at Basic Education High School No 1 in Taungmyo Ward, the Chief Minister and party observed students studying in the classrooms and the library, and the vaccination of the students. Donations were made to support the library, and monetary awards were presented to teachers.

Then, he visited the ancient and historical Pawgyo Muhtaw Pagoda in the Bawgyo village-tract and donated funds for the overall renovation of the pagoda. — Maung Maung Than (Taunggyi)/MKKS

CBM to pump US\$30M into fuel oil sector



The facade of the Central Bank of Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 8 November that it would inject US\$30 million into the fuel oil sector. Furthermore, CBM sold \$698,900 to edible oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM also sold \$600,000, purchased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies on 7 November.

CBM sold \$2.37 million to edible oil-importing companies on 6 November, along with an injection of \$58,400 and 400,000 yuan into the market.

CBM sold \$2.44 million, purchased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing compa-

nies on 5 November, in addition to an injection of over 1.544 million baht into the market.

CBM sold \$1.137 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$75,900 to fuel oil-importing companies on 31 October, in addition to an injection of \$40,000 and 1.299 million yuan into the market.

CBM sold over \$1.477 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$902,400 to fuel oil-importing companies on 30 October 2025.

CBM injected over \$2.48 million, 5.75 million yuan and 4.98 million baht in October, along with sales of

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

NATIONAL

Thriving local bamboo shoot market curbs exports despite rising demand

ALTHOUGH they have received orders from abroad to purchase bamboo shoots, bamboo craft expert U Kyaw Win stated that they are not yet able to export sufficient quantities because the domestic market is currently fetching good prices.

In the domestic market, the price for raw bamboo shoots, which was only a few hundred kyats per viss in previous years, has now increased by about three times.

“Last year, it was only K600 or K700. Now, just in the domestic market, the price for cut and

whole bamboo shoots is K1,800 to K2,000. Fermented bamboo shoots can yield at least K5,000 to K6,000. So, the market is already good in terms of price and is commercially viable. There are buyers available. The domestic market itself seems to be expanding,” he said.

In addition to the domestic market, entrepreneurs are making small-scale exports to countries like China, Thailand, and Japan. Furthermore, although there are offers from the United States to purchase bamboo shoots, they are not yet



Bamboo shoots are arranged for sale in the market.

able to widely export to foreign countries.

“Regarding the foreign market, there are orders from

places like Japan, China, and Korea, and entrepreneurs are exporting. And we have also received orders from the USA to buy bamboo shoots for a long time. They want boiled bamboo shoots, but we don’t have enough raw materials. The buyers are already waiting, but we can’t export yet,” U Kyaw Win said.

Similarly, since the market for bamboo and its products is also thriving, it is necessary to increase small-scale cultivation of bamboo plants, bamboo entrepreneurs said. — MT/ZN

One killed as car slams into guardrail on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway

ONE person was killed among the six passengers of a white Suzuki Ertiga that crashed into a roadside guard rail after its front tyre burst between mile markers 101/7 and 102/0 on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway at 6:55 am on 10 November, according to the Fire Services Department.

Fire service personnel from the 115 Mile Station proceeded to the scene to conduct search and rescue operations. Out of the six people on board – three males, two females, and one male child – the male child (deceased) was transported to Pyu People’s Hospital.

The Fire Services Department announced hotline numbers for emergencies: hotline 191, MFSD (Command) 01

8666912, 01 8666913, and Expressway Fire Stations based in various mile marker areas.

Data from the Directorate of Road Transport Administration shows that during the eight months from January to August 2025, there were 123 traffic accidents on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, resulting in a total of 38 deaths and 252 injuries. The number of accidents and fatalities this year has decreased compared to the same period last year, when there were 128 accidents and 63 fatalities.

The 587-kilometre-long Yangon-Mandalay Expressway connects Yangon, the economic capital of Myanmar, and Mandalay, the second-largest city. — Htun Htun/ZN



The crashed vehicle on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway is being removed from the scene with a crane.

140 Myanmar EPS workers depart for S Korea in Nov



Myanmar EPS workers are pictured arriving at the Incheon International Airport.

ANOTHER 140 Myanmar EPS workers have been sent again to the Republic of Korea in November by the arrangement of the Public Overseas Employment Agency (POEA), according to the Myanmar Embassy to the Republic of Korea.

Ten re-entry workers arrived in the Republic of Korea on 4 November by Korean Air flight KE492. Moreover, 126

manufacturing workers and four agriculture workers, totaling 130, arrived at the Incheon International Airport on 5 November by Myanmar National Airlines flight UB8301, said the embassy.

The labour attaché from the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul welcomed and advised them on what to follow, while the ambassador also greeted them. The

Myanmar Embassy in Seoul has ensured that labour rights entitled to Myanmar workers by the existing laws of the two countries are respected in the Republic of Korea, it said.

Through POEA, about 200 Myanmar workers were also sent to the Republic of Korea in two separate groups on 28 October and 29 October; the embassy said on 4 November. — MT/ZS

Myanmar Embassy in Phnom Penh updates consular service hours

THE Myanmar Embassy in Phnom Penh has announced the schedule for accepting consular services.

Passport, visa and recommendation application and income tax matters will be accepted on Monday, Wednes-

day and Friday from 9:30 am to noon, it said. Issuing passports, visas, income tax certificates and recommendation matters and inquiries will be accepted on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 1:30 pm to 4 pm, it added.

Inquiries on going to immigration camps will be accepted on Tuesday and Friday from 9:30 am to 4 pm, it said. Enquiries can be made by dialling +855223761 and +85561555100 or emailing mephnpenh@yahoo.com. — MT/ZS

Stocks rally as hopes rise for end to US shutdown

EUROPEAN and Asian stock markets rallied Monday as investors cheered prospects that the US government shutdown could be nearing an end, after reports said lawmakers had reached a deal to break the record-breaking 40-day impasse.

The possibility of resuming operations in the world's biggest economy helped temper lingering worries about extended tech valuations amid talk of an AI bubble.

"The more risk-on mood means it's pretty much a sea of green on the boards," Neil Wilson, UK Investor Strategist at Saxo, said of the gains across stock markets.

"In the US, stock futures are pointing to solid gains," he added.



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on 7 November 2025 in New York City. **PHOTO: SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES/AFP**

Frankfurt led the way in Europe, up 1.7 per cent nearing midday after Hong Kong closed up by a similar amount.

The dollar, which steadied versus the euro and British pound, rose against the yen. Oil prices gained slightly.

Investors have been growing increasingly concerned about the financial impact of the US shutdown, which has seen several

government services halted and air travel disrupted heading into the Thanksgiving holiday.

A group of Democrats in the Senate sided with Republicans in a procedural vote on the deal Sunday evening — clearing the way for a formal debate — after reaching a bipartisan agreement to fund operations through January.

The Senate will have up to 30 hours to debate before the measure is expected to be passed.

Once it clears the Senate, it needs approval from the Republican-controlled House of Representatives before going to President Donald Trump for his signature.

The vote came after weeks of wrangling over healthcare subsidies, food

benefits and Trump's firings of federal employees.

The US president told reporters "it looks like we're getting close to the shutdown ending".

Lawmakers said the deal would restore funding for food stamps, reverse Trump's firings of thousands of federal workers and assure a vote on extending health care subsidies.

The reopening would allow officials to resume the release of key economic data, including on the labour market, which is a key gauge for the Federal Reserve as it considers whether to cut interest rates again next month.

Investors took heart also from a further easing of China-US tensions. — AFP

Japan govt vows to support investment in shipbuilding as growth strategy

THE Japanese government on Monday pledged to support massive investment in shipbuilding as part of its stimulus package, as Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi seeks to build a robust economy through public and private sector spending.

The government also unveiled during a meeting of its growth strategy task force a plan to ramp up trial production of rare earths in waters around Japan's easternmost Minamitori Island. The move comes as China, which has an overwhelming share of the strategically important materials, tightens export controls on the resources.

As part of Japan's growth strategy measures, which will be in-

cluded in an economic package to be compiled by the end of the month, the government also plans to create tax breaks to encourage private sector capital spending.

Takaichi aims to achieve strong economic growth through bold investments that can enhance resilience against potential crises and has designated 17 strategic fields including shipbuilding, artificial intelligence and semiconductors. The prime minister, who took office last month, assigned each of the 17 areas to relevant ministers and instructed them to draw up road maps detailing specific investment plans, aiming to finalize the strategy by next summer. — Kyodo

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO UNDERTAKE A SHARE CAPITAL REDUCTION

In accordance with section 116(e) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, Advans MFI Myanmar Company Limited ("Advans"), a company incorporated in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with Company Registration Number: 116622955, Advans hereby gives notice of its intention to call a meeting of shareholder to consider and, if thought fit, approve a reduction in Advans's share capital. The draft Notice of Meeting and Explanatory Statement regarding the proposed capital reduction have been submitted to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration for review and these documents will be sent to Advans's shareholder when this process has completed in accordance with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017. Further details concerning the capital reduction will be published if approved by shareholders.

For Advans MFI Myanmar Company Limited
U Aung Nay Myo (Advocate- No.17955)
SCM Legal Limited
email: office@scm-legal.com

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V FSL SINGAPORE VOY.NO. (221N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V FSL SINGAPORE VOY.NO. (221N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **11-11-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

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

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

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

SPORTS



Wang Zifei and Sheng Lihao (R) of China compete during the 10-metre air rifle mixed team final of shooting at the 2025 ISSF World Championship Rifle/Pistol in Cairo, Egypt, on 9 November 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

China dominates 10m air rifle mixed team at ISSF World Championship

CHINA won gold and silver in the 10-metre air rifle mixed team at the 2025 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Championship Rifle/Pistol on Sunday, with Wang Zifei and Sheng Lihao defeating compatriots Peng Xinlu and Wang Honghao.

Wang and Sheng prevailed 17-3 in the all-Chinese final, securing China's fourth straight world title in the event.

Sheng retained the title he won two years ago in Baku, while Wang claimed her first

senior world crown a day after taking silver in the women's individual event.

"It felt pretty good," Olympic champion Sheng told Xinhua after the match. "The venue feels familiar; the main difference is my mindset. I'm more mature and steady now. Whether there's pressure or not, it's almost the same for me because I'm mentally more determined."

Reflecting on his growth since the 2022 Cairo World Championships, Sheng said, "I wasn't very confident be-

fore and my technique wasn't great either, but this time I can clearly understand my goals and what I need to do."

The 20-year-old praised both his former partner, Huang Yuting, and current teammate Wang Zifei. He said both are composed and "are very determined in executing their techniques."

Sheng rated his overall performance as "50 points out of 100," adding that he is focused on improving technique rather than medal counts. — Xinhua

Manchester City announces title candidacy with easy win over Liverpool

MANCHESTER City underlined its status as Arsenal's main title rival with a 3-0 home win over Liverpool on Sunday.

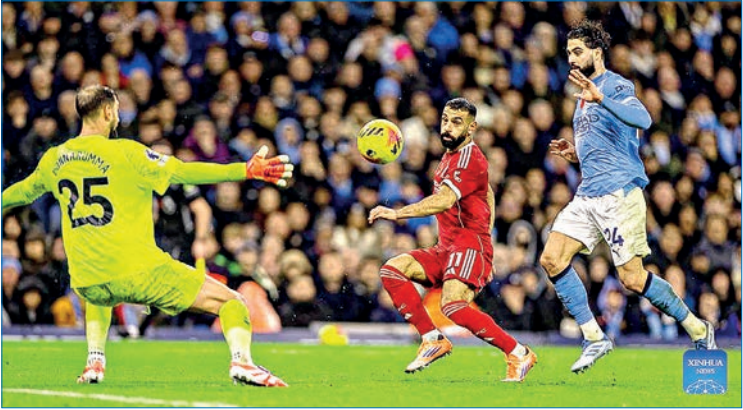
Pep Guardiola celebrated his 1,000th game as a coach as his side dominated a Liverpool team that had impressed against Real Madrid in midweek.

Erling Haaland opened the scoring in 29 minutes. Nico Gonzalez doubled the lead on the stroke of halftime, and Jeremy Doku finished from Nico O'Reilly's assist in 63 minutes to seal the win. Aston Villa enjoyed a 4-0 home victory over in-form

Bournemouth. Emiliano Buendia and Amadou Onana put Unai Emery's side 2-0 up before Ross Barkley and Donyell Malen added second-half goals.

Brentford beat Newcastle United 3-1 after coming from behind. Harvey Barnes gave Newcastle the lead, but Kevin Schade equalized and Igor Thiago scored twice late to secure the points for Keith Andrews' side. Newcastle was reduced to 10 men in 73 minutes when Dan Burn was sent off, and Thiago converted the resulting penalty.

— Xinhua



Liverpool's Mohamed Salah (C) competes during the English Premier League match between Manchester City FC and Liverpool FC in Manchester, Britain, on 9 November 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

Barcelona closes gap on Real Madrid

REAL Madrid was held to a 0-0 draw away to Rayo Vallecano on Sunday to drop points in La Liga for just the second time this season. Xabi Alonso's side failed to create clear chances after its mid-week Champions League defeat to Liverpool, while Rayo pressed effectively to keep the leaders at bay and limit Kylian Mbappe.

Rayo's display drew extra credit given the side coached by Inigo Perez played a UEFA Conference League match on Thursday night and had just 65 hours (48 fewer than Real Madrid) between that fixture and Sunday's kickoff. Robert Lewandowski confirmed his return to full fitness with a hat-trick as FC Barcelona won 4-2 away to



Trent Alexander-Arnold (L) of Real Madrid vies with Florian Lejeune of Rayo Vallecano during the La Liga football match between Real Madrid and Rayo Vallecano in Madrid, Spain, on 9 November 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

Celta Vigo. The Polish forward scored a ninth-minute penalty and restored the lead after Sergio Carreira had cancelled out his opener in 10 minutes. Borja Iglesias made it 2-2 in the 41st, and Lamine Yamal put Barcelona ahead on the stroke of halftime with an individual goal.

Barcelona controlled the second half, and Lewandowski completed his hat-trick with a header that went in off the post after a corner.

Fifth-place Betis drew 1-1 away to Valencia in an intense game. Cucho Hernandez put Betis ahead in 74 minutes, and Luis Rioja curled in an equalizer eight minutes later to lift Valencia out of the bottom three. — Xinhua

Messi wants Nou Camp return to say 'good-bye'

ARGENTINA and Barcelona legend Lionel Messi said on Monday he had visited the renovated Camp Nou and hoped for a return one day to say his "goodbye".

Messi, 38, left the Catalan club in 2021 for Paris Saint-Germain due to the outfit's dire financial problems before moving to Inter Miami two years later.

"Last night I returned to a place I deeply miss. A place where I was immensely happy, where you made me feel a thousand times like the happiest person in the world," the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner said on Instagram. — AFP



WORLD

A cup of coffee a day may keep irregular heartbeat away: study

A daily cup of coffee may protect against atrial fibrillation (AF), an irregular heartbeat that can cause heart failure, stroke, and premature death, a study has found.

Researchers have discovered a surprising heart health ally in coffee, according to a statement released Monday by Australia's University of Adelaide, which co-led the study with the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) in the United States.

In the first randomized clinical trial looking at the link between coffee and AF, scientists found that AF patients who consumed at least one cup of coffee or espresso shot a day had a 39-per-cent reduction in the risk of a recurrent AF episode than those who avoided caffeine altogether, the statement said, adding the six-month trial followed 200 AF patients from Australia, the United States and Canada.

"This is surprising as it goes against the common assumption by doctors and patients that coffee worsens heart rhythm disorders such as AF," said the study's first author, Christopher X Wong, a professor of the University of Adelaide and Royal Adelaide Hospital.

"Based on these results, coffee-drinking patients with AF can safely continue to enjoy their coffee. Furthermore, it may be worth investigating whether AF patients who don't drink coffee should actually consider starting," said Wong.

AF prevents the heart from pumping blood properly, raising risks of blood clots and stroke. — Xinhua



People visit the 2025 World Internet Conference (2025 WIC) Light of Internet Expo in Wuzhen, east China's Zhejiang Province, 6 November 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

China harnesses AI to bridge healthcare gap

GETTING medical advice in China has never been easier than it is now. Via a simple tap on a smartphone and a brief conversation, an artificial intelligence (AI) assistant can instantly deliver a preliminary diagnosis based on clinical expertise of China's top medical professionals.

This AI support stems from an app named AQ, which was displayed at the World Internet Conference Wuzhen Summit in east China's Zhejiang Province. Han Xinyi, CEO of Ant Group, shared the group's original intention in developing

this app when speaking at a sub-forum focusing on digital health in Wuzhen on Saturday.

"We know minor issues can be handled at local clinics, but the urge to consult a specialist at a big hospital remains," he said— adding that this app is designed to make quality medical services accessible for the broadest possible population.

Han's words underscore the harsh reality of unevenly distributed medical resources in China. In response to this long-standing challenge, the government has launched a raft of initiatives to boost

the capacity of primary-level health institutions. This effort is now poised to be supercharged by the country's rapid advances in AI and new policies to integrate this technology into healthcare.

Riding the wave, Ant Group launched the AI-powered AQ app in June 2025. Notably, this app is trained by using the collective clinical expertise of China's top doctors. It not only provides services like AI-assisted consultation and test report analysis, but can also serve as an assistant for doctors, according to Han. — Xinhua



Attendees walk in front of the main entrance to the COP30 UN Climate Change Conference in Belem, Para State, Brazil on 10 November 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

Amazon poised to host toughest climate talks in years

AN odour of oil hung over last year's UN climate conference in Baku, capital of fossil fuel-rich Azerbaijan.

Starting Monday, the 50,000 participants of COP30 will instead feel the heavy, humid air of the Amazon rainforest in Belem, Brazil, where they face the daunting task of keeping global climate cooperation from collapsing.

Unfazed, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva insisted on

holding the event here despite a dire shortage of hotel rooms.

His aim: to make the Amazon itself open the eyes of negotiators, observers, businesses and journalists — in a city where locals carry umbrellas both to shield themselves from the blazing morning sun and from the tropical downpours that follow in the afternoon. "It would be easier to hold the COP in a rich country," Lula declared in August. "We

want people to see the real situation of the forests, of our rivers, of our people who live there."

The Amazon rainforest, which plays a vital role in the fight against global warming through its absorption of greenhouse gases, is itself plagued by a host of ills: deforestation, illegal mining, pollution, drug trafficking, and all manner of rights abuses against locals, especially Indigenous peoples. — AFP