

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

New Doctors and Dental Surgeons Commissioned into Civil Service to Boost Public Healthcare

Safeguarding each citizen's health is tantamount to safeguarding a family's future.

In a major milestone for Myanmar's public healthcare sector, the Ministry of Health formally commissioned newly graduated medical doctors and dental surgeons as gazetted civil service officers during an appointment ceremony held yesterday morning at the Myanmar Convention Centre (MCC) in Yangon. President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing attended the event and delivered an address outlining national healthcare objectives, professional ethics, and the strategic expansion of medical human resources.

The ceremony brought together a broad assembly of senior government officials, health leaders, and educators. Attendees included Union Ministers U Khin Maung Yi, U Mya Tun Oo, Dr Soe Win, Dr Thet Thet Zin, U Min Naung, U Ko Ko Lwin, Dr Charlie Than, and U Myo Thant; Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board U Tin Maung Win;

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President U Min Aung Hlaing presents certificate of appointment to a medical doctor yesterday to serve public healthcare service.

Better Packaging Key to Global Competitiveness, Says UMFCCI

TO help “Made in Myanmar” goods conquer international markets, UMFCCI President U Aye Win has called for a robust packaging supply chain. Speaking at the Myanmar Packaging Forum 2026 in Yangon on 10 October, he emphasized that world-class packaging is vital for global competitiveness.

The forum was organized to discuss the development of the packaging sector as a driver of business competitiveness, and to promote the upgrading of Myanmar's packaging industry through innovation and technology. It brought together officials, experts, and business operators to exchange views. Union Minister for Industry and MSME Development Dr Charlie Than delivered remarks via video clip. Yangon Region Minister for Electricity, Energy, Industry and Transport Dr Myo Thaw and Myanmar Industries Association Chairman U Aye Tun also gave the opening remarks, respectively.

If we want ‘Made in Myanmar’ products to compete with dignity in international markets,

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This photo depicts dignitaries attending Myanmar Packaging Forum 2026 in Yangon.

ME in Tokyo updates consular forms for nationals in Japan



Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo.

MYANMAR nationals working in Japan must now use newly amended application forms for all consular services, announced the Myanmar Embassy in Tokyo on 10 October.

The updated forms, which took effect immediately upon announcement, feature new requirements highlighted in green on the embassy's official website. Applicants can submit their paperwork either in person or by post.

The embassy urges all applicants to ensure they use the revised documentation to avoid processing delays. — TWA/ZS

OPINION

Successfully holding performing arts competition

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NATIONAL

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YR prepares green gram cultivation areas for pesticide-free exports

NATIONAL

Objectives of 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition 2026

- (a) To enhance national prestige, integrity, and preserve the traditional cultural heritage of ethnic people
- (b) To preserve national characteristics and promote the national spirit, cherishing traditional culture among the younger generation
- (c) To explore, preserve and promote the sustainable development of traditional Myanmar arts
- (d) To function as a cultural and artistic institution that contributes to nation-building

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Monday 12 October 2026)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 13 OCTOBER 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah and Chin States, scattered in Yangon and Lower Sagaing Regions and (Northern and Eastern) Shan States, fairly widespread in Bago, Magway and Ayeyawady Regions and Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions. Degree of certainty is 100 per cent. Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and (Northern and Southern) Shan States. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 5-7 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 OCTOBER 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 OCTOBER 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13 OCTOBER 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

8-day Thadingyut Buddha Puja Festival set for Twantay

THE Thadingyut Buddha Puja Festival at Shwesandaw Pagoda in Twantay Township will be held from 10 to 28 October, featuring a traditional market fair and various religious ceremonies.

Throughout the festival, activities will include Abhidhamma recitations, morning alms, and rice offerings along the pagoda's circular path. On the evening of 25 October, the eve of the full moon, devotees and religious associations will jointly offer oil lamps, flowers, and water.



Devotees offering rice to invited monks at the pagoda in Twantay in the previous year.

On the full moon day of Thadingyut (26 October), the Board of Trustees will lead a morning

ceremony for the congregation to receive the Five Precepts. This will be followed by a midday

offering of rice to monks from 75 neighbouring monasteries. — ASH/MKKS

70 sets of gems sold on 5th day of 61st Myanmar Gems Emporium 2026

THE 61st Myanmar Gems Emporium 2026 continued for the fifth day yesterday morning at the Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw, drawing a large crowd of local and foreign gem traders.

From morning onwards, traders examined the jade lots displayed inside the hall and in designated outdoor areas.

Officials evaluated the price submission forms for 160 gem lots yesterday and later announced that 70 lots had been sold successfully.

Yesterday afternoon, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Hsan Oo inspected the jade displays and ob-

served traders submitting their bids in tender boxes before providing necessary instructions to officials.

On the sixth day of the exhibition, jade lots 1 to 550 from Groups (A) and (B) will be sold through an open tender system. The winning bids for these lots will be announced on 13 October.

A total of 3,073 jade lots are displayed at the emporium. To support MSME entrepreneurs, the lots have been divided into three categories—Groups A, B, and C, based on jade quality and current domestic and international market conditions. From 13 to 15 October, 1,605 jade lots from



Gem merchants check a jade stone at 61th Myanmar Gems Emporium yesterday.

Groups A and B will be sold, whilst 1,468 lots from Group C will be sold from 16 to 17 October. All sales to domestic and foreign traders will continue to be conducted via the open tender system.

The 61st Myanmar Gems Emporium 2026,

which aims to generate economic benefits for the State and its citizens while systematically and sustainably managing the country's gemstone resources, will run until 17 October at the Maniradana Jade Hall. — MNA/MKKS

Bay of Bengal Condition

Issued at 5 pm MST on 12 October 2026

ACCORDING to the observations at 4:30 pm MST today, a low-pressure area may form over the Southeast Bay of Bengal around 13 October 2026.

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Dawei Airport Upgrade Prepares for Expected Surge in Passengers and Flights

PRESIDENT of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing inspected development projects in Dawei, Taninthayi Region, yesterday afternoon.

At Dawei Airport, Union Minister for Transport U Mya Tun Oo and Director of Military Engineers of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Brig-Gen Win Min reported to the President on the implementation of the guidance given by the Head of State for upgrading Dawei Airport, and construction of the airport and runway in financial years.

In response, the President guided that the Dawei Airport and runway upgrades were initiated in advance because passenger and flight traffic are expected to increase alongside the implementation of the Dawei Deep Sea Port projects. He also gave instructions on properly developing the shoulders on both sides of the runway and clearing bushes and overgrowth around it, and attended to other necessary matters.

The President inspected the progress in upgrading the runway



President U Min Aung Hlaing hears reports on upgrade of Dawei Airport by Union Minister U Mya Tun Oo in Dawei, yesterday.

and gave necessary instructions.

At Shwewei Thiri Pyinnya Beikman Library in South Nyaungyan Ward of Dawei, the President observed the reading room, e-library, bookshelf and systematic arrangements of books.

The President instructed officials to operate the librarian work process to enable people to gain a wider scope of knowledge through easy access to reading.

The President inspected the preparations to build a new stand at Shwewei Thiri Stadium, the development of the

downtown area of Dawei and along the Strand Road, along with efforts to upgrade the Strand Road.

At the Cultural Museum of Taninthayi Region on Strand Road in Sanchi Ward, the President viewed booths showcasing panoramic scenes of the region, Salon ethnic affairs, traditional festivals and handicrafts, Stone Age evidence, historical equipment and ancient cities of the region.

In giving guidance, the President said that, as the antiquities, historical records, and evidence inside the museum are valuable heritage that

cannot be measured in monetary terms, special care must be taken to preserve them to ensure their long-term sustainability and prevent deterioration; furthermore, the scale models displaying the ancient cities of Taninthayi Region need to be remodelled and exhibited in keeping with modern standards.

He underlined that Myanmar’s traditional literary heritage must be preserved by using modern technology to duplicate and archive the contents of ancient palm-leaf manuscripts and Parabaik paper fold-

ing books to ensure their long-term survival and make them known to future generations, as well as by conducting research in collaboration with archaeological experts to uncover the meaning and historical background behind these records.

At the site of the swimming pool, diving pool and indoor stadium in Dawei, the Taninthayi Region Chief Minister reported to the President on plans to construct buildings and upgrade the Strand Road in phases.

The President pointed out that the construction of a swimming pool,

diving pool, and spectator stands must be systematically calculated for the long term, built to modern standards, and completed within the set timeframe. He underscored that Dawei’s Strand Road must be expanded from a two-lane to a four-lane highway, incorporating roadside parking areas and dedicated lanes for motorcycle traffic. Moreover, he instructed that when upgrading streets within Dawei, roads must be systematically widened and developed based on projections of future growth in automobile and motorcycle traffic. — MNA/TTA

Myanmar Delegation Attends 2nd Global Digital Forum in Moscow

A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Digital Development and Communications U Min Zeyar Hlaing attended the 2nd Global Digital Forum in Moscow, Russian Federation, from 8 to 10 October 2026.

During the forum, the Deputy Minister and his team took part in various sessions, including

the 6th Russia-ASEAN Dialogue on ICT Security-Related Issues. Myanmar served as co-chair of the dialogue on behalf of ASEAN. The Deputy Minister also participated as a panellist in the “e-Governance Knowledge Sharing” roundtable discussion.

On the sidelines of the event, the Myanmar

delegation held a bilateral meeting with Mr Alexander Shoitov, Deputy Minister of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation. The two sides discussed avenues for bilateral cooperation in digital development, focusing on digital government systems, cybersecurity frameworks,

and technology-focused human resource development through training programmes.

The three-day forum in Moscow drew more than 1,000 IT professionals from over 100 countries, alongside executives and representatives from more than 50 leading technology firms. — MNA/ST



Deputy Minister U Min Zeyar Hlaing and party hold talks with Russian Deputy Minister Mr Alexander Shoitov.

NATIONAL

President U Min Aung Hlaing pays homage to Lawka Marazein Buddha Image, Shwetaungsar Pagoda in Dawei

PRESIDENT of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing yesterday morning paid homage to the Lawka Marazein Buddha Image and Shwetaungsar Pagoda in Dawei, Taninthayi Region.

The President and party offered flowers, water and candle lights to the Lawka Marazein Buddha Image. The President observed the all-round renovation processes, and the region chief minister and Pagoda Board of Trustees reported on the processes. The President signed the

guest book, made cash donations, and the pagoda officials returned the certificate of honour and Dhamma items.

The President then beat the great bell under the title of Maha Wizaya Khema Thitala Neikbutagawtha in the precinct of the pagoda.

He also offered flowers, water and oil lights to Buddha images in the precinct of the pagoda, and observed the renovation works.

He then paid homage to Shwetaungsar Pagoda and went round the pagoda

clockwise.

During the visit, the President instructed the relevant officials to ensure the sustainable development of the Lawka Marazein Buddha Image and Shwetaungsar Pagoda, and to replace the old and cracked tiles with new ones on the pagoda platform.

The President also paid homage to Dawei Zeyawady Monastery Patron Ganavimotekutoh Sect Abhidhaja Aggamaha Saddhadhammajotika Aggamaha kammathanacariya Bhaddanta Arindama,



President U Min Aung Hlaing views round religious buildings while visiting Lawka Marazein Buddha Image and Shwetaungsar Pagoda in Dawei.

aged 104, vasa 84, at Dawei General Hospital.

The President heard the reports on Sayadaw's

health condition, gave proper instructions, and donated cash and nutritious food.

He observed the hospital compound and cordially greeted the health workers. — MNA/KTZH

New Doctors and Dental Surgeons Commissioned into Civil Service ...

FROM PAGE 1

the Chief Minister of Yangon Region; senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief; deputy ministers; former ministers of health; presidents of the Myanmar Medical Council and the Myanmar Dental Council; as well as rectors, pro-rectors, professors, and faculty members from medical and allied universities under the Ministry of Health.

Upon his arrival at the Myanmar Convention Centre, the President was warmly welcomed by Union Minister for Health Dr Soe Win and healthcare personnel. The event commenced with an opening musical presentation entitled "The Healing Hands" performed by staff from the Department of Public Health.

Addressing the gathering, the President stated that the commissioning ceremony represents an invigorating day for the Ministry of Health and an auspicious occasion for the entire nation. He remarked that having concluded their academic training and internship requirements, the newly appointed practitioners are stepping across an essential threshold into

public service. He stressed that the appointment letters they receive are not merely routine administrative documentation confirming employment, but an emblem of the profound sacred trust placed in their hands by the State and the public. He urged all appointees to honour that trust by dedicating their knowledge, time, energy, and goodwill to safeguarding community health.

Reiterating national healthcare priorities, the President underscored the government's guiding principle that "nothing is more important than human life." He affirmed that universal public health is a foundational prerequisite for building a modern, developed democratic nation. To ensure that equitable, accessible healthcare reaches every citizen across both urban and rural areas—regardless of socio-economic standing—the state is steadily executing the policy that "wherever there is a hospital, there must be a doctor." He pointed out that while Myanmar's average life expectancy currently stands at 69 years, the government has set an ambitious target

to raise this figure beyond 70 years by 2030 through sustained institutional support and expanded clinical coverage.

Highlighting financial commitments, the President stated that national healthcare expenditures have increased significantly over the years. From approximately 1.5 per cent of total state expenditures in 2000, healthcare funding has been elevated to 2.8 per cent in the 2026-2027 financial year, exceeding K1,391 billion, with continued state budget allocations planned annually to reinforce the sector.

Discussing medical education and human resource capacity, he pointed out that skilled manpower is the engine of the national healthcare mechanism. The opening of the Faculty of Medicine at Naypyitaw State Academy in 2023 expanded the nation's training infrastructure to six medical universities and 11 allied medical institutions. Concurrently, medical curricula have been aligned with international standards through outcome-based, integrated learning frameworks that

incorporate inter-professional education and interdisciplinary teamwork. He noted that comprehensive five-, ten-, and fifteen-year human resource development roadmaps are being executed to meet staffing needs across regional, state, district, township, and station hospitals, while the government continues to attend to accommodation, administration, welfare, and allowances for medical personnel.

The direct appointment system, he noted, was arranged so that fresh medical graduates could promptly fill vacancies at public hospitals immediately following the completion of their internships. He recalled that in July 2025, a total of 1,276 doctors and 23 dental surgeons were similarly appointed and are currently discharging their duties across various regions while preparing for their postgraduate entrance examinations.

Guiding the inductees on professional conduct, the President urged them to pursue both technical excellence and moral integrity. As gazetted civil servants, they will undergo subsequent administra-

tive and leadership training at the Civil Service Academies to cultivate perseverance, endurance, resilience, tolerance, and institutional discipline. He highlighted the necessity of honesty, accountability, regulatory compliance, and public respect, reminding them that their individual actions reflect directly on the dignity of the Ministry of Health. Hospital-level orientation programmes covering civil service laws, rules, and procedures will be provided accordingly.

He advised the doctors to place patients at the centre of their practice, treating them with empathy and familial goodwill as if caring for their own parents and siblings. Emphasizing that safeguarding the health of each individual citizen is tantamount to safeguarding the future of a family, he called on them to actively listen to patients, communicate diagnoses and care plans transparently with relatives, strictly preserve medical confidentiality, and respect human dignity at all times.

Given the dynamic pace of modern medical science, the President underscored the lifelong

necessity of continuous education, wide reading, clinical review, and research. He encouraged the physicians to pursue master's degrees, doctorates, and specialized clinical fields to match regional standards, while urging them to explore emerging frontiers including artificial intelligence in clinical medicine, digital health platforms, and telemedicine services.

Following his address, the President personally presented letters of appointment to representatives of each medical university, after which a newly appointed doctor delivered a message of gratitude on behalf of the inductees.

The attendees subsequently viewed a documentary screening illustrating the Ministry of Health's ongoing initiatives toward longevity and disease prevention. The proceedings concluded with a choral performance titled "The Land of Blood Brethren" by students of the University of Medicine 1 (Yangon), after which the President presented fruit baskets and cash awards to the performers before cordially greeting attendees. — MNA/ST

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

President’s submissions to appoint new Union Defence Minister, Union SWRR Minister

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw convened its fourth-day meeting at its building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Dr Myo Win Aung and U Saw Myo Myo, already appointed as Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union, took affirmations in the presence of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw recorded the reassignment of the Union Minister for Health.

The Speaker announced that regarding the President’s submission to appoint Lt-Gen Yar Pyae as the replacement Union Minister for Defence, and Dr Ko Ko Lwin as the Union Minister for

Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, if there are no objections to their appointments, approval will be declared on the fifth day of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session. He further announced that anyone wishing to object may submit their objection with solid evidence demonstrating that the nominees fail to meet the prescribed qualifications to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.

Lawmakers discussed the agreement signed by the governments of Myanmar and Cambodia on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income sent by the President. The Speaker announced that



The Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw holds its third regular session, presided over by Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe.

discussions on the agreement will continue at the fifth-day meeting.

Lawmakers also emphasized discussions on the matter submitted by the President regarding

the submission of the Instrument of Ratification to the ASEAN Secretariat to bring into force the Protocol to Implement the Ninth Package of Commitments on Financial Ser-

vices under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services. Discussions on the submission of the President will continue at the fifth-day meeting. Deputy Minister for

National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Han Win Aung explained the national planning annual report for 2025-26 FY sent by the Union government. Second Vice-Chair of the Joint Public Accounts Committee U Teza Kyaw read out the findings and remarks of the committee on the annual report and submitted a proposal to the Hluttaw for discussion.

The Speaker announced that the lawmakers wishing to discuss the annual report may register at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw office.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will continue its fifth-day meeting on 14 October. — News Team/TTA

Community administrators urged to cooperate in regional development efforts



Deputy Minister Dr Thaung Naing views image of Surbung Airport.

DEPUTY Minister for Construction Dr Thaung Naing has urged ward and village administrators to actively cooperate in regional development initiatives, including socioeconomic development, education and healthcare, with a strong sense of responsibility.

He made the remarks during a meeting with members of Development Committee in Falam Township at the General Ad-

ministration Department office in Falam Township yesterday.

The Chin State minister for Electricity, Energy, Industry and Transport also explained ongoing reconstruction efforts in the state. Officials discussed measles and rubella vaccination programmes, agricultural and livestock development plans.

Committee members presented local needs con-

cerning agriculture, live-stock breeding, education, healthcare and transportation. The state minister coordinated efforts to address the issues raised.

During the meeting, the deputy minister and officials provided local communities with 70 bags of compound fertilizer, 10 five-kilogramme bags of coffee seeds, 236 packets of vegetable seeds, one basket of oilseed soybeans and eight Pyi of quality sesame. After the meeting, the deputy minister, accompanied by local military officers, inspected damage to buildings at Surbung Airport, the destruction of runway signal lights and damage to air traffic control equipment caused by terrorist attacks. He also gave necessary instructions regarding the work to be undertaken. — IPRD/KTZH

Myaungmya completes construction of concrete village road

THE concrete paving of an internal road in Gway-pin Village, Ywathagyi Village-tract, executed by the Myaungmya Township Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development (Ayeawady Region) using the Village Development Project (VDP) grant for the 2026-2027 fiscal year alongside local community contributions, has now been 100 per cent completed after starting in the first week of August.

The concrete road project—measuring 332 feet in length, 10 feet and six inches in width, and six inches in thickness—was funded with K15 million from the VDP grant and K5 million contributed by



Officials inspect the completed concrete road in Myaungmya Township yesterday.

local villagers, totaling K 20 million.

Under the close supervision of Township Department of Rural Development staff, the villagers themselves implemented the project starting from August, according to U Thet Paing Oo, Staff Officer (Technical) of the Myaungmya Township Department of

Rural Development. Yesterday morning, Staff Officer (Technical) U Thet Paing Oo and department staff, together with members of the Village Development Committee, inspected the completed concrete road construction work and discussed necessary operational matters. — Than Lwin (Magway)

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw approves 2 laws with amendments

HLUTTAW representatives raised questions concerning sports, social welfare and construction to promote development in their respective constituencies during a session of the Amyotha Hluttaw at its building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Myo Kyaw Thu responded to questions raised by MP U Khin Maung Win of Mandalay Region Constituency No 1, explaining the plans to upgrade Kyaukse District Stadium to meet the required standards and repair Kyaukse District Gymnasium.

For the question submitted by MP U Khin Maung Myint from the Shan State Constituency 7, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Re-



The photo shows third regular session of Third Amyotha Hluttaw yesterday.

settlement Dr Thant Zaw Lwin replied that a land plot will be requested from the Shan State Government to construct a training school for children and youth with disabilities in Taunggyi, and steps will be taken to build and open the facility de-

pending on annual budget allocations.

Deputy Minister for Cooperatives and Rural Development U Thaik Soe answered the questions raised by MP U Myo Thant from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 6, say-

ing that the construction of one new bridge over the Thebyu Creek on the Mezaligon-Chingon-Magypinkwin Road in Ingapu Township will be submitted for proposal under the Union capital budget for the 2027-2028 financial year,

and implementation will proceed based on fund allocation.

About questions submitted by MP Khun Saw Lwin from the Shan State Constituency 8, the deputy minister also explained that the over 18-mile-long inter-township road in Nyaungshwe Township will be upgraded with gravel and asphalt sections in the regional development project depending on the financial allocation of the Union or Shan State in the 2027-28 and 2028-29 financial years.

He also replied to the questions raised by MP U Soe Kyi from the Taninthayi Region Constituency 11. He stated that the Department of Rural Development has no plan to upgrade the inter-village earthen road to

a concrete facility yet in Ingamaw Village in Myeik Township.

Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member MP U Myo Myint from the Taninthayi Region Constituency 5 read out the report of the committee for the Seventh Amendment to the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law sent back by the Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments. The Amyotha Hluttaw approved the law.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw's approval of the Fourth Amendment to the Political Parties Registration Rules sent back by the Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments.

The Amyotha Hluttaw will continue its 10th-day meeting on 16 October. — News Team/TTA

Traffic offenders subject to legal action

THE Yangon Region Road Safety Council has announced that, starting on 12 October, action will be taken against pedestrians who fail to use designated crossing points in Yangon's municipal areas.

Pedestrians are required to cross roads using designated facilities, including pedestrian underpasses, footbridges, zebra crossings, and other officially authorized crossing points within the municipal area. Those who fail to comply with these regulations will face strict legal action under Section 96 of the 2020 Road Safety and Motor Vehicle Management Law.

"We have already conducted an awareness campaign to educate pedestrians on using designated zebra crossings, footbridges, and pedestrian underpasses. Starting today,



Traffic police members supervise people to use overpass to cross the road. PHOTO: ZWE MARN

enforcement measures will be implemented. Enforcement teams will monitor footbridges and carry out inspections and penalties on a rotating basis. Crossing the road underneath a footbridge when one is available is not only a violation of traffic regulations but also poses serious dangers to both pedestrians and vehicles. Such accidents have occurred in the past. These measures are being taken to protect

people's lives. Although we cannot yet specify when the enforcement campaign will end, there are plans to increase the number of enforcement teams," said Police Captain Moe Win of the Traffic Police Task Force in Kyauktada Township.

To ensure the safety of both the public and road users, the Yangon Region Traffic Police Corps 2 and traffic police units in respective townships had previously

conducted an awareness campaign, urging pedestrians to use zebra crossings and footbridges. Following this educational period, the enforcement phase officially begins on 12 October.

In Yangon, pedestrian footbridges at Sule, Pansodan, Botahtaung Pagoda, Sangyoung Maha Myine, Hledan, Bogyoke Market, and Kaba Aye Pagoda are frequently used by large numbers of commuters every day. Crossing roads beneath these footbridges has often contributed to traffic congestion and accidents involving pedestrians and vehicles. To prevent such incidents, individuals who violate the designated crossing regulations will face fines imposed by a judge at the Traffic Offences Court located on Bogalezay Street in Botahtaung Township. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

Monghsu's MSY village project loans disbursed

THE Department of Rural Development held a ceremony to disburse revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Peinkan Village, Monghsu Township, Shan State (South), yesterday morning.

Monghsu Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Myint Thida Han explained that the revolving funds were provided under the MSY Village Project with the objectives of creating employment opportunities and increasing family incomes for rural residents, as well as ena-

bling them to implement village development activities with increased revolving funds. Officials handed over K47.1 million in revolving funds to members of the project implementation groups.

Peinkan Village is implementing family income-generating activities using K47.1 million from the MSY Village Project. The 11th round of revolving loans at low interest rates were disbursed directly to 17 members from the village engaged in systematic agricultural activities. — Karan (Rural)



An official presents loans to MSY village Project member villagers.

NATIONAL

People’s Military Service Training 29 begins nationwide

PEOPLE’S Military Service Training Batch 29 launch ceremonies were held yesterday at various military commands, with the commandants of the training depots delivering opening speeches.

The chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, chief ministers of the respective regions and states, commanders of the relevant commands, and other officials attended the ceremonies. The trainees were provided with cash awards, foodstuffs, and essential items.

The People’s Military Service Law was enacted as every citizen has a duty to safeguard Our Three



This photo showcases trainees at the People’s Military Service Training Batch 29, yesterday.

Main National Causes: the non-disintegration of the Union, the non-disintegration of national solidarity, and the perpetuation of sovereignty. The law was

enforced effective 10 February 2024 to facilitate the organization of military training courses. Those who have completed the People’s Military Service

Training are now serving in various military units, fulfilling their responsibilities for national defence and security. — MNA/MKKS



An official explains MSY village project process.

THE Department of Rural Development held a ceremony to disburse revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Yontaung Village, Ywangan Township, Danu Self-Administered Zone, Shan State (South),

yesterday morning. Ywangan Township Department of Rural Development Head U Thein Myat Htike explained that the revolving funds were provided under the MSY Village Project with the objectives of creating

Ywangan’s MSY village project loans disbursed

employment opportunities and increasing family incomes for rural residents, as well as enabling them to implement village development activities with increased revolving funds. Officials handed over K68.2 million in revolving funds to members of the project implementation groups.

Yontaung Village is implementing family income-generating activities using K68.2 million from

the MSY Village Project. The 12th round of revolving loans at low interest rates were disbursed directly to 142 members from the village, including six engaged in systematic agricultural activities receiving K3.2 million, 105 engaged in systematic livestock farming receiving K44.1 million, and 31 engaged in trading receiving K20.9 million. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

MSY Village Project activities inspected in Magway

OFFICIALS inspected the implementation of development activities under the Model Village Project in Phayapyo (South) Village, Magway Township, Magway Region, on the morning of 12 October.

During the inspection, Dr Zar Ni Min and U Tint Lwin Oo, Directors from the Department of Rural Development (DRD) Head Office, U Kyaw Zaw Hein, Director of the Magway Region Department of Ru-

ral Development, and district- and township-level officials, together with members of the village development committee, examined the construction of a multipurpose hall measuring 60 feet in length, 36 feet in width and 12 feet in height. The officials also met with local residents and coordinated the provision of necessary assistance.

During the 2026-2027 financial year, the project will be implement-

ed with K 49.7 million in Model Village Project funds and K 56.6 million contributed by local residents, bringing the total budget to K106.3 million.

The planned activities include construction of the multipurpose hall, paving a concrete road in front of the hall, building a sanitary toilet, purchasing a 55-inch smart TV and related equipment for the IT Centre, and procuring waste bins to ensure systematic waste disposal, according to the Magway Township Department of Rural Development. — Ah Htwe(DRD)

Better Packaging Key to Global Competitiveness, Says UMFCCI

FROM PAGE 1

we need to build a strong packaging industry supply chain capable of producing packaging within Myanmar, U Aye Win said.

Although the packaging sector is a key supporting industry for all other sectors, it has not been designated as a priority sector and continues to be treated merely as an incidental byproduct. He highlighted official recognition of packaging as an essential, driving indus-

trial sector, a dedicated industrial zone for packaging, stable electricity supply, priority on imports for capital machinery and a “Green Channel” or expedited licensing process for key raw materials used in packaging.

The seminar and panel discussion also followed. Relevant officials answered questions raised by attendees during an open Q&A session, according to UMFCCI. — NN/KK

Preparations underway to relocate 900 villagers due to embankment subsidence in Myanaung



Officials inspect machinery operations at the Ma Mya Dam.

PREPARATIONS are currently underway to relocate approximately 900 people from certain villages vulnerable to flooding to higher ground, following embankment subsidence at the Ma Mya Reservoir in Myanaung Township, according to a notification issued by the Ayeyawady Region Government on 10 October.

The incident occurred on the morning of 7 October and prompt actions were taken to fill outer surface cracks with sand and cover them with plastic sheeting to prevent water seepage. However, further slope sliding occurred on the night of 9 October, resulting in

the dam crest sinking approximately 25 feet below its original level.

According to statements, heavy machinery is currently being used to discharge water via the emergency spillway in an effort to reduce the reservoir’s water level from 315 feet to 305 feet. The released waters flow through Yaywa and Ma Mya Creeks into the Ngawun River, ensuring that surrounding agricultural fields remain unaffected.

Meanwhile, arrangements are being made to evacuate and relocate around 900 residents to safe areas in advance. — TWA/ZN

Successfully holding performing arts competition

Myanmar is a country which has been preserving ancient cultural traditions for thousands of years. Various types of fine arts such as singing, dancing, song composing and playing musical instruments involved in the cultural heritage reflect valuable intangible cultural heritage such as morality, ideology, culture and lifestyle of Myanmar.

Physical and mental, literary and cultural evidence found in the ancient city states of Myanmar and contemporary cultural evidence of neighbouring countries prove Myanmar as a country with high cultural standards. It is a country that has firmly established its own national cultural identity through linguistic richness, invaluable cultural traditions, and subtle and profound forms of art.

Holding the traditional Myanmar cultural performing arts competition serves national responsibilities so as to preserve and uplift the traditional fine arts heritage of Myanmar. In fact, it is an important activity of national duty to preserve the national cultural heritage for new generations and to develop traditional fine arts of Myanmar. It is necessary to place emphasis on fostering in younger generations a desire to preserve Myanmar’s traditional cultural and artistic heritage, as well as a sense of pride, appreciation and respect for its value. Due attention must also be paid to selecting contestants and systematically organizing the various stages of the competition to ensure its successful completion. Contestants should be encouraged to preserve and

adhere to the original essence and traditions of traditional arts while also promoting the development of creativity and artistic skills among younger generations.

In addition, members of the panel of judges must pay special attention to ensuring that the competition’s judging system is accurate and fair. Arrangements must be systematically made to ensure that members of the panel of judges evaluate contestants transparently and impartially, based on the standards of the respective art forms, their traditional essence, artistic skills, presentation styles and competition rules and regulations.

Emphasis must also be placed on passing down the experience and expertise of master traditional artists to younger generations. In this modern era of technological advancement, efforts should also continue to make use of digital technologies to document, preserve and disseminate Myanmar’s traditional arts and ensure that they reach younger generations.

The State has consistently supported and promoted the preservation and enhancement of Myanmar’s cultural heritage to ensure its continued vitality and development, the advancement of the arts, and the proud promotion of national culture on the international stage. As such, all contestants as well as officials at different levels have to uphold the objectives of the performing arts competition steadfastly.

As countries search for cleaner, more reliable and sustainable sources of energy, renewable energy is moving from the margins of energy policy to the centre of economic development. Sunlight, wind, water, geothermal heat and biomass are no longer simply natural resources; they are increasingly becoming essential components of modern energy systems.

For developing countries in particular, the transition to renewable energy carries significance far beyond environmental protection. Reliable electricity can support factories and small businesses, improve education and healthcare, strengthen rural communities and create new economic opportunities. Access to affordable and dependable power is closely connected to the quality of everyday life.

Renewable energy comes from natural processes that are continuously replenished. Unlike finite fossil fuels, resources such as sunlight, wind and flowing water are naturally renewed. Technologies developed over recent decades have enabled societies to convert these natural forces into electricity, heat and transport fuels.

Solar Power: Energy from the Sun

Solar energy is perhaps the most accessible form of renewa-

ble energy. Modern solar technologies generally fall into two broad categories: active and passive solar systems. Active solar technologies use equipment to capture sunlight and convert it into useful energy. Photovoltaic, or PV, cells convert sunlight directly into electricity, while solar-thermal technologies use sunlight to produce heat. The electricity generated can power homes, businesses, schools, computers and industrial facilities.

Passive solar design takes a different approach. Instead of relying primarily on mechanical equipment, buildings are designed to make better use of naturally available sunlight and heat. Windows can be positioned to capture sunlight during appropriate parts of the day, reducing the amount of conventional energy required for heating and lighting.

Building design can also improve energy efficiency through green roofs, cool roofs and radiant barriers. Green roofs covered with vegetation can help moderate building temperatures and manage rainwater, while cool

roofs reflect more sunlight and absorb less heat. Reflective radiant barriers can similarly reduce heat transfer into buildings.

These approaches demonstrate that the renewable-energy transition is not only about constructing large power plants. It can also begin with the way homes, offices, factories and cities are designed.

Solar power, however, has limitations. Installing PV systems can require substantial initial investment, while electricity generation varies with weather, location and time of day. Solar panels cannot produce electricity from sunlight at night, and cloud cover can reduce output. These challenges make energy storage and complementary sources of electricity increasingly impor-

tant.

Harnessing the Power of Wind

Human societies have used wind for thousands of years. Ancient civilizations employed wind power for sailing, while later societies developed windmills for grinding grain and pumping

From Renewable Energy to a Higher Quality of Life

By Maung Maung Myint Thein (RIT)

water.

Today, modern wind turbines convert the kinetic energy of moving air into electricity. Large blades rotate when exposed to wind, driving a generator that produces electrical power. Groups of turbines form wind farms, which can be located on land or offshore. Areas with strong and relatively consistent winds, including coastal regions, open plains and mountain passes, can provide particularly suitable conditions for wind generation.

One of wind power’s major advantages is that it produces electricity without burning fuel. Once a turbine is operating, it does not release the air pollutants associated with conventional fossil-fuel combustion.

Yet wind power is also variable. Wind speeds change according to weather, geography and time. Wind projects can also raise concerns about land use, visual impacts and potential risks to birds and bats. Careful planning, technology selection and environmental assessment are therefore important when developing wind resources.

The Heat Beneath Our Feet

Another renewable resource lies beneath the Earth’s surface. Geothermal energy originates from the heat within the Earth. In some areas, this heat naturally reaches the surface through hot springs, steam vents and volcanic activity. In other locations, engineers can access underground heat through wells and geothermal systems.

Geothermal heat pumps can transfer heat between buildings and the ground, providing heating and cooling with relatively high efficiency. In regions where underground reservoirs contain naturally occurring hot water or steam, geothermal resources can also be used to generate electricity.

Iceland provides one of the world’s most prominent examples of geothermal utilization. The country has extensive geothermal resources and uses geothermal energy extensively for heating homes and businesses.

Geothermal energy has an important advantage: unlike solar and wind power, it can provide energy continuously where suitable resources are available. Its principal limitation is geograph-

ical. High-quality geothermal resources are not evenly distributed around the world, and some geothermal technologies may require significant investment and careful management of underground water resources.

Biomass: Turning Organic Material into Energy

Biomass energy comes from recently living biological material, including plants, wood, agricultural residues and certain forms of organic waste. Trees, branches, wood residues, agricultural waste and other organic materials can be converted into useful energy. Biomass can be burned directly for heat or electricity, processed into solid fuels such as briquettes, or converted into liquid biofuels that can be blended with conventional fuels.

Biomass has one important advantage over intermittent renewable sources: it can be stored and used when energy is required. But biomass development must be managed carefully. Large-scale cultivation of energy crops can compete with food production for land and water, while excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides can create environmental problems. Biomass is

genuinely renewable only when its underlying resources are replenished at a sustainable rate.

The most promising approach is therefore to prioritise agricultural residues, forestry by-products, organic waste and other materials that do not create unnecessary competition with food production or natural ecosystems.

Hydropower and the Power of Moving Water

Hydropower remains one of the world’s major renewable sources of electricity. Conventional hydropower plants often use dams and reservoirs to control the flow of rivers. Water released through tunnels or channels turns turbines, which drive generators to produce electricity. Hydropower can provide relatively stable electricity because operators can control water flows through reservoirs. Rivers also exist across much of the world, giving hydropower considerable potential in countries with suitable geography and rainfall.

However, large dams can have significant environmental and social consequences. Reservoirs may inundate forests, farmland and existing settlements,

while changes to river flows can affect aquatic ecosystems and downstream communities. Sediment accumulation can also reduce the effective capacity of reservoirs over time.

The lesson is clear: renewable does not automatically mean impact-free. Every energy project requires careful consideration of environmental, economic and social consequences.

New Frontiers in Renewable Energy

Innovation is also expanding the renewable-energy landscape. Tidal power seeks to harness the predictable movement of ocean tides, while wave-energy technologies attempt to capture energy from the movement of waves in oceans and other bodies of water. Researchers are also investigating algae-based biofuels, which could provide an alternative source of biomass without requiring the same amount of agricultural land as conventional energy crops.

These technologies are still developing and face economic, technical and environmental challenges. Nevertheless, they demonstrate the breadth of the renewable-energy transition and the continuing search for cleaner ways to meet growing energy demand.

SEE PAGE 12

Myanmar is an agricultural country with a wide variety of crops grown throughout the year, and a large portion of the population depends on farming and agro-related businesses for their livelihoods. The country mainly produces rice, beans, corn, sesame, cotton, chilli, onions, and various kinds of fruits. However, because there are still limited natural value-added agricultural products, the income of farmers and the national economy have not developed as much as expected. Today, the global market is increasingly demanding environmentally friendly and nature-based products. Therefore, adding value to Myanmar’s agricultural products through natural and sustainable methods can help increase farmers’ incomes while also protecting the environment. Most of Myanmar’s exports are agricultural and livestock

products. Major export items include beans, rice, rubber, corn, sesame, onions, and cashew nuts. At present, many of these products are exported mainly as raw materials. However, if they are processed into value-added products and produced through organic methods, they can be sold at higher prices in international markets while also benefiting both the environment and public health. Furthermore, improving organic farming practices can reduce the country’s dependence on imported chemical fertilizers, which require a large amount of foreign currency. As a result, promoting natural and sustainable agricultural production can strengthen Myanmar’s economy and support long-term environmental sustainability.

Value addition is the process of increasing the worth of agricultural products by processing,

Nature-Based Value Addition to Myanmar’s Agricultural Products

packaging, or converting them into finished goods instead of selling them only as raw materials. In the same way, organic farming methods that avoid the use of chemical inputs can also increase the value of agricultural products.

For example, producing organic rice and organically grown fruits can help farmers earn higher incomes while also creating high-quality products for export markets. As consumers around the world become more interested in safe and natural foods, value-added and organic agricultural products have greater market potential and can contribute to sustainable economic growth.

Organic products are produced by using natural fertilizers, low-chemical farming methods, and environmentally friendly packaging. These practices help reduce negative impacts on the environment while also increasing consumer trust in the products. In today’s global market, labels such as organic, eco-friendly, and chemical-free have become important factors that increase the value and demand of products.

Therefore, adding value to Myanmar’s agricultural products through natural and sustainable methods can help the country compete more successfully in the growing and highly competitive

international market.

Myanmar has several opportunities to develop value-added agricultural activities that are in harmony with nature.

(a) Abundant natural resources – Myanmar is rich in natural resources, and its forests and wetlands remain relatively healthy and productive. (b) Use of modern technologies – New agricultural technologies and farming methods are available, which can help improve crop management and productivity. (c) Access to regional and international markets – Myanmar has convenient export opportunities to neighbouring countries such as

China, India, and Thailand, which have large consumer populations. (d) Rising demand for natural products – Global consumers are increasingly preferring organic, chemical-free, and environmentally friendly food products.

Overall, these factors create strong potential for Myanmar to expand nature-based value-added agricultural production and achieve sustainable economic growth.

Although some areas in Myanmar are already experimenting with organic value addition, several challenges still need to be addressed.

(a) Technology support – Mi-

cro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) need access to appropriate equipment and modern technological innovations to improve production efficiency and quality.

(b) Training and education – Farmers and producers should be trained in organic farming practices, proper packaging techniques, and awareness of market prices to make better business decisions.

(c) Investment and financial support – A supportive investment system should be developed, including

low-interest loan policies for MSMEs involved in value-added agricultural production.

(d) Organic certification system – A reliable certification system should be established to ensure product quality and build trust in both domestic and international export markets.

If the government, private entrepreneurs, and farmers work together to produce value-added products in harmony with nature, farmers’ incomes will increase, and the national economy will also benefit. It is hoped that Myanmar will gain international recognition as a producer of natural and environmentally friendly products. In the future, this will support the country’s development through high-value agricultural products that are both sustainable and nature-based.

NATIONAL

Myawady continues demolishing online scam hubs



This map shows demolition of illegal buildings in Shwe Kokko area of Myawady District.

THE government is placing special emphasis on eradicating online scams and online gambling operations, which threaten the global socioeconomic environment and national security. To this end, it is conducting intensive operations in cooperation with neighbouring and regional countries to eliminate these illicit activities.

As part of these efforts, illegal buildings in the Shwe Kokko area of Myawady District, Kayin State, which had been widely used as bases for online scam and gambling operations, are being demolished permanently by joint teams comprising security forces, administrative bodies, and local authorities.

In this regard, another 13-storey building was demolished yesterday through a controlled explosion using explosives. Meanwhile, two 5-storey buildings are continuing to be systematically demolished using heavy machinery.

In the second phase of the Shwe Kokko area, 63 buildings remain to be demolished. These buildings, which were used for online scam and gambling operations, have been classified into different categories according to the appropriate demolition methods, such as buildings to be demolished using heavy machinery; buildings to

be demolished through controlled explosions; and buildings located close to residential homes, which must be dismantled floor by floor using manual labour. The demolition work is continuing systematically according to these classifications.

As of yesterday, among the buildings designated for demolition using heavy machinery, the demolition of one five-storey building has reached 90 per cent completion, while another five-storey building has been 20 per cent demolished. In addition, one 13-storey building designated for demolition by controlled explosion was successfully brought down completely using explosives.

Relevant interdepartmental combined teams will continue systematically demolishing the remaining buildings used for online scam and gambling operations in the second phase of the Shwe Kokko area.

The government has designated the fight against online scams and online gambling as a matter of national responsibility. It is continuing these efforts with strong emphasis and coordination with domestic forces, as well as the governments of neighbouring countries. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar to open 5 additional CI centres in Thailand



This image depicts a Certificate of Identity (CI) issuing centre in Samut Sakhon of Thailand.

AN official from the Ministry of Labour stated that five additional Certificate of Identity (CI) issuing centres will be opened in Thailand and 31 civil servants will be assigned to work at these newly opened centres.

“We plan to open five Certificate of Identity (CI) centres in Thailand. The civil servants assigned will include staff from our ministry (the Ministry of Labour), the Ministry of Immigration and Population, and the Ministry of Home Affairs. People visiting our centres will be able to obtain an OWIC card if they do not already have one, as well as a CI,” the official said.

United KMK Co Ltd will provide technical support services at the five new CI issuing centres. — ASH/KNN

Water retaining wall construction inspected in Chaungzon

OFFICIALS inspected the construction of a water retaining wall in Kwanthe Village, Chaungzon Township, Mon State, on the morning of 12 October.

The inspection was conducted by the Department of Rural Development (DRD) of Chaungzon Township under the Village Development Project (VDP), which aims to improve the socioeconomic conditions of rural communities.

During the inspection, Daw San San Maw, Head of the Township Department of Rural Development, and officials, together with members of the village development committee and local elders, examined the ongoing construction of a water retaining wall measuring 110 feet in length, one foot in width and four feet in height. The officials instructed the responsible personnel to complete the work on schedule in accordance with the prescribed technical standards and coordinated the provision of necessary assistance.

The project began on 26 August during the 2026-2027 financial year, with K 15 million allocated under the VDP and K15 million contributed by local residents, bringing the total project cost to K 30 million. The construction has now reached 33 per cent completion.

Upon completion, the project is expected to benefit 1,319 people from 257 households in Kwanthe Village, contributing to improvements in their socioeconomic conditions, according to the Department of Rural Development of Chaungzon Township. — Ei Poe Poe

RBF-supported cattle farming inspected in Minbu

OFFICIALS inspected implementation of group-based cattle farming activities being carried out under the Rural Business Fund (RBF) Project in Paikthin Model Village, Minbu Township, Magway Region, on the morning of 12 October.

During the inspection, Dr Zar Ni Min and U Tint Lwin Oo, Directors from the Department of Rural Development (DRD) Head Office, U Kyaw Zaw Hein, Director of the Magway Region Department of Rural Development, and district- and township-level officials observed the systematic

implementation of group-based cattle farming activities in the village. The officials also met with RBF project members to discuss necessary assistance and coordination to expand their businesses.

During the 2026-2027 fiscal year, a total of K 30 million in RBF project loans was provided to four livelihood groups — Thabye, Padauk, Tamar and Thazin — engaged in group-based cattle farming, with each group receiving K 7.5 million.

Using the project loans together with their own group contributions,



This photo shows traditional cattle farming activities in Minbu Township.

the four groups have raised 20 local cattle in total and are continuing to operate their businesses, according to the Minbu Township Department of Rural Development. — Nge Lay (DRD)

NATIONAL

YR prepares green gram cultivation areas for pesticide-free exports

PREPARATIONS are underway in green gram growing areas across Yangon Region for this year’s cultivation season to ensure exported green gram is free of pesticide residue, according to an official from the Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

The programme is being implemented under the supervision of the Crop Protection Division under the Department of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, in Kyauktan, Thanlyin, Kayan, and Thongwa townships.

Myanmar exports about 40 per cent of pulses to India. Of its green gram output, 60 per cent is exported to China.

Private export companies Good Brother Co Ltd and Bright Light Co Ltd have begun preparations to work with farmers across 30,000 acres in Kayan and Thongwa townships to cultivate green gram under the GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) system.

Similarly, Shwe Tawwin Inter-



This image captures a successful, thriving green gram field.

national Trading Co Ltd, Shwe Wah Win Co Ltd and Sein Lae Tin Co Ltd have conducted field surveys in Kayan Township and plan to provide farmers with pesticides and other inputs starting this August.

The Crop Protection Division of the Department of Agriculture, and the Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association joined hands with Shwe Tawwin International

Trading Co Ltd and New Golden Gate 1991 Co Ltd to conduct two awareness sessions in Kawa and Thanatpin townships in September 2026 to promote pestfree cultivation and prevent pesticide residue from exceeding permitted limits.

Furthermore, farmer lists are being compiled in Ohnhne village, Kawa Township, Bago Region, for GAP cultivation activities in the third week of October. — ASH/KK

Tenders called for demolition of collapsed steel structure at Attaran Bridge

THE Bridges Department under the Ministry of Construction has invited an open tender (No DOB/Maintenance/20262027/NPT/003) for the demolition of the collapsed steel columns and floor of the Attaran Bridge (Chaung Hnakhwa).

The 900-foot bridge is located on the Mudon-Chaung Hnakhwa-Maethayaw road in Kyaikmaraw Township, Mawlamyine District, Mon State.

Domestic companies and business entities are invited to submit bids to demolish collapsed steel columns at the water pier opening between P4 and P5 and a 240-foot section under the 2026-2027 financial year.

Forms will be available

between 29 October and 3 November at the Ministry of Construction, Office 11 in Nay Pyi Taw. The submission deadline (technical proposal and price) is at 3 pm on 17 November. Technical qualification will be announced on 20 November. The bid opening will take place at 2 pm on 27 November at the Bridges Department in Office 11, Nay Pyi Taw.

Form fees must be paid to the Bridges Department’s account MD012939 at Myanma Economic Bank (Head Office), Nay Pyi Taw. Interested individuals can enquire about further details through the Bridges Department at 067 3407747 during office hours. Late submissions will not be considered. — NN/KK

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 12 October 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,655.00~3,671.00	557.00~558.70	125.30~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	5,809,286.48	5,188,000.00	23,478,112.66	-

Container Shops Aim to Drive Down Consumer Prices

SHIPPING containers will be converted into shops to sell livestock products directly to consumers at markets as part of efforts to lower consumer prices.

For the plan implementation, Yangon City Development Committee’s secretary U Cho Tun Aung and department heads conducted a field investigation on 12 October in the markets managed by YCDC.

Officials visited Gagyi Market and Yadana The-

ingi Market in North Okkalapa Township, Kayutumadi Market in Dagon Myothit (South) Township and Sanpya Ngamoeyeik Market in Thingangyun Township, where shipping container shops have been arranged for selling basic foods such as meat, eggs, rice and cooking oil.

Officials also instructed them to ensure cleanliness of the environment and a good drainage system in the markets.

After that, they visited Dagon Myothit (East)



This photo captures officials inspecting shipping container shops.

Township and Dagon roadside clearing works Myothit (North) Township, where drainage and Htun Htun/ZS

Domestic entrepreneurs invited to energy investment showcase in Nov

THE Ministry of Electricity and Energy has invited domestic entrepreneurs and interested business entities to attend an investment opportunities presentation event in Nay Pyi Taw in the first week of November 2026.

The ministry is working to ensure a stable power system, increase electricity generation, boost oil and gas production, reduce energy losses, and safeguard the nation’s energy security and selfsufficiency.

Myanmar possesses diverse energy resources. Therefore, the ministry believes that if these are combined in balanced proportions and used efficiently, the country’s energy needs can be fully met within the targeted timeframe. Electricity and energy projects require substantial capital, technical expertise, and human resources. The

government has been inviting both domestic and foreign organizations to cooperate in this sector.

The ministry emphasizes on encouraging investment from domestic entrepreneurs. Aimed at helping domestic entrepreneurs grow into major international energy companies over the long term, ministry officials will present investment opportunities and government support programmes using PowerPoint presentations, visual illustrations, and 3D models. Interested individuals can register by 4:30 pm on 30 October through U Min Thu Aung, Deputy Director, Domestic and International Relations and Information Division, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, at 09 444588888 or email: messenger@e-moe.gov.mm. — NN/KK

ARTICLE/ECONOMY WORLD

From Renewable Energy to a Higher Quality of Life

FROM PAGE 9

Myanmar's Solar Opportunity

For Myanmar, renewable energy has particular importance. The country possesses substantial natural resources, yet ensuring a reliable and sufficient supply of electricity remains a significant development challenge. In this context, solar power offers an important opportunity because much of Myanmar receives substantial sunlight throughout the year.

Solar generation can be deployed at different scales—from household systems and small businesses to industrial facilities and larger power projects. This flexibility is particularly valuable for communities and businesses that require reliable electricity but may face limitations in accessing conventional grid infrastructure.

The initial investment in solar panels, batteries, inverters, cables and related equipment

can be significant. However, once installed, solar systems can reduce dependence on fuel-based generation and provide electricity over many years.

Myanmar can also seek to develop greater domestic capacity in the solar-energy supply chain. Although some advanced components and equipment currently need to be imported, encouraging local production, assembly, maintenance and technical services could create additional employment and business opportunities.

The development of a domestic renewable-energy industry would therefore have benefits beyond electricity generation. It could stimulate engineering skills, manufacturing, installation services, maintenance businesses and technical education.

Energy Security and Economic Development

The broader significance of renewable energy lies in its

connection to economic and social development. Reliable electricity allows businesses to operate more consistently, factories to maintain production, farmers to use modern irrigation and processing equipment, and schools and healthcare facilities to function more effectively. For households, dependable electricity can improve lighting, communications, cooling, education and access to digital services.

For small and medium-sized enterprises, electricity costs can directly affect production expenses and competitiveness. Where solar power can economically reduce dependence on expensive backup generation, businesses may be able to redirect resources toward investment, employment and expansion.

Renewable energy can therefore become part of a wider development strategy rather than being treated solely as an environmental policy.

A Sustainable Energy Future for Myanmar

Myanmar's renewable-energy future should not depend on a single technology. Solar power may offer particularly strong potential, but it can be complemented by hydropower, biomass, wind and other suitable resources. Combining different renewable sources, supported by battery storage, modern transmission systems and efficient energy management, can create a more resilient electricity system.

The transition will require investment, technical expertise, appropriate regulation and long-term planning. It will also require attention to affordability and environmental sustainability. Renewable-energy projects should be developed in ways that protect communities and ecosystems while delivering tangible economic benefits.

For Myanmar, the ultimate objective should therefore be larger than simply generating

more electricity. The goal should be to build an energy system capable of supporting productive businesses, modern industries, better public services and improved living standards. The sun, wind, water and heat beneath the Earth's surface are natural assets available to humanity. Turning those resources into reliable and affordable energy can help countries reduce environmental pressures while expanding economic opportunity.

For Myanmar, expanding renewable energy—particularly solar power—could become an important part of the journey towards greater energy security, stronger economic activity and a higher quality of life. The challenge now is to transform the country's abundant natural potential into practical, sustainable and widely accessible energy for communities, businesses and future generations.

Cambodia's trade with ASEAN, EU posts double-digit growth during Jan-Sept

CAMBODIA'S trade volume with the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the European Union (EU) rose steadily in the first nine months of 2026, driven by stronger supply chain linkages and regional trade pacts, according to a Ministry of Commerce report on Monday.

Total trade with the two blocs reached US\$19.29 billion between January and September, up from \$16.68 billion during the same period last year.

The report highlighted that the kingdom's trade with fellow ASEAN member states grew 16 per cent to \$14.26 billion. Meanwhile, its trade exchange with the EU rose 14 per cent, reaching \$5.03 billion.



Employees work at Zhong Bao (Cambodia) Food Science & Technology Co, Ltd in Kampong Speu province, Cambodia, 2 September 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

During the nine-month period, Cambodia's total global trade volume reached \$58.48 billion. Within this framework, the ASEAN market accounted for 24 per cent of the total trade, while the EU market represented 8.6 per cent.

Penn Sovicheat, a secretary of state and spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce,

said that Cambodia's primary exports to both regions included garments, textiles, footwear, travel goods, bags, bicycles, car tires, electronic components, vehicle parts, and agricultural produce.

On the import side, the kingdom primarily brought in garment raw materials, construction supplies, vehicles, oil and gas, electronic goods,

fertilizers, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, supplements, fruits, and food items.

Thong Mengdavid, deputy director of the China-ASEAN Studies Centre at the Cambodia University of Technology and Science, said the double-digit growth reflected Cambodia's deepening regional economic integration and successful trade diversification.

"This upward trajectory is driven by deepening supply chain integration, expanding cross-border commerce, and the trade advantages yielded by regional frameworks like the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)," he told Xinhua. — Xinhua

India's retail inflation rises to 5.54% in Sept

INDIA'S retail inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index, climbed to 5.54 per cent year-on-year in September, up from 4.83 per cent in August, the latest government data showed Monday.

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation put rural inflation at 6.08 per cent and urban inflation at 4.88 per cent.

Food inflation, tracked by the Consumer Food Price Index, rose to 7.74 per cent in September, up from 5.97 per cent in August. Rural food inflation hit 8.06 per cent while urban food inflation reached 7.18 per cent. Tamil Nadu recorded the country's highest retail inflation at 6.81 per cent, and also the top food inflation at 10.62 per cent. — Xinhua



A vendor weighs sugar for a customer at a grocery shop in Amritsar on 26 August 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

China-EU consensus on vehicle trade averts escalation of trade frictions: commerce ministry

THE consensus reached between China and the European Union (EU) on hybrid and electric vehicle trade has helped prevent an escalation of trade frictions, a spokesperson for China’s Ministry of Commerce said on Monday.

The spokesperson made the remarks in response to speculation by some foreign media outlets over details of the trade arrangements, particularly those concerning hybrid vehicles, following the latest meeting of the China-EU trade and investment consultation mechanism in Beijing.

The spokesperson said China and the EU had engaged in sustained dialogue under the mechanism and reached consensus on a number of outcomes, helping maintain a stable and balanced relationship between these two key trading partners.

Guided by the principles of mutual respect and equal consultation, the two

sides held intensive talks on hybrid and electric vehicle trade, addressing economic and trade differences and each other’s concerns in a balanced manner; the spokesperson noted.

Regarding hybrid vehicles, the two sides emphasized and confirmed three basic principles: respect for facts, non-discrimination and compliance with World Trade Organization (WTO) rules.

Citing Eurostat data, the spokesperson said the EU imported 107,000 hybrid vehicles from China in 2024 and 302,000 in 2025.

Building on the 2025 level, the two sides reached an arrangement allowing for further increases, ensuring room for Chinese enterprises to maintain exports and achieve steady growth while taking into account the legitimate concerns of industries on both sides based on actual conditions, the spokesperson said. — Xinhua



A man takes photos of a Geely E2 electric vehicle on Gran Via in Madrid, Spain, on 9 September 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

Announcement

A & A International Company Limited hereby announces that a reduction of its capital by an amount of MMK 1,190,380,000 has been approved by its members on 22 September 2026.

Vietnam’s parliament urges assessment of export quality

VIETNAM’S 16th National Assembly Standing Committee on Monday urged the government to assess export quality and domestic value addition, while strengthening its analysis and forecasting of inflationary pressures.

The call came during the second phase of the committee’s seventh session, when members reviewed the government’s report on the implementation of the 2026 socioeconomic development plan and state budget, as well as



This photo taken on 4 November 2025 shows an employee sanding a piece of wooden furniture inside the Jonathan Charles Fine Furniture factory in Ho Chi Minh City. PHOTO: AFP

proposals for 2027.

The committee also called on the government

according to the report.

For 2027, it urged the government to fully assess the available policy space and the impact of domestic and international factors, and to develop growth scenarios and corresponding policy responses.

Vietnam’s export turnover reached US\$434.3 billion in the first nine months of 2026, while the inflation rate stood at 4.26 per cent, according to the National Statistics Office. — Xinhua

China’s NEV share of new car sales hits record 61.6% in Sept

NEW energy vehicles (NEVs) accounted for a record 61.6 per cent of China’s monthly new car sales in September, marking the third consecutive month above the 60 per cent threshold, while the cumulative share for the first three quarters rose to 53.6 per cent, industry data showed on Monday.

In the first three quarters of 2026, NEV output and sales reached 12.483 million and 12.472 million units, respectively, both up by more than 10 per cent year on year, according to the

China Association of Automobile Manufacturers (CAAM).

Overall auto output and sales in September stood at 2.99 million and 2.956 million units, respectively, up 11.4 per cent and nine per cent month on month.

NEV output and sales for the month reached 1.814 million and 1.823 million units, up 12.2 per cent and 13.6 per cent year on year, respectively.

In the first three quarters, auto output and sales totalled 23.246 million and 23.271 million

units, edging down slightly year on year.

Vehicle exports maintained rapid growth. In September, China exported 1.053 million vehicles, up 61.4 per cent year on year, including 571,000 NEVs, more than double the figure a year earlier, the data showed. NEVs accounted for more than half of total vehicle exports for the fourth consecutive month.

During the January-September period, auto exports totalled 8.205 million units, including over 4 million

NEVs, more than double the level a year earlier.

“Despite a complex and severe external environment, exports have continued to grow rapidly, demonstrating strong resilience, while domestic new growth drivers are being steadily unleashed and the share of NEV sales is rising steadily,” said Chen Shihua, deputy secretary-general of CAAM.

Looking ahead to the fourth quarter, the industry is expected to maintain steady operation, Chen said. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (182N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ISEACO WISDOM VOY.NO. (182N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-10-2026 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC YUANMING VOY.NO. (2615N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SITC YUANMING VOY.NO. (2615N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13-10-2026 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Pope to enter hospital on Tuesday
for lung operation

POPE Leo XIV will be admitted to hospital on Tuesday morning for an operation to remove a lump from his lung, the Vatican said.

The 71-year-old Leo announced on Sunday that he would undergo an operation “in the coming days”.

The surgery to remove a pulmonary nodule, a small growth of tissue in the lung, will mark the pope’s first hospitalization since he became head of the 1.4 billion Catholics on 8 May 2025.

Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni told AFP on Monday that the pontiff would be admitted on “Tuesday, late morning”.

The recovery time could be about a week, the Vatican said.

The operation is expected to take place at

Rome’s Gemelli hospital, which has a dedicated papal suite.

In a surprise announcement following Angelus prayers on Sunday, Leo told assembled crowds in Saint Peter’s Square that doctors had discovered the nodule “at a very early stage” during recent medical checks.

“The doctors believe it would be right to intervene and so, following their advice, I have decided to have the operation to remove it,” he said.

General anaesthetic

A pulmonary nodule is a small growth in the lung. Most are benign, meaning they are non-cancerous. But a small percentage can be an early stage of lung cancer.

Most small nodules cause no symptoms and



People walk at Saint Peter’s square in the Vatican on 12 October 2026. PHOTO: AFP

are only discovered during checks for other health issues.

Larger nodules can cause shortness of breath, chest pain and persistent coughing — sometimes with blood.

The operation is normally carried out under general anaesthetic with the patient breathing through a tube.

Rome’s Gemelli hospital, north of the Vatican, is where popes are usually treated.

Leo’s predecessor Francis spent weeks there for treatment before his death last year.

John Paul II, head of the Church from 1978 until his death in 2005, was treated nine times at Gemelli. — AFP

India condemns attacks on commercial vessels in
Strait of Hormuz region

INDIA’S External Affairs Ministry on Sunday condemned the recent attacks on two ships, MT Petro Dolphin and MT Valthera, in the Strait of Hormuz region, which left two Indian seafarers missing.

In an official statement, the ministry said

that such attacks must cease, and called for an unimpeded flow of maritime commerce through international waterways.

There were 11 Indian seafarers on MT Petro Dolphin when it came under a drone attack. While 9 were rescued safely, two were still missing. The

other set of 11 Indians aboard MT Valthera were said to be safe after the vessel was struck by an unknown projectile, according to the statement.

The ministry further stated that the recurring attacks on commercial shipping in the region were deeply concerning,

and risked further aggravating an already volatile situation, adding that freedom of navigation and the safe, unimpeded flow of maritime commerce through international waterways, in accordance with international law, must be upheld. — Xinhua

Super El Nino could make
2026 record hottest year:
climate monitor

AN intensifying El Nino pattern set an all-time temperature high in a key Pacific zone in September and could help make this year the hottest globally on record, the director of the EU’s climate monitor said Monday.

Global forecasters have been warning for months that this El Nino would likely become the strongest ever observed and the latest record has tumbled even before the episode’s expected peak later this year.

The warming phase of a natural climate cycle, El Nino temporarily raises sea temperatures in the tropical Pacific, triggering changes in weather that can increase the risk of drought and flooding, and exacerbate man-made global warming.

The Copernicus Climate Change Service said sea surface temperatures in a tell-tale El Nino moni-

toring region of the Pacific, known as Nino3.4, had reached an “all-time high” of 29.70C last month.

This exceeded the peak temperatures of previously strong El Nino events of 1982/1983, 1997/1998 and 2015/2016, the EU monitor said.

This year’s El Nino, which emerged in June, is “very exceptional” but it is too early to say whether it is the strongest ever observed, Copernicus director Carlo Buontempo told AFP.

As climate change raises ocean temperatures, it can make recent El Nino events appear stronger than past ones, complicating historical comparisons. Copernicus said it had adopted a new index, which accounts for the warming of tropical oceans, that suggested the current event is not yet stronger than past ones. — AFP



Storm waves created due to Tropical Storm Rachel crash into the boardwalk and homes in Long Beach, California, on 11 October 2026. PHOTO: AFP



Displaced Palestinian children fill up a water container at a water distribution point in Nuseirat, central Gaza Strip on 7 October 2026. PHOTO: AFP

UAE delivers over 250 tonnes of humanitarian aid to Gaza Strip - Reports

THE United Arab Emirates has delivered two truck convoys carrying 259 tonnes of humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip over the past week, Emirati news agency WAM has reported.

Two convoys comprising 20 trucks and carrying 259 tonnes of food entered the Gaza Strip this week as part of Operation Gallant Knight 3, the report said.

The humanitarian aid shipment was reportedly dispatched to the Gaza Strip from the Emirati logistics hub at the Egyptian port of Arish.

On 7 October 2023, Israel was subjected to a massive, unprecedented rocket attack from the Gaza Strip. Subsequently, fighters from Palestinian movement Hamas infiltrated border are-

as, opening fire on military personnel and civilians and taking more than 250 hostages, third of which were never recovered alive. According to authorities, approximately 1,200 people were killed in Israel on the day of the attack.

The Israeli army then launched a ground operation in the Gaza Strip. As a result, the Palestinian en-

clave is now almost completely destroyed, with more than 70,000 Palestinians killed, according to the local health ministry. Over the past two and a half years, the conflict in the Middle East has steadily escalated, evolving into a regional confrontation involving Israel, Lebanese movement Hezbollah, Yemen’s Houthis and Iran. — SPUTNIK

SPORTS



Japan players pose for a photo after winning the judo world championships mixed team gold in Baku on 11 October 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Japan reclaims 8th world championships mixed team gold

JAPAN reclaimed its eighth mixed team title at the world judo championships Sunday, beating Russia 4-1 in the final in Baku.

In the six-bout competition featuring three men and three women, Japan, which lost to Georgia in last year’s semifinals, advanced to the final by beating China 3-0 in the semis.

Shiho Tanaka, the defending champion in the women’s 70-kilogramme class, and Sanshiro Murao, who grabbed the men’s 90- kilogramme ti-

tle, won the first two bouts. Mao Arai and Akari Omori then defeated their opponents in the women’s over 78-kilogramme and 57-kilogramme contests, respectively, to seal the victory.

The mixed team triumph gave Japan its eighth gold medal at the championships in Azerbaijan’s capital, after it won three men’s and four women’s individual titles.

Next year’s world championships will be contested in Astana, Kazakhstan, in June. — Kyodo

5-time Paralympian Kimura vows best performance at home

FIVE-TIME Paralympic swimmer Keiichi Kimura vowed to deliver his best performance as he gears up for the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Para Games opening Sunday.

“There is still more I can do,” Kimura said. The swimmer retained his title in the men’s S11 100-metre butterfly for those with extremely low visual acuity or no light perception at the 2024 Paris Paralympics.

Small scars in nearly identical spots on the backs of both hands show how often the 36-year-old hits lane ropes during training.

Kimura won the

men’s 100-metre butterfly and 50-metre freestyle in Japanese-record times in Paris. He resumed swimming in February last year and has focused on

improving his form.

In the butterfly, he focuses on keeping his elbows straight to achieve a smoother stroke. Having lost his sight at age 2, he

cannot review video of his swimming and instead relies on fatigue and times to refine his stroke.

The Asian Para Games will be his first international multisport event in Japan since the Tokyo Paralympics in 2021. Hoping to rekindle public interest in athletes with disabilities, he said, “I want people to see what innovations we use to draw out our potential.”

The swimmer, who has won 10 Paralympic medals across five appearances, said, “I will work hard to deliver my best performance.” — Kyodo



File photo shows Japan’s Keiichi Kimura competing in the men’s S11 100-metre butterfly final at the Paris Paralympics in France in September 2024.

PHOTO: KYODO

Simeone looks for balance ahead of Man Utd Champions League clash

ATLETICO Madrid coach Diego Simeone is looking for balance ahead of his side’s Champions League tie at home to Manchester United on Tuesday night.

“We know how difficult this

competition is, as the format (with only the top eight teams in a group of 32 qualifying directly for the last-16) means you have to try to pick up points whether you’re home or away,” said Simeone in his pre-

game press conference. “Balance, in defence or attack, is the key and that has always been our strength,” he continued, adding that when the “team works together, great things start to happen”. — Xinhua

Zheng Qinwen claims maiden WTA 1000 title at China Open

CHINA’S Zheng Qinwen captured the women’s singles title at the 2026 China Open on Sunday, defeating fourth-seeded Russian Mirra Andreeva 7-5, 6-4 in the final to claim her maiden WTA 1000 crown before breaking down in tears during an emotional celebration on home soil.

“The feeling is incredible. Winning here in Beijing, in front of my home crowd, has always been one of my dreams,” Zheng said after the match.

The victory also made Zheng the first Chinese player to win the singles title at the China Open.

“Today’s match was extremely tough. Mirra is a great player, and she broke my serve right at the start,” Zheng said. “I just had to take it one point



Zheng Qinwen (R) and Mirra Andreeva pose with their trophies during the awarding ceremony after the women’s singles final between Zheng Qinwen of China and Mirra Andreeva of Russia at 2026 China Open tennis tournament in Beijing, China, 11 October 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

at a time and keep telling myself to hang in there and never give up. After playing so many matches, I was physically and mentally exhausted. But playing in front of my home crowd gave me that extra strength to keep pushing through.”

“I want to congratulate

Mirra on her outstanding achievement at Roland Garros this year. I never had a chance to congratulate you in person, so I want to do that now. Congratulations on reaching the final this week as well. You are such a young and talented player, and congratulations to you and your

team on everything you’ve achieved,” she added.

Since winning Olympic gold at the Paris 2024 Games, a persistent right elbow injury has disrupted Zheng’s career and required surgery in July 2025. Her ranking subsequently fell from a career-high No 4 in 2024 to as low as No 160 in mid-June 2026.

“I want to thank my team for supporting me throughout this journey. I’ve been through a very tough year, and I couldn’t have done this without you. Last but not least, I want to thank all the sponsors, the referees, and all the staff who have worked so hard throughout the week. And thank you to all the fans for your incredible support. This title belongs to all of you, too!” — Xinhua

Manchester City impresses with Anfield win

MANCHESTER City capitalized on Ryan Gravenberch’s second-half dismissal to beat Liverpool 3-0 at Anfield on Sunday, overcoming a hostile atmosphere to underline its Premier League title credentials. City faced chants of “cheats” from Liverpool supporters amid ongoing controversy over the club’s alleged breaches of Premier League financial rules, but took control after Gravenberch was sent off for a second yellow card in the 62nd minute.

Erling Haaland broke the deadlock three minutes later with a first-time finish before Jere-my Doku doubled City’s lead in the 68th minute,

cutting inside and curling a shot into the corner.

Rayan Cherki added a third after a flowing passing move to complete an emphatic victory for the visitors.

Elsewhere, newly promoted Hull City twice showed its resilience in a 2-2 home draw against Everton.

After a goalless first half, Joe Gelhardt put Hull ahead with a delicate finish in the 48th minute, but Everton responded through Kieran Dewsbury-Hall and Thierno Barry to turn the match around.

Mohamed Belloumi rescued a point for the hosts with a powerful strike in the 74th minute. — Xinhua

Pope to enter hospital on Tuesday for lung operation

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WORLD

Iran reviewing US points, to convey views upon review's conclusion: spokesman

IRAN'S Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said on Monday the country is reviewing the latest points raised by the United States in response to Iran's positions and will convey its views to mediators as soon as the review is concluded.

At a weekly press conference in Tehran, Baghaei elaborated on the latest US response relayed to Iran through mediators regarding Iran's "seven-day plan", adding that the plan in fact demanded the restoration of Tehran's "legitimate" rights.

Iran conveyed its plan to the United States to cease hostilities and reopen the Strait of Hormuz on 22 September, later known as the "seven-day plan",

through mediators on the sidelines of the 81st session of the UN General Assembly in New York.

Baghaei listed some of Iran's conditions for reopening the strait as lifting the US naval blockade, ending the war on all fronts, and releasing frozen Iranian assets, as stipulated in the peace memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between Tehran and Washington in June.

Baghaei said the conditions have not changed, and Iran will not show any flexibility over its rights.

He noted that the United States had previously put forward its demands, and continued to claim that Iran's nuclear issue remained its main concern.— Xinhua



Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei attends a weekly press conference in Tehran, Iran, on 4 October 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Riyadh airport extends suspension after attacks

SAUDI authorities on Monday extended the suspension of operations at Riyadh's international airport following a series of deadly Houthi attacks.

Strikes on the airport in recent days have killed at least 18 people, including 13 on Saturday in the deadliest attack on the kingdom in more than a decade, with hundreds also wounded.

The General Author-

ity of Civil Aviation in a statement "announced the extension of the suspension of operations at King Khalid International Airport".

It said the extension was needed to "complete the necessary procedures to verify the safety of the facilities and their operational readiness".

The authority did not specify when operations would resume. — AFP

Policymakers take on energy shock, rising debt at IMF-World Bank meetings

Finance ministers and central bankers meet in Bangkok this week for the annual gatherings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, with the global economy buffeted between the US-Iran war's energy shock, rising debt pressures and the AI boom.

The meetings run from Monday through Saturday in the Thai capital, and will see policymakers tackle some stark choices, with the IMF calling on governments to rein in spending even as vulnerable citizens' needs may be growing in the face of surging inflation and climate risks.

The week will see a combination of high-level closed-door meetings, public events and policy announcements from the world's top economic officials.

On Tuesday, the IMF



People walk past a display the logo of the IMF-World Bank Group Annual Meetings 2026 during preparations for the event at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre in Bangkok on 9 October 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

will unveil its global economic forecast, along with detailed regional outlooks through the week, as policymakers set about tackling the challenges darkening the economic horizon.

"To put it simply, the global economy is being pulled in two opposite directions: a negative energy supply shock and a positive demand shock from AI," said IMF chief Kristalina Georgieva at an event

kicking off the meetings in Singapore last week.

"The combined impact of these two forces is highly uneven across the world."

'Perfect storm'

Chief among the concerns will be the economic fallout of the US war on Iran, which has seen energy prices skyrocket as Tehran's retaliatory action has targeted Washington's

Gulf allies and curtailed global oil and gas supplies.

The IMF has warned that the effects of the shock have been unequal, with developing countries reliant on imported energy hit the hardest.

Despite the crisis, the Fund has called on countries to curb spending on subsidies and instead build their fiscal buffers after years of shocks since the pandemic.

Critics say that approach is just not feasible for low-income countries, and that multilateral lenders need to do more.

"The poorer member states of the IMF and World Bank are in distress from spillovers of the Iran war, rising interest rates in the West, and a climate crisis exacerbated by El Nino," said Kevin P Gallagher, director of Boston University's Global Development Policy Centre. — AFP

2026 Nobel Prize in Economics goes to Robert E Hall, Michael Woodford

THE Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced Monday that the 2026 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel has been awarded to Robert E. Hall and Michael Woodford for "microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilization".

The academy said the laureates have developed macroeconomic models that have significantly improved the ability to implement effective stabilization policies. Based on these models, well-timed fiscal and monetary policy measures can help smooth economic fluctuations.

"The laureates' work has provided us with a stable theoretical foundation for the models that are now used by central banks and governments around the world. With them, we are better equipped to deal with shocks in the economy, such as energy crises or sudden changes in how much households consume," said John Hassler, chair of the Com-



Timo Boppart (C-L), member of the Committee for the Prize in Economic Sciences and expert, addresses the press after the announcement of US macroeconomists Robert E Hall and Michael Woodford as the winners of the 2026 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm on 12 October 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

mittee for the Prize in Economic Sciences. Both laureates were born in the United States. Hall is a pro-

fessor at Stanford University, while Woodford is affiliated with Columbia University. — Xinhua