

Vice-President U Nyo Saw Inspects Development Projects in Myeik, Dawei

Vice-President U Nyo Saw, accompanied by Union Minister for Cooperatives and Rural Development U Myo Zaw Thein, Lt-Gen Kyaw Lin Maung from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Zaw Naing Oo, Commander of the Coastal Region Command Brig-Gen Ye Win Aung, deputy ministers and officials, yesterday morning inspected work processes of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSME) in Myeik of Taninthayi Region including the production of import-substitute canned fish of Myanmar



Vice-President U Nyo Saw delivers a speech at the meeting with regional chief ministers regional ministers and departmental officials in Myeik, Taninthayi Region yesterday.

Makro Industry Company Limited, the operation of 100-tonne OK Yadana advanced rice mill and milling of rice.

The Vice-President observed the progress of implementing the project to build the fish auction market and fishery meas-

ures in Myeik, and the trading of fish, shrimps and marine products at the auction market.

SEE PAGE 4

India donates to Space Museum (Yangon)

A ceremony to hand over items donated by India to the Space Museum (Yangon) was held at the museum in Dagon Township, Yangon Region, yesterday morning.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu delivered the opening

remarks, while Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur explained the donated items. Chief Executive Officer of the Myanmar Space Agency Dr Soe Myint Maung expressed words of appreciation.

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Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur hands over donated items to Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu at the Space Museum (Yangon), Dagon, Yangon Region, yesterday.

MRCS to monitor AI-generated social media content

THE Myanmar Red Cross Society has discussed measures to monitor AI-generated photos and videos related to the Red

Cross, including the misuse of its emblem on TikTok and other social media platforms. A coordination meeting on the use of the

Red Cross emblem and the society's logo was held in a hybrid format at the society's Yangon branch office on 15 October.

The meeting focused on preventing the misuse of the Red Cross emblem and the society's logo by various levels of the society, private businesses and importers. Participants also discussed the proper use of waistcoats worn over Red Cross uniforms, and compliance with social media guidelines. — ASH/KZL



Discussions on measures to monitor AI-generated photographs and videos linked to the Red Cross held in Yangon on 15 October 2026.

China-Myanmar Culture & Tourism Promotion event held in Kunming

A "China-Myanmar Culture and Tourism Promotion" event was

held on 14 October at the Wyndham Grand Plaza Royale Colourful

Yunnan Hotel in Kunming, Yunnan Province. The event was organized by Xiangxin Tourism Group under the leadership of the Yunnan Province Development Association for Economic and Trade Cooperation with South-East and South Asia. Attendees were a delegation led by U Maung Maung Kyaw, permanent secretary of Myanmar's Ministry of Culture, Hotels and Tourism,

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Attendees pose for a group photo at the "China-Myanmar Culture and Tourism Promotion" event.

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MOUNT & PLEASANT COFFEE

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

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 4 pm Saturday, 17 October 2026

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Central Bay of Bengal, with a few clouds to partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 18 OCTOBER 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region and southern Shan State, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Bago Region and Kayin State, scattered in Ayeyawady Region and Chin, Mon and eastern Shan states and isolated in the remaining regions and states, with isolated heavy fall in Nay Pyi Taw and Taninthayi Region. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states. In areas along the movement of cumulonimbus clouds, weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur; therefore, it is recommended to be aware of these phenomena in advance.

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

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of a slight increase in daytime temperatures in Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway and Ayeyawady regions and Kayin and Mon states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18 OCTOBER 2026: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18 OCTOBER 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 18 OCTOBER 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent. — DMH

61st Myanma Gems Emporium concludes successfully

THE 10th day of the 61st Myanma Gems Emporium 2026 continued yesterday at the Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the emporium, officials examined bids for Group C jade lots numbered 2356 to 3073 and announced the sale of 675 lots.

In the afternoon, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Hsan Oo, patron of the Central Committee for the Myanmar Gems Emporium, inspected the announcement of successful bids and the inspection, packing and storage of jade lots purchased by domestic gem merchants. He also gave necessary instructions to officials.

Of the 700 pearl lots offered at the 61st empo-



A photo taken yesterday to show gem merchants on the final day at the 61st Myanma Gems Emporium.

rium, 629 were sold. Of the 160 gemstone lots, 70 were sold. Meanwhile, 1,349 of the 1,605 jade lots in Groups A and B and 1,408 of the 1,468 jade lots in Group C were sold to domestic and foreign gem merchants through an open tender system on designated days.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation has been working to organize Myanma Gems Emporiums successfully for the benefit of the State and the people. Since 1964, a total of 104 emporiums, including regular, mid-year and special

sales, have been held. The 61st Myanma Gems Emporium 2026 aims to create business and employment opportunities for domestic gem merchants and support the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs). — MNA/KZL

Mild earthquake hits Mandalay



Photo record of the Mandalay Earthquake on 17 October 2026.

A SLIGHT earthquake of magnitude 4.0 (M) with its epicentre inside Myanmar (about three miles south-southwest of Pyigyidagun), latitude 21.86°N, longitude 96.09°E, with a depth of five kilometres, about 11 miles south-southwest of the Mandalay Seismological Observatory was recorded at 8 hours, 25 minutes

and 54 seconds MST on 17 October 2026, according to the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

“The earthquake in Mandalay was quite strong. We heard a sound before the shaking began. People said it was also felt in PyinOoLwin,” a local said.

The local earthquake monitoring group

has recorded several earthquakes in the Mandalay area over the past month, documenting their dates, magnitudes, directions and distances from Mandalay. The records include a magnitude 3.4 earthquake 34 miles southeast of Mandalay on 17 September; a magnitude 3.9 earthquake 19 miles northeast on 22 September; a magnitude 3.2 earthquake 30 miles south on 24 September; a magnitude 3.5 earthquake nine miles northeast on 25 September; and two earthquakes on 29 September, measuring magnitudes 3.7 and 3.2, located 18 miles southeast and 13 miles east, respectively. It also recorded a magnitude 3.6 earthquake 14 miles south of Mandalay on 10 October; a magnitude 4.1 earthquake to

the southwest on 13 October, and a magnitude 4.2 earthquake about six miles east of Mandalay on 17 October.

“The M4.2 earthquake east of Mandalay is a local seismic event that warrants close monitoring. However, the available records alone are not sufficient evidence to conclude that a major earthquake is imminent. At this stage, the priority is not simply to count the number of earthquakes, but to monitor their epicentres, depths, magnitudes and changes over time. As some buildings in Mandalay may still have been damaged by the major earthquake in 2025, continued attention should be paid to reducing risks,” an official from the group said. — Htun Htun/ KTZH

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Bago Region Chief Minister, MPs

U Khin Yi, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar Parliamentary Union (MPU), held a meeting with the Bago Region Chief Minister, the Region Hluttaw Speaker and Deputy Speaker, and regional MPs at the Oktha Pyae Sone Hall of the Bago Region Hluttaw Office yesterday morning.

At the meeting, he said the MPU was established to promote coordination between the Union-level Hluttaws and Region and State Hluttaws, ensure co-operation in parliamentary affairs in accordance with the law, and strengthen relations with international parliamentary organizations.

He stressed the importance of developing modern, capable and people-centred Hluttaws, noting that all parliamentary representatives share the responsibilities of lawmaking, representing the peo-



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi meets the Bago Region Chief Minister, the Region Hluttaw Speaker and Deputy Speaker, and regional MPs at the Bago Region Hluttaw Office yesterday.

ple and working with other branches of government.

He also highlighted the Pyithu Hluttaw's Five-Year Strategic Plan (2027-2031), which focuses on effective lawmaking, oversight and accountability, public representation, international parliamentary cooperation, staff capacity-building, research development and digital parliamentary systems. He encouraged the

Bago Region Hluttaw to develop strategies suited to its needs.

He further urged MPs to draft a code of conduct, strengthen their legal knowledge and public engagement, and raise well-informed questions and motions using appropriate official terminology. He also recommended public awareness programmes such as "Know Parlia-

ment", "See Parliament" and "Open Parliament", while stressing the need for parliamentary staff to continuously improve their technical, administrative and legal knowledge.

Bago Region Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Cho Oo explained the Hluttaw operations, and the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH

India donates to Space Museum (Yangon)

FROM PAGE 1

The Indian ambassador then handed over the donated items to the chief minister, who accepted them. Dr Soe Myint Maung presented a certificate of appreciation to the ambassador, and the attendees viewed the donated items.

Similarly, a briefing on regulations for entertainment businesses in

Yangon Region was held at the Mingala Hall of the Yangon Region Government Office. The chief minister urged operators to strictly comply with the 17 regulations for karaoke businesses, the 39 regulations for entertainment businesses and the relevant directives issued by the authorities. — Zwe Htet Ko (IPRD)/KTZH

China-Myanmar Culture & Tourism Promotion event held in Kunming

FROM PAGE 1

along with officials from Yunnan provincial institutions and representatives of Chinese and Myanmar tourism associations and businesses.

U Maung Maung Kyaw and officials from Yunnan tourism organizations delivered remarks

and explained the conditions under which travelers can visit Myanmar.

U Zeyar Myo Myint, Myanmar's consul general based in Kunming, also spoke at a session on promoting travel and invited Chinese tourists to visit Myanmar. — ASH/KK

Myanmar Writers' Association holds 4th conference

THE fourth conference of the Myanmar Writers' Association was held yesterday morning at the meeting hall of the Printing and Publishing Department on Theinbyu Road in Yangon.

At the ceremony, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information U Win Kyaw Aung said the association was established to promote the development of informative and literary works that benefit the country, strengthen unity among writers, provide assistance to members in times of need, and help bring classical and contemporary literature to readers.

He noted that the association had reached its fourth conference and highlighted the recognition



The fourth conference of the Myanmar Writers' Association in progress at the meeting hall of the Printing and Publishing Department on Theinbyu Road in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: MAUNG THI

and awards conferred by the State on distinguished writers, including lifetime literary awards, as recognition of their contributions to the country and people. He called on members to work together in the interests of the nation and the public in line with the association's motto, "Uphold National Pride, National Identity and Literary Excellence."

Speaking on behalf of the Yangon Region Chief Minister, Yangon Region Minister for Information, Relief and Religious Affairs U Nay Lin Tun praised the association for its more than 82 years of service. He said generations of literary scholars and association members had contributed to the country and its people through their unity,

commitment to literary values and dedication to their work.

Association Chairman U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe) delivered words of thanks. Donations from writers and township writers' associations were then accepted by officials and the association chairman.

During the second session, U Ohn Maung explained the preparations for the conference, including the formation of organizing committees in accordance with the association's constitution and procedures. He called for cooperation among delegates and urged members to strengthen unity through literary knowledge and spirit.

Delegates discussed the reports presented at the conference, and Central Executive Committee Secretary U Nyunt Tin (Maung Nyein Thu-Gyobingauk), responded to their comments and recommendations. The association's township performance award was presented to members of the Thakayta Township Writers' Association. The conference also observed a moment of remembrance for senior literary figures and association members who had passed away, followed by discussions and the adoption of resolutions.

In the third session, the conference elected the Central Executive Committee for the association's fourth term. The elected members

are U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe) as chairman, U Myo Tun (Maung Sein Naung-Lewe) as vice-chair 1, U Myat Soe (Myat Soe-Hline) as vice-chair 2, U Nyunt Tin (Maung Nyein Thu-Gyobingauk) as secretary, U Aung Kyi Nyunt (Aung Kyi Nyunt-Tekkatho) as joint secretary 1, U Hla Toe (Toe Htet) as joint secretary 2, Daw Myint Myint Thein (Tekkatho Mya Myintzu) as treasurer, U Nyunt Hlaing (Maung Maung Nyunt Hlaing) as leader of audit, U Myo Min Min Htike (Myat Min Thant) as information officer. U Ohn Maung (Myinmu Maung Naing Moe) made a concluding remark and concluded the conference. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH

NATIONAL

MoE Union Minister attends World Vocational & Technical Education Conference in China

A delegation led by Union Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw Sein, accompanied by Deputy Minister for Industry and MSME Development U Thwin Aung, arrived in Tianjin, China, on 14 October to attend the World Vocational and Technical Education Development Conference 2026, held from 15 to 17 October.

On 15 October, the Union minister met officials from the Guangxi Education Council and Guangxi Economic and Trade Vocational Institute to discuss cooperation in technical and vocational education and training (TVET), including teacher training, curriculum development, teaching technologies, AI and exchanges of experience. Deputy Minister U Thwin Aung separately discussed bilateral coop-



Union Minister Dr Chaw Chaw Sein takes part in the World Vocational and Technical Education Development Conference 2026 in Tianjin, China.

eration to promote micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs).

On 16 October, the Union minister attended the conference's opening ceremony, held under the theme "TVET: Co-Embracing Change, Co-Forging Standards, Co-Creating Future", and spoke at a parallel session on regional cooperation. The Union Minister highlighted TVET's role in human

resource development, employment creation and socio-economic progress, stressing the need to strengthen digital and AI skills to meet changing workplace demands.

Union Minister Dr Chaw Chaw Sein also attended a ministerial roundtable involving representatives from 55 countries. Participants reviewed the proposed Framework of World Vocational

and Technical Education Standards and discussed its suitability and practical implementation in line with their respective education systems and national priorities.

On 17 October, she attended the closing ceremony, watched practical skills demonstrations by award-winning teams from the World Vocational Skills Competition and witnessed the release of the framework.

Later that day, the delegation visited Tianjin Modern Vocational Technology College to discuss educational cooperation, MoUs and MoAs, and scholarship opportunities. They also toured the college's training facilities and observed its practical teaching equipment and technical education programmes. — MNA/MKKS

Ma Mya Dam continues to repair slope; water released from emergency spillway

MA Mya Dam in Myanaung Township has been under emergency spillway since the morning of 10 October, following a subsidence of the reservoir embankment and repairs to prevent further subsidence and strengthen.

To protect the affected section along the dam's upper waterline from rainwater, sunlight and wave impacts, tarpaulins are being carefully placed over the area. Additionally, earthwork is also being carried out to prevent further subsidence and strengthen the outer base

of the embankment slope. Tatmadaw members from the South-West Command, Myanmar Police Force members, firefighters, departmental officials and residents are working together intensively using machinery.

In addition, water is being released from the dam's emergency spillway to reduce the water level of the Ma Mya Dam by 10 feet from the lowest point of 315 feet. As of the evening of 17 October, only 305.45 feet of water remained in the dam, a decrease of about 9.55 feet. — MNA/MKKS



Tatmadaw members are seen at the work site of Ma Mya Dam in Myanaung, Ayeyawady Region.

Vice-President U Nyo Saw Inspects Development Projects in Myeik, ...

FROM PAGE 1

In the afternoon, the Vice-President looked into the water flow of Dawei River and the site designated for setting adrift traditional Dawei alms-bowls. He also viewed the operation of the Shwe Okaw Dawei traditional weaving factory, which produces assorted men's sarongs with the use of solar energy and the production of assorted cakes at Kyaw Kyaw Bak-

ery. The Vice-President inspected the site chosen for construction of the Advanced Dawei Market. The Regional Chief Minister and officials reported on their respective sectors.

The Vice-President paid homage to Lawkamarazein Pagoda in Dawei and visited it.

He also attended the ceremony to meet the regional chief minister, regional ministers and de-

partmental officials at the Region Government Office.

At the meeting, the Vice-President emphasized to address the necessary requirements to successfully implement the guidance provided by the President during his visit to Taninthayi Region on developing the regional economy, promoting the agriculture and livestock sectors, and producing and exporting MSME products.

He also called for support to promote the development of MSME businesses based on agriculture and livestock breeding; conduct research to expand coffee and cocoa cultivation, which have international market potential; make concerted efforts to ensure regional self-sufficiency in rice and edible oil; encourage the expansion of livestock farming suitable for local conditions; provide

the necessary assistance for post-disaster recovery in Launglon; and promptly implement preparedness and preventive measures, according to the respective sectors, against natural disasters that could result from the El Niño climate phenomenon.

The regional chief minister reported on the accomplishment of the guidance given by the Head of State, agriculture and

livestock farming tasks in the region, local food security, trade and incomes in years, outbreaks of natural disasters, rescue and rehabilitation measures, and plans. The Union minister and deputy ministers added the supplementary reports.

After responding to the discussions, the Vice-President coordinated necessary measures. — MNA/TTA

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

NATIONAL

2026 MC Song Chinese Singing Competition Concert held in Yangon

THE 2026 MC Song Chinese Singing Competition Concert, organized by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Myanmar, was held yesterday afternoon at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street in Dagon Township, Yangon.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Youth Affairs Dr Maung Thin, Minister Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy Mr Shen Dan, and other embassy officials.

The competition comprised individual contests



The youth team participating in the competition.

in the children's, youth and adult categories, as well as team contests in the youth and adult categories. The Union Minister and Chinese Embassy officials

presented prizes to the first-, second- and third-place winners. This year's competition was held under the theme "Golden Land,

Dream Flying". The competition was organised across nine zones: Yangon, Mandalay, Taunggyi, Lashio, Tachilek, Myitkyina, Myeik, Nay Pyi Taw and Dawei. More than 110 organizations and over 27,000 participants from across the country took part. The competition was organised by Myanmar Bowen School, with support from the Yangon Chinese Cultural Centre and the Myanmar Beijing Chamber of Commerce. — Bala/MKKS

YCDC opens direct farm-to-outlets across city's markets



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu and officials are visiting market stalls.

MARKET stalls selling livestock products directly to consumers opened at Yangon City Development Committee's markets in Yangon Region on

16 October. The initiative was implemented by the directive of the regional government in an effort to lower commodity prices. The opening of the market stall at the No 2 market of North Okkalapa Township was attended by Regional Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu, regional cabinet members, YCDC officials,

guests and civilians. Yangon Region Development Affairs Minister U Myo Myint Aung and officials cut the ribbon for the official opening. The Chief Minister unveiled the shop's signboard by pressing the button. A similar event was also held at Dagon Shwepyithar market in Dagon Myothit (North) Township. — TWA/ZS

Digital X-ray installed at 100-bed public hospital in Tiddim

A 100mA fixed-type digital X-ray machine has been installed at the 100-bed public hospital in Tiddim, Chin State. The new X-ray machine will enable prompt diagnosis and produce clear, high-quality images, helping medical staff provide more effective treatment for patients. On 16 October, Deputy Minister for Construction Dr Thang Naing, accompanied by the Chin State Minister for Electricity, Energy, Industry and Transport, inspected the completed installation and the machine's use in providing medical services. During the visit, the

deputy minister instructed hospital staff to make effective use of the equipment and give priority to its proper maintenance, noting that it had been provided under the guidance of the Head of State to improve healthcare services for local communities. Yesterday morning, the deputy minister also visited Tiddim People's Hospital to observe and encourage a joint cleaning campaign carried out within the hospital compound by officials from Falam District and Township, local police officers and firefighters. He also provided them with nutritious food. — District IPRD/MKKS



Officials observe new healthcare facilities at the 100-bed public hospital in Tiddim, Chin State.

State-level VDP review & discussion meeting held

THE Mon State Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held a State-Level Village Development Planning (VDP) Review and Discussion Meeting on 16 October at the meeting hall of the Department of Rural Development, Mon State. U Saw Myint Tun, Mon State Head of the Department of Rural Development, first delivered the opening remarks and explained the objectives of holding the VDP review and discussion meeting. Daw Kyi Kyi Khine, Deputy Director of the De-

partment of Rural Development, Mon State, gave an explanation regarding the Village Development Planning (VDP) and invited the participants to discuss its strengths, weaknesses, and recommendations for further improvement. Afterwards, the district heads and township heads who attended the meeting discussed the strengths, weaknesses, and recommendations concerning the implementation of the VDP. The officials provided comments, suggestions, and further discussion based on the issues raised during the meeting. — Thuta

MSY fund disbursement ceremony held in Phaungpyin

THE 12th disbursement of the revolving fund under the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project was held on 16 October in Bagantaung+Shwenyaungbin Village, Phaungpyin Township, Mawlaik District, Sagaing Region. The project was originally initiated in the 2015-2016 financial year by the Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development. During the loan disbursement ceremony, Daw Than Than Nyunt, Township Officer of the Phaungpyin Township Department of Rural Development, delivered an opening address. She explained that the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project aims to reduce poverty among rural inhabitants and narrow the living standard gap between urban and rural areas by supporting family income-generating activities. She urged members to effectively implement their business plans in accordance with the project manual guidelines, avoid fund losses, and adhere to rural development laws, bylaws, and community spirit principles. The project officer in charge of the Mya Sein



Phaungpyin's MSY village project loan disbursement event in progress in Sagaing Region.

Yaung Project from the Township Department of Rural Development then handed over K79 million in project funds to the Bagantaung+Shwenyaungbin Village Project Committee members. Following the handover, the township project officer and the village project committee members disbursed K79 million in loans to a total of 129 beneficiaries: 47 members engaged in agriculture, 57 members in livestock breeding, and 25 members in trading businesses, according to Township Officer Daw Than Than Nyunt. — Chit Oo Ko

NATIONAL

Weekly Roundup

11 October

Work-from-Home revoked

The News Team from the President’s Office issued an announcement that the government officials and staff to work from home on Wednesdays has been revoked starting from 25 March 2026.

President’s Office issues orders

The President’s Office issued order numbers from 74 to 80, stating that two deputy ministers, two members of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, one member of the Union Civil Service Board, and one member of the Nay Pyi Taw Council were reassigned, and five deputy ministers, one Sagaing Region minister and one Judge of Shan State High Court appointed.

Two laws enacted

Announcements were issued to enact the Seventh Amendment to the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law and the Seventh Amendment to the Region or State Hluttaw Election Law.

13 October

New medical doctors and dentists appointed

The Ministry of Health formally commissioned newly graduated medical doctors and dental surgeons as gazetted civil service officers during an appointment ceremony at the Myanmar Convention

Centre (MCC) in Yangon, with an address by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing.

Development undertakings inspected in Dawei

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

14 October

President meets residents in Dawei

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing met local authorities, town elders and micro, small and medium-sized entrepreneurs at Pearl Ekari Hall in Dawei.

15 October

Thanlyin Refinery Phase I commissioned

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech in honour of commissioning Thanlyin Oil Refinery (Phase I) under the Ministry of Electricity and Energy in Thanlyin.

President inspects port operations

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing toured Yangon Region to inspect port operations and plans to expand the country’s port and logistics infrastructure.

Orders released

The President’s Office issued two orders to reassign Union Minister U Tun Aung as the Union Minister for Transport and appoint Lt-Gen Yar Pyae as the Union Minister for Defence and Dr Ko Ko Lwin as the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and

Resettlement.

16 October

President delivers video message at 11th Anniversary of NCA

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing delivered an opening address through a video message at the 11th Anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), which falls on 15 October 2026.

President receives leaders of EAOs

Kayin ethnic leader Saw Mutu Sae Poe and leaders and representatives from ethnic armed organizations participating in signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) who attended the ceremony to mark the 11th Anniversary of NCA paid a courtesy call on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

VP U Nyo Saw receives Vietnamese Ambassador

Vice-President U Nyo Saw received Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Nguyen Anh Duc at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw.

VP Nan Ni Ni Aye attends Youth Affairs Central Committee

Vice-President Nan Ni Ni Aye, who chairs the Myanmar Youth Affairs Central Committee, attended the committee meeting in Nay Pyi Taw.

President’s Office issues order 84

The President’s Office issued Order 84/2026 to appoint Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) as Deputy Minister for Border Affairs. — GNLM/TTA

Frontline Tatmadaw members receive warm welcome home



This image shows triumphant Tatmadaw troops receiving a warm welcome home in Tangyan, Shan State (North).

FRONTLINE Tatmadaw members returning from security and regional stability operations were warmly welcomed at a local battalion in Tangyan, Shan State (North).

Tatmadaw officers, other ranks, families, departmental officials, Myanmar Police Force members, Fire Brigade members, teachers, stu-

dents and local communities welcomed back returning troops with heartfelt enthusiasm.

They also welcomed home victorious Tatmadaw members with sprigs of Eugenia and presented the cash prizes to the returnees. The event included traditional dance and music performances. — MNA/ KZL

Another online scam hub demolished in Shwe Kokko

THE government has been treating the fight against online scams and online gambling as a national duty. In the Shwe Kokko area, where online scam and gambling operations were conducted on a large scale, illegal buildings are being systematically and permanently demolished to prevent such activities from resuming in these buildings.

As part of these efforts, one five-storey building among the remaining illegal buildings in Phase II of the Shwe Kokko area, which had been used for online scam and gambling operations and was being demolished using machinery, was completely demolished yesterday, reaching 100 per cent completion. The demolition of another five-storey building reached 80 per cent completion as of yesterday.

A total of 63 remaining buildings in Phase II of the Shwe Kokko area that were used for online scam and gambling operations have been classified according to the demoli-

tion methods to be used: buildings to be demolished using machinery, buildings to be demolished by controlled explosions, and buildings located too close to residential homes that must be dismantled floor by floor using manpower. Systematic demolition work is continuing. With one more five-storey building demolished yesterday, 58 buildings remain to be demolished. The re-

maining buildings will also be demolished systematically.

The government is placing particular emphasis on working with neighbouring and regional countries to crack down on online scams and online gambling, which threaten global socioeconomic affairs and national security, intending to eliminate these activities completely and permanently. — 100/KTZH



New image reveals the ongoing demolition of scam-related structures, buildings, and facilities in the Shwe Kokko area, Myawady, Kayin State.

NATIONAL

FDA warns public about 14 unsafe cosmetics

THE Department of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a public warning against 14 cosmetic products identified as containing harmful substances and lacking proper registration. Under the supervision of the Ministry of Health, the FDA regulates cosmetics sold in the market to ensure the products and ingredients are high-quality and safe for consumers.

Under the Association of South-East Asian Nations' Post-Marketing Alert System Report, 14 products are not registered with the FDA, contain prohibited substances that pose health risks, and

showed microbial growth in laboratory testing.

The listed products include Nupur/Henna, manufactured by M/S Progression Industries Co Ltd, India; Hobe Bar /Intensive Hyaluronic Moisturizer Mask, produced by Guangzhou Li-yan Cosmetics Technology Co Ltd, China; Peona Dark Brown and Peona Red Brown, both manufactured by Impression Cosmetics, 123 DLF Industrial Area 1, Faridabad, Haryana 121003, India; and a series of Atri Hair Henna shades – Natural Light Brown, Natural Dark Brown, Natural Black,

and Natural Chestnut – manufactured by Henna Hub India, Gill Khati, Near Rajput Hostel, Sojat City, Pali, Rajasthan 306104, India. Other products include Lydia Skincare (N/A); U Nice Whitening Cream, manufactured by N & U Co Ltd, 89/1 Happy Land Road, Bangkapi Subdistrict, Latphrao District, Bangkok 10310, Thailand; Chomel Hand Sanitizer, produced by Esona Industries Sdn Bhd, Malaysia; Remy Laure Soothing Cream, manufactured by SOFIA Cosmétiques, France; and GB Daily Glow Skin Cream, produced by SB Interlab Co Ltd, Thailand.

The FDA stated that the banned chemicals in these products can cause skin irritation, inflammation, white and red patches, and absorption through the skin can lead to numbness, muscle tremors, fatigue, headaches, and depression. Long-term use might result in kidney damage and other chronic diseases.

Thus, cosmetic importing companies, distributors, wholesalers and retailers should not ethically distribute unregistered cosmetics that are declared unsafe for use. The FDA will step up market inspections in regions and states. — NN/KK

YCDC Markets Promote Direct Farm-to-Consumer Sales

STALLS selling food products directly from livestock and agricultural farms have opened on 16 October at three markets operated by the Yangon City Development Committee, according to the Yangon Region government.

Under the leadership of the Yangon Region govern-

ment, stalls started to sell fresh produce at designated areas in No 2 Market in North Okkalapa Township, Dagon Shwe Pyi Market in Dagon Myothit (North) Township and Pazundaung Market in Pazundaung Township, in order to bring down commodity prices. — NN/KK

Returning Myanmar Workers Must Clear Remittance, Tax Before Redeparture

THE Department of Labour has announced that the requirements for workers holding PJ (Passport for Job) passports who return to Myanmar on leave to submit leave approval letters and endorsements from the relevant embassies have been relaxed.

Workers holding PJ passports who return to Myanmar on leave must submit the following documents when departing again for overseas employment after their leave period ends: their passports; copies of valid work permits and visas; front and back copies of their Overseas Worker Identification Cards (OWICs), which must have at

least one year of validity remaining; a copy of the passport page bearing the departure and entry stamps issued by the Department of Immigration; and a copy of their air tickets.

They must also submit detailed evidence of official family remittances for the most recent three months, showing that at least 25 per cent of their earnings has been remitted, as well as proof of payment of income tax at a rate of two per cent for one year.

According to the Ministry of Labour, Myanmar workers overseas remitted more than US\$5.6 billion to their families in 2025. — ASH/MKKS

Myanmar Business Groups meet to stabilize commodity prices

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) held a coordination meeting on keeping prices of basic goods and services fair and stabilizing the market on 16 October, covering the private sector to form a price stabilization group; review of supply chain, credit and logistics challenges, and evidence-based recommendations to be submitted.

Participants discussed forming a "Basic Food Price Stabilization Group of UMFCCI" within the private sector as quickly as possible to ensure food security and easy consumer access, and to maintain price stability. They also broadly reviewed ensuring adequate raw materials in the rice, pulses, edible oil, livestock and feed production sectors; difficulties related to bank loans and access to working capital; and high international transport and container costs.



A coordination meeting on keeping prices of basic goods and services fair and stabilizing the market in progress at the UMFCCI in Yangon on 16 October 2026.

Discussions covered promoting agricultural production; enhancing business-to-business cooperation between farming and livestock operations; increasing agricultural exports; and developing pathways to supply container needs for exports and microfinance systems to the agricultural and livestock sector. They also discussed releasing accurate information in a timely manner.

The private sector's difficulties will be compiled with solid evidence and submitted to relevant de-

partments. Furthermore, policy recommendations for market and exchange rate stability will be presented as a coordinated response, according to UMFCCI.

The meeting was attended by UMFCCI Vice-Presidents U Ye Min Aung and U Aye Tun, along with executive committee members and officials, as well as chairpersons and representatives from Myanmar Banks Association; Myanmar Rice Federation; Myanmar Rice and Paddy Traders Association; the Myanmar Paddy Produc-

ers Association; the Rice Millers Association; Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association; Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association; Myanmar Livestock Federation; Myanmar Fisheries Federation; the Myanmar Food Processors and Exporters Association; the Oil Millers Association; the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association; the Myanmar International Freight Forwarders' Association; the Myanmar Onion, Garlic and Culinary Crops Production and Exporting Association; the Myanmar Petroleum Trade Association; the Myanmar Highway Freight Transport Service Association; the Myanmar Container Trucking Association; the Myanmar Retailers Association; the Myanmar Fishery Products Processors and Exporters Association; and the Yangon Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry. — NN/KK



Myanmar workers bound for overseas employment.

Pawsan rice marks Myanmar’s agricultural triumph

The primary lifeline for a country’s stability and development is its agricultural sector and farming community. Just as every citizen has the right to live and earn a livelihood peacefully in their native homeland, penetrating international markets with domestic products to enhance the nation’s economic strength is a cornerstone that elevates the dignity and prestige of the motherland.

At the International World Rice Conference 2026 held in Manila, the Philippines, international rice varieties were showcased, and a rice quality competition took place, where Myanmar’s Pawsan rice once again won the World’s Best Rice Award for the second time. The first win was achieved at the international rice conference held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, in 2011; thus, securing this award for a second time stands as a historic and proud milestone for Myanmar’s rice sector.

Pawsan rice was first developed in 1944 at the Myaungmya Agricultural Research Farm using the Single Plant Selection method, and it now spans more than 80 years. Presently, through collaboration between the Department of Agricultural Research (DAR) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), new varieties known as Yezin Pawsan-1 and Yezin Pawsan-2 have been successfully developed to grow across all seasons and offer higher yields.

During October of this year, a public-private export promotion delegation comprising the Ministry of Commerce and the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF), along with rice-exporting companies, negotiated to boost rice exports to the Philippines, Malaysia, and African nations while attending the International Rice Conference. In alignment with national directives, the Myanmar Rice Federation has set an export target of three million tonnes of Myanmar’s premium rice products for the current 2026-2027 financial year, and the private sector is actively striving to meet and exceed this target.

Myanmar’s Pawsan rice winning the World’s Best Rice Award for the second time is an extraordinary achievement that elevates the prestige and national identity of the country. Therefore, everyone in the rice sector is warmly urged to expand the cultivation and production of Pawsan rice in accordance with international standards, thereby joining hands to further multiply and serve the nation’s economic development.

	Book Title	-	Only When Life Ends Will the Fire Cease
	Author	-	Maung Yin Hlaing (Hinthada)
	Publishing House	-	Shwe Thitsa Publishing House
	Publication Date	-	October 2026 (1 st Edition)
	Price	-	K15,000

Only When Life Ends Will the Fire Cease

A new collection of essays has been published by Shwe Thitsa Publishing House. The author is Maung Yin Hlaing (Hinthada), and this publication marks his sixth book. Titled Only When Life Ends Will the Fire Cease, the volume brings together reflective essays exploring the mundane world, human life, and the Dhamma.

In truth, all human beings are constantly striving and struggling within worldly existence. Life is passed within that finite span bounded by birth and death. Yet, if one observes how this journey is traversed, some drift through heedlessly, some out of willful ignorance, and others completely blinded. The author reflects upon his own journey through life, examining his lived experiences through the mirror of Dhamma. In the foreword, writer Nwe Oo Hlaing notes: “Through his essays, Saya Maung Yin Hlaing gently draws readers – both subtly and overtly – from the mundane and temporal realms toward the realm of Dhamma. In essence, he is repaying his debt to society through literature by transforming ignorance (Avijjā) into true insight (Vijjā).”

Likewise, the author writes: “Just as a tree overshadowed by larger branches must desperately break through to reach the sunlight to survive, humans too must break free from the world’s deep shadows and darkness. Starting with myself, those who stubbornly cling to worldly darkness as if it were light are akin to ‘the moon shining only inside a hollow bamboo’ – a vivid testament

to the plight of ordinary mortals (Puthujjana).

“Here, as classical texts describe, Puthujjana Ummattaka – ordinary beings are essentially mad, blind, and possessed by the spirits of craving (Tanhā); spiritually sightless beings who fail to perceive truth and reality. This, too, is quintessential human nature. Since the beginningless cycle of Samsara, primal ignorance has conditioned us to view the world, live life, behave, feel, and grasp in fixed patterns, etching habits so deeply into bone and heart that they have become second nature, exceedingly difficult to dismantle.

“Thus, sentient beings drift aimlessly downstream and upstream along the torrent of Samsara. The reality of worldlings is tragic in this way. Seeing

the world inverted rather than as it truly is – perceiving the impermanent as permanent, suffering as happiness, non-self as self, and the foul as beautiful – they end up mourning over the corpses of sorrow when ruin eventually strikes, wondering whether it was their fault or someone else’s.”

Reading this book essentially offers readers an opportunity to hit “pause” and reflect on lives that have been rushing forward headlong. In a sense, the author holds up the mirror of his own life to ask the reader: Who are you, and where are you headed?

Although these are essays dealing with worldly existence, life, and Dhamma, they do not read like heavy, solemn treatises. Instead, they unfold in an engaging, conversational manner – as if an old friend were sitting beside you, casually sharing personal reflections – making for an effortlessly captivating read.

	Book Title	-	Letter Written Out of True Love
	Author	-	Maung Hla Myo (Chin Chaung Chan)
	Publishing House	-	Shwe Thitsa Publishing
	Publication Date	-	July 2026 (2 nd Edition)
	Price	-	K10,000

Letter Written Out of True Love

THIS week’s pick is a book titled Letter Written Out of True Love by the author Maung Hla Myo (Chin Chaung Chan). The author is indeed a romantic fiction writer. In the 1990s, his romantic novels were immensely popular; making him a best-selling author. As time passed and eras shifted, he transitioned from middle age to his senior years. Likewise, his writings expanded beyond pure literary fiction to encompass informative content and insights for readers. Books such as ‘About a Guest, a Mandalay Native in Yangon’ and ‘Beloved Words’ showed how his writings inclined towards literary fiction. Among these, ‘Letters Written Out of True Love’, published by Shwe Thitsa Publishing, is one such work.

In the preface, the author commented, “Letters Written

Out of True Love is not out of a desire to act like a teacher; an urge to instruct, or a wish to take pride in or praise my own work. I wrote it purely out of loving-kindness (Metta) towards all kinds of people. Put another way, it is my humble contribution no more than a handful of grass, towards fulfilling the duties of a citizen, an author, and an elder.”

In the piece of writing titled ‘Mingalaba and Myanmar’, he writes and explains that “There are 38 Blessings (Mangala). Saying ‘Mingalaba’ to one another is a warm greeting. The purpose behind greeting each other with Mingalaba is the wish for both you and me to live according to the Buddha’s teachings and abide by the 38 Noble Blessings. We, the people of Myanmar, greet each other with Mingalaba with the

intention that we should live and thrive with the Buddha’s 38 Noble Blessings. It is a way of reminding and pledging to one another to live in pursuit of the Buddha’s teachings.

In the essays concerning moral conduct, written in the form of a dialogue between two people: “For example, suppose you are a parent. You must live according to the parental duties that the Buddha taught. Suppose you are a teacher. You must live according to the teacher’s duties that the Buddha taught. At this age and stage of life, do you really want someone else to come along with a cane and discipline you?”

The Buddha already preached human social duties in the Singalovada Sutta. The Venerable Thingaza Sayadaw composed those duties into poetic verses,

and almost all Myanmar Buddhists know them by heart,” he writes, detailing the interpersonal codes of conduct to be maintained.

In the essay Amulets and Yantras, the meritorious deeds that I myself have performed are not something someone else came and put into my hands. Therefore, I no longer need to ask others for them, nor do I need to worry that they will disappear: Sila (morality), Samadhi (concentration), Panna (wisdom), Dana (generosity) and Bhavana (meditation) that one has practised oneself – all of these are the personal property of the one who performed them. They are one’s own protective charm, one’s own amulet. Once you understand this, you no longer need to carry any of the charms, yantras, dried branches, stones, pieces of iron, tusks, or bones that others give you... Isn’t that so?”

Myanmar’s Precious Gems

By Min Min Zan

Myanmar’s land holds treasure rare and bright,
With rubies, jade, and pearls of light.
Its precious gems are known worldwide,
A source of wealth and national pride.

The gem fair brings the traders near,
From distant lands, they gather here.
With jade and pearls on sale each day,
New trade and business find their way.

Through gem trade, Myanmar’s wealth can grow,
And help the nation’s progress flow.
More jobs and income bring hope anew,
A brighter future for all to pursue.



Just Go Back, Bad Guest!

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo’s Song)

How painful it is
In my heart: ‘Who on earth is it?’
I shrieked to ask.

‘I am a mere guest’.
Without asking permission for tears,
It was he who had come to me.

Oh, good grief!
At once from me
Just go away, away -
My poor life had to share
Tears instead of care,
Nearly like a stream or a sea
Had flown and dried up;

Only nostalgia is always brewing as if a storm;
In my heart, as though a snake coiled round,
There’s just him left who’ll kill me to the death -
So, bad guest, just go back.

ပြန်ပါလေတော့
နည်းသည်ဆိုး

နာကျင်ခံပြင်း
ငါ့ရင်တွင်းမှာ ‘ဘယ်သူပါနည်း’
ငါကဟစ်အော်မေးမိသည်။

‘ငါနည်းသည်ပါ’
မျက်ရည်တောင်ရနံ့၊ ခွင့်မပနံ့ဘဲ
သင့်ထဲလာရောက်ခဲ့သူတည်း။

အို ပုဆွားခြင်း
ချက်ချင်းအမြန်၊ ငါ့အထံမှ
ပြန်ပါချေတော့၊ ပြန်ပါလော့လေ
ပေးဝေခဲ့ရာ ငါ့ဘဝနှင့်
သောကကိုယ်စား၊ မျက်ရည်များလျှင်
စမ်းသွင်သွယ်သွယ်၊ ပင်လယ်နီးနီး
ယိုစီးကုန်ခန့်၊ ဘဝနှမ်းပြီ
အလွမ်းသာလျှင်၊ မှန်တိုင်းဆင်ခြ
ငါ့ရင်ထဲဝယ်၊ မြွေနှယ်ရစ်ပတ်
အသေသတ်သူ၊ သူ့သကုန်မို့
ပြန်ပါလေတော့ နည်းသည်ဆိုး။

ဒေါင်းနွယ်ဆွေ

Enquiry about human life

By Maung Swan Yi

Translated by Myint Zan

‘tis so difficult to be (born) as a human’
and humans make mistakes, they say
‘humans are political animals’
‘humans are mortal’

thus, the wise say
after taking note of them
piercing them, deconstructing them
when one considers the links
it is fun:

Composed on 9 March 1974
Translated on 17 October 2026



NATIONAL

Entertainment

Popular singer ready for her One Lady Show

SINGER Ni Ni Khin Zaw will hold her solo concert, Rise of the Phoenix 2026, at Hexagon Complex in Tamway Township, Yangon, at 7 pm on 7 November.

Singers Phyo Pyae Sone, Aung Htet, Mi Sandi and Jewel will join her, accompanied by the Lucky Hand band.

“I will hold my solo concert, Rise of the Phoenix 2026, on 7 November. I have made detailed preparations to perform many songs and am very excited to meet my fans. I will announce the song list soon. The concert will feature five segments,” Ni Ni Khin Zaw said. The concert will also be rebroadcast on Channel K. — ASH/KTZH



This image illustrates a poster for Rise of the Phoenix 2026 by Ni Nyi Khin Zaw.

This is the best, says super director

“THIS is the best film I have made featuring Moe Hay Ko. She worked very



Stars are pictured in this poster.

hard and was exhausted. I pray that luck will be on her side,” director Wyne said about ‘Poe Phalan Myo Moh’.

Produced by Hill Picture, story and script by Ko Soe Htike (Phado), the romance drama stars academy Nay Toe, Moe Hay Ko, Ni Ni Lin Eain, Si Phyo, Min Arkar, Kai, Moe Zin and guest actress Yoon Wint Hlwa Aung.

The film was screened nationwide on 16 October. — TWA/KTZH

‘Yoe Gon’ film adapted from Sarpay Beikman award-winning story to screen in Oct

THE film ‘Yoe Gon’, adapted from ‘Than Mal Na Kalay



This image captures a poster for the film.

Myar Ei Ahtoke Pati’, a short story by Nanda Soe (Sinbyukyun) that won first prize from Sarpay Beikman, is scheduled for nationwide release in October.

Directed and scripted by Mae Min Bon, with screenplay revisions by Academy Thi Lan, the film features Academy Khant Si Thu, Khine Hnin Wai, May Myint Mo and Myat Kaythi Aung, alongside Kyaw Htet Aung, Htoo Aung, Banyar Phone Pyae, Moe Di, Sin Ma and guest actress Su Eaint San. — TWA/KTZH

Press conference for 'Chan Myae Say Kyaung' held in Yangon

A press conference for ‘Chan Myae Say Kyaung’, a TV series to be streamed on Mahar Application and Mahar Movie Channel every Saturday and Sunday, was held at Wazira Cinema in Kyauktada Township, Yangon, on 12 October.

The story was written by Shin Ma, with a screenplay by Ka Kyo Shin, and directed by Kyi Phyu Shin for Khaye Phyu Film Production.

“Although the series is titled Chan Myae Say Kyaung, it is not a peaceful story. It portrays the suffering caused by people’s greed, anger and



This photo captures a press briefing for the Chan Myae Say Kyaung series.

ego. It combines family themes, romance and drama, offering a distinctive storyline,” director Kyi

Phyu Shin said. The series features Min Phone Myat, Academy Min Oo, Aung Lay, Banyar Phone Pyae,

May Mi Ko Ko, Su Pan Htwar, Thazin Htoo Myint and many other artistes. — TWA/KTZH

4 great female vocalists to host Golden 4 music concert



This image features a poster for the Golden 4 Music Concert.

SINGERS May Khalar, May Sweet, Hay Mar Nay Win and Sone Thin Par will hold the Golden 4 concert at Sedona Hotel in Yankin Township, Yangon, on 1 November.

“We will hold the

Golden 4 Music Concert at the prestigious Sedona Hotel on 1 November 2026. We invite everyone to join us for a memorable evening filled with golden moments and excitement,” singer Hay Mar

Nay Win said.

Singers Agga Zhan and Khun Thar Cho will also perform at the same concert. — ASH/KTZH

Cloud Seven Production & Entertainment YouTube Channel to broadcast Hmyaw Lint Chet Yaung Chi series

CLOUD Seven Production & Entertainment will begin releasing its youth drama series ‘Hmyaw Lint Chet Yaung Chi’ on its YouTube channel on 16 October. Episodes will be available

at 7 pm every Friday and Saturday.

“The series is a youth drama designed to inspire and encourage young people,” director Khin Si Zar said. The cast includes

Rian, Ye Yint, Phone Htet Aung, Eden Maung, Mya Yoon, Shwe Ingyin and Thaw Tar Hlaing Tun, with Academy Khant Si Thu appearing as a special guest. — TWA/KTZH



Theatrical star donates K5M to NUAC (MDY) silver jubilee & respect-paying ceremony

ACTOR Aung Zabu donated K5 million to the silver jubilee celebration and respect-paying ceremony for teachers of the National University of Arts and Culture (Mandalay), according to his dance mentor, Daw Mya Nu Thway.

“Although he graduated from Yangon University, I am delighted that he al-

ways contributes to the arts in Mandalay. May my generous son shine brighter, enjoy lasting success and meet only well-wishers,” Daw Mya Nu Thway wrote on social media.

The ceremony will be held on 5 November, and the donation will be used to pay tribute to senior teachers. — Htun Htun/KTZH



Aung Zabu donates K5 million to Daw Mya Nu Thway.

NEWS IN BRIEF

North Korea tested new torpedo system involving AI technology

NORTH Korea has tested a new torpedo system that makes use of artificial intelligence, state media reported Saturday.

The Zam-2.0, test-fired underwater Thursday, is a “new-type super-speed precisely guided torpedo weapon system”, according to the Korean Central News Agency.

The weapon’s target detection and guidance functions use AI technology, the report said.

North Korea has reported multiple weapons tests this week. The country test-launched a tactical ballistic missile on Monday and test-fired submarine-launched cruise missiles in the Sea of Japan on Wednesday, according to KCNA. — Kyodo

Supertanker exploded after hitting mine in Hormuz Strait

THE navy of Iran’s Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) said on Saturday that a “violating” supertanker that sought to cross the Strait of Hormuz through an “unauthorized” route within the preceding hours suffered a “huge” explosion after hitting a naval mine.

The explosion resulted in a “massive” fire on the oil tanker, which had turned off its GPS and radar systems, the navy said in a statement published by the IRGC’s official news outlet, Sepah News.

Carrying more than two million barrels of crude oil, the vessel sought “unauthorized” passage through the strait with the US military’s support, Sepah News reported, adding that the waterway has been closed.

Iran tightened its grip on the Strait of Hormuz on 28 February, barring safe passage of vessels belonging to or affiliated with Israel and the United States following their joint strikes on Iranian territory. — Xinhua

Armed bystander who killed US school shooter a ‘great hero’

US President Donald Trump on Friday praised the armed bystander who shot dead a teenage gunman at an Oregon elementary school as a “great hero”, saying the situation could have been “much worse”.

The 16-year-old attacker killed three children and a teacher Thursday at Silver Rail Elementary School in the city of Bend. Another child and teacher were critically wounded.

“As bad as it was, we

had a great hero that went in and did the business,” Trump told journalists, adding: “It’s a terrible thing, but thank goodness for a man that had a gun and knew how to use it.”

Police said the bystander pursued the gunman into the school and shot the assailant dead before officers arrived.

Trump’s comments echoed an earlier statement from the National Rifle Association (NRA), a powerful lobbying group. — AFP

Pope will leave hospital, return to Vatican Saturday: Holy See

Leo, 71, has been at the Gemelli hospital north of the Vatican since Tuesday.

POPE Leo XIV will leave the Rome hospital Saturday where he has been recovering from lung cancer surgery, the Vatican said, after doctors deemed him “fit for discharge”. Leo, 71, has been at the Gemelli hospital north of the Vatican since Tuesday, where doctors removed part of his right lung to extract a cancerous tumour.

“Considering the blood tests, the chest X-ray done this morning, and evaluating the clinical picture, the Holy Father has been deemed fit for discharge,” wrote doctors Luigi Carbone and Stefano Margaritora in a note published by the Vatican.

The Vatican confirmed that “Pope Leo



View of Saint Peter’s Square from the top of Michelangelos dome. PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA

XIV will be discharged today from the Gemelli Polyclinic”.

“He will leave the hospital in the early afternoon and return to the Vatican. Tomorrow he will recite

the Angelus prayer from the window of the papal apartment,” the Vatican said. The Angelus prayer is typically given by the pope from the window of the Apostolic Palace,

but in past years, former popes John Paul II and Francis similarly hospitalised at the Gemelli have delivered the prayer from the window of their hospital rooms. — AFP

Starshield restriction order comes from White House

AFTER days of Ukrainian complaints, cancelled drone attacks, calls to SpaceX tech support and frantic appeals to Washington, the source of the Starshield slowdown is becoming clear.



Captured drones are on exposure at the exhibition of the Army 2023 International Military Technical Forum at the Patriot Congress and Exhibition Centre in Moscow region, Russia. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

The order to restrict Ukraine’s military-grade satellite service came from inside the White House, with Pentagon leaders told that Starshield for the Ukrainian military needed to be

slowed, Reuters reported.

Ukrainian officials said terminals now work in motion only up to around 100 miles per hour (160 kilometres per hour), complicating drone strikes.

“No such request was ever made by the president,” a senior US official insisted.

But Ukrainian officials who called the White House, State Department and Pentagon looking for answers were ultimately told it was a White House decision.

So Ukraine keeps sinking deeper into dependence on Washington. — SPUTNIK

Ageing world puts pressure on jobs, retirement security and healthcare systems

THE World Economic Forum (WEF) has called for a rethink of employment, pension and healthcare systems to prepare for longer lives, warning that existing structures are failing to address financial insecurity, caregiving pressures and changing work patterns as populations age.

In its latest report, the WEF said the number of people aged 60 and above worldwide is projected to exceed 2.1 billion by 2050, more than double the 2020 figure. It stressed that longevity must be treated as an economic and social issue affecting people across generations, rather than only as a retirement challenge. — ANI

ECONOMY
WORLD

Relief for India as Trump
waives sanctions related to
Russian fuel purchase under
Lindsey Graham Act

US President Donald Trump paused a newly signed law that would have slapped up to 100 per cent tariffs on goods from the top five buyers of Russian oil and gas.

US President Donald Trump has waived several sanctions related to Russian fuel sales that were to take effect under the Lindsey O Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act, a month after signing the Bill.

The law, which has now been paused, would have imposed tariffs of up to 100 per cent on goods brought into the US from the five largest importers of Russian crude oil or gas which includes India and China. The move comes amid a diesel deal with Russia in the backdrop of soaring diesel prices in the United States ahead of the November midterm elections.

Trump invoked Section 115 of the Graham Act, which authorises the President to waive the application of any sanctions provision with respect to



The ongoing US-Israeli war with Iran, which erupted on 28 February 2026, has triggered the largest global energy security challenge in history. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ PIXABAY**

a foreign person, any restriction with respect to a person, and any duty under the law.

“I have submitted to the Congress a certification that the issuance of such a waiver is in the national interests of the

United States and a report explaining the basis for the certification, consistent with section 115(b) of the Graham Act,” Trump said in the order.

He waived the application of any duties provided for in sections

112 and 113 of the Act, which allowed Trump to increase the rate of duty on all goods imported into the United States from Russia to a rate of up to 500 per cent ad valorem (relative to the value). — ANI

US budget deficit reaches \$1.99T
in 2025-2026 financial year

THE US budget deficit reached \$1.992 trillion in the 2025-2026 financial year, the Department of the Treasury said in its report released on Friday.

A year earlier, the figure stood at \$1.775 trillion.

In September, the US budget deficit fell to \$26.9 billion from \$166.779 billion in August. Analysts surveyed by Trading Economics had projected a decline to \$29 billion.



The US Department of the Treasury Building in Washington, DC. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

In September 2025, the United States recorded a budget surplus of \$197.938 billion. According to the report, government spending in September rose 11 per cent year-on-year to \$584.775 billion, while revenue increased 1.5 times to \$557.875 billion. In the financial year that just ended, total US spending amounted to \$7.396 trillion, with revenue reaching \$5.403 trillion. — SPUTNIK

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan mulls average 30,000 yen yearly
payments for 20 million workers

THE Japanese government has presented ruling and opposition parties with a tentative proposal to give some 20 million workers on average around 30,000 yen (\$190) annually in financial 2027 and 2028, a source familiar with the matter said Saturday.

The figures were offered as a reference for an income-linked benefit programme targeting lower income workers burdened by taxes and social insurance premiums. The upper income limit for eligibility could be set in the three million yen range.

The government plans to reduce the consumption tax on food and beverages from eight per cent to one per cent for two years from April 2027. The payments would total about 600 billion yen annually, equivalent to revenue from the remaining one per cent consumption tax. — Kyodo

Vietnam govt proposes double-digit
GDP growth target

THE Vietnamese government has proposed a gross domestic product (GDP) growth target of at least 10 per cent for 2027, local daily VnExpress reported Saturday.

Vietnamese Prime Minister Le Minh Hung presented the proposal at the opening of the second session of the 16th National Assembly on Saturday. — Xinhua

Iran discusses
creation of energy
storage facilities with
Azerbaijan



Caspian Pipeline Consortium (CPC) located in the Krasnodar Territory (near Novorossiysk) in southern Russia. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

IRAN is looking to create underground storage facilities for energy resources, said Saeed Tavakoli, deputy minister of oil and head of the National Iranian Gas Company, at the Russian Energy Week.

The official said this during the session “3+3

Platform: Energy Cooperation as a Pillar of Peace and Security in the South Caucasus”.

The international forum Russian Energy Week is being held in Moscow on 14-16 October. Sputnik is the forum’s information partner. — SPUTNIK

China urges automakers to resist irrational competition, ensure product safety



People visit the 2026 Hunan Auto Show in Changsha, central China's Hunan Province, 30 April 2026. PHOTO: XINHUA

FOUR Chinese government departments have urged major automakers to resist irrational competition, strengthen management of innovative vehicle designs and research and development (R&D) testing and validation, and ensure product safety, the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) said Friday.

The call came at a meeting Thursday with representatives from more than 30 major automakers, organized by relevant offices under the MIIT, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, and the State Administration for Market Regulation. Officials outlined requirements in a draft circular on strengthening the management of innovative vehicle designs and R&D testing and validation, and reported on problems identified during previous supervisory inspections. — Xinhua

Nuclear reactor in northeastern Japan shut down to replace leaking valve

THE No 2 reactor at the Onagawa nuclear plant in northeastern Japan was shut down on Saturday so a valve in a piece of equipment related to the water supply can be replaced after a leak was detected.

Tohoku Electric Power Co expects to restart the reactor in Miyagi Prefecture in about 10 days. On Thursday, the utility said a small amount of water had leaked from a valve and it announced plans to briefly suspend operations of the reactor.



The No 2 reactor at the Onagawa nuclear plant in northeastern Japan was shut down on Saturday. PHOTO: KYODO

No abnormal radiation levels have been detected in the area around the plant. — Kyodo

India-Arab trade to reach US\$500B as Gulf investment opportunities widen

INDIA'S trade with Arab countries could more than triple to US\$500 billion over the next 10 to 20 years as Gulf investors increase their presence in the Indian market, Secretary-General of India and Arab Countries Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture (IACCIA) Waiel Awwad says.

Speaking ahead of the India-Arab Business Conclave 2026, scheduled for 18-19 December in New Delhi, Awwad says bilateral trade has already surpassed US\$150 billion. — ANI

Business leaders gather in London

FORMER British Business Secretary Vince Cable has expressed optimism about the prospects for China-Britain relations, highlighting shared interests in tackling climate change and maintaining international institutions for trade and finance.

“I think our government in Britain is very keen to keep relationships with China on a good level,” Cable told Xinhua on Friday on the sidelines of the inaugural United Excellence Alliance (UEA) Annual Summit in London.

Cable said the two countries have many common interests despite differences and difficulties in their relations. He stressed the importance of maintaining personal connections, academic exchanges and research collaboration to support bilateral ties. — Xinhua

Fed's Warsh surprised by world economy's 'resilience'

US Federal Reserve boss Kevin Warsh said Friday the global economy had shown unexpected resilience against strong economic shocks, as central banks battle surging inflation, while rich countries tackle spiking bond yields.

“Almost everywhere in the global economy (is) showing resilience I'm not sure I would have predicted five or six months ago,” he told an event hosted by IMF chief Kristalina Georgieva at the IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings in Bangkok.

World energy prices have skyrocketed since US President Donald Trump launched the war on Iran in February, sparking retaliatory action by Tehran against Washington's Gulf allies and plunging the Middle East into crisis. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V XIN HUA YUAN VOY.NO. (BY80NOS89)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V XIN HUA YUAN VOY.NO. (BY80NOS89)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-10-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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 CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (041)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (041)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-10-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MAERSK A/S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MSC FORTUNE F VOY.NO. (SB641A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC FORTUNE F VOY.NO. (SB641A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-10-2026** 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 MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



Saudi Aramco CEO Amin Nasser has warned that the ongoing Middle East conflict and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz have triggered the largest energy shock in history, with market instability potentially lasting into 2027. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

17 OCTOBER

Saudi Finance Minister warns of growing risks to global economy

WARS, conflicts and supply chain disruptions are increasing humanitarian and economic costs and intensifying price pressure, Saudi Finance Minister Mohammed Al-Jadaan, who chairs the International Monetary and Financial Committee of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), said on Saturday.

“Wars and conflicts are imposing a heavy humanitarian toll with significant economic cost and spillovers... Threat tensions and supply chain disruptions are increasing uncertainty and price pressures... These challenges are especially acute in low-income countries and fragile states,” Al-Jadaan said following the 54th meeting of the committee in Bangkok.

The global economy has resisted recent shocks well, but its resilience has shrunk, making future stability under new shocks uncertain. — SPUTNIK

16 OCTOBER

Russia implements measures to stabilize fuel market

THE Russian government has mobilized the maximum production capacity of medium and small-scale refineries, while imposing a complete ban on the export of gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuel.

On 21 July, the Russian government announced that interventions aimed at stabilizing the fuel market are proving effective, with fuel shortages in many regions significantly improved. In addition, Russia is strengthening the protection of its energy facilities against the threat of drone attacks. Measures include reinforcing air defence systems and deploying infrastructure protection options, as well as promoting cooperation with partner countries.

According to Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak, these efforts aim to protect energy infrastructure and maintain supply amidst a volatile global market. — SPUTNIK

15 OCTOBER

COP17 faces test of turning biodiversity pledges into action

FOUR years after the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, its first global progress report has found uneven progress towards the 2030 targets, with the biggest gaps in efforts to address the drivers of biodiversity loss.

The State of Biodiversity Action report, released by the United Nations on Thursday, will inform the first global review of collective progress under the framework at the upcoming 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in the Armenian capital.

With the conference opening on 19 October, the challenge is to turn the review’s findings into concrete action.

Countries have taken action across all 23 targets of the framework for 2030. — Xinhua

14 OCTOBER

Japan, US discuss tighter troop rules

JAPANESE Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi said at a House of Representatives committee session that Japan and the United States have launched senior working-level consultations following the alleged murder of a local woman by a US Marine stationed in the southern prefecture of Okinawa, public broadcaster NHK reported.

During questioning at the session, ruling Liberal Democratic Party lawmaker Masahisa Miyazaki pointed out that similar incidents keep occurring despite Japan’s repeated requests that the US side enforce discipline. In response, Takaichi said the Japan-US senior working-level consultations launched last week would discuss effective preventive measures, and that the Japanese government would do everything possible to address the case.

Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi told the same session that some matters need further review, and concrete measures should be put forward as soon as possible.

Signed by Japan and the United States in 1960, the SOFA governs the legal status of US forces stationed in Japan. — Xinhua

13 OCTOBER

High school protests gather strength in France

TENS of thousands of people joined rallies across France on Tuesday to support protesting high school students, boosting a movement that poses a major challenge to President Emmanuel Macron as his term in office winds down.

Some 161,500 people turned out, according to the interior ministry - more than double the 71,500 it gave for the last nationwide demonstrations on Thursday last week.

Unions helping organize Tuesday’s rallies put the countrywide turnout at 480,000.

The numbers suggested snowballing street opposition to the government just six months before France votes for a successor to Macron, who is completing his maximum second mandate.

On Saturday, national demonstrations against the spiralling cost of living are to take place, and unions and student groups see the two protest currents fusing together.

The agitation comes as Macron’s centrist government struggles to get a cost-cutting budget through parliament. — AFP

12 OCTOBER

Rooppur nuclear plant achieves self-sustaining reaction

The start-up of the reactor at Unit 1 of Bangladesh’s Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant, built with Russian participation, marks a major milestone for the project, Rosatom Director-General Alexey Likhachev said.

The reactor has reached the minimum controllable power level (MCP), confirming that start-up was successful and a self-sustaining, controlled nuclear chain reaction is underway in its core, according to Rosatom. “Reaching the minimum control level is an important milestone in the implementation of the Rooppur NPP Unit 1 project and a major achievement for the entire project team,” Likhachev said. — SPUTNIK

11 OCTOBER

Protest in Portugal over rising living costs

THOUSANDS of people took to the streets of Lisbon and Porto to protest against the rising cost of living, unaffordable housing and wages that they say are insufficient to meet basic needs.

The demonstrations were organized by the platform “Não dá mais para viver assim” (We can’t go on living like this), which also called protests in Aveiro and Braga.

In Lisbon, crowds gathered at Largo do Intendente, where people of different ages assembled to express their frustration over the increasing financial pressures facing households. According to Correio da Manhã, the square was already packed shortly before the scheduled start of the demonstration, with protesters highlighting the difficulties of making ends meet. — AFP

SPORTS

Win Naing Tun brace keeps Yangon City winning

YANGON City beat Chinland 2-1 at Thanlyin Thihadipa Ground on 17 October in Week 4 of the 2026-2027 Grand Royal M-League, with captain Win Naing Tun scoring both goals to secure a second consecutive victory.

The newly promoted sides met for the first time in the top flight, with Yangon City ending their winless run against Chinland in M-League II and extending their unbeaten start to four matches.

Win Naing Tun opened the scoring in 19 minutes before Van Hming Chuang equalized for Chinland just before half-time. Yangon City pressed for a winner after the break and were awarded a penalty in 81 minutes, which Win Naing Tun converted to complete his



Yangon City and Chinland compete in the M-League match. PHOTO: ML

brace.

Win Naing Tun was named an AYA Pay Player of the Match and received a K1 million cash award.

Week 4 concludes on 18

October, with Hanthawady United facing Yadanabon at Bago Grand Royal Ground and Sagaing United taking on Dagon Star United at Star City Ground. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Neto double gives Chelsea win marred by Martinez injury



Pedro Neto scored twice in Chelsea's win at Everton. PHOTO: AFP

PEDRO Neto's double condemned Everton to a first defeat of the season as Chelsea won 2-0 at the Hill Dickinson Stadium despite the loss of goalkeeper Emi Martinez to a head injury.

Neto opened the scoring inside the first

minute of the second half and secured the three points during the 11 added minutes following the lengthy treatment given to the stricken Martinez. The Argentine international was involved in a sickening head clash with Everton defender Jarrad Branthwaite and was taken to hospital.

Victory lifts Chelsea above the Toffees into the top four of the Premier League. After a slow start, a fiery-tempered encounter sparked into life when Everton midfielder Harrison Armstrong launched into a tackle on Josh Acheampong for the first of five first-half yellow cards. That challenge also enlivened the home crowd and spurred Everton on to their best spell of the game.

Thierno Barry was guilty of another wasteful day in front of goal as the Frenchman planted a header from Jack Grealish's cross too close to Martinez. — AFP

Organizing committee chief Omura vows to prevent problems

AICHI Gov Hideaki Omura vowed Saturday to prevent operational problems at the Asian Para Games after a series of mishaps marred the preceding Asian Games.

"We will strengthen our operational checks and thoroughly share information to ensure there are no problems," Omura, who heads the organizing committee for both events, told a news conference.

"We will make every effort to ensure (athletes) can compete with peace of mind," he said.

The organizing committee came under fire for a string of operational errors during the Asian Games, held from 19 September to 4 October, including the playing of the wrong national anthem and disruptions to shuttle bus services for athletes. The Aichi-Nagoya Asian Para Games will run from Sunday through 24 October. — Kyodo

Chacarra takes lead as McIlroy falls away in Delhi

SPAIN'S Eugenio Chacarra took a two-shot clubhouse lead as a faltering Rory McIlroy had a day to forget at the weather-hit DP World India Championship on Saturday.

Chacarra, who won the Hero Indian Open earlier this year, was 14-under after his incomplete third round at Delhi Golf Club.

Although the weather was much improved, play was held up by nearly five hours on day one leaving the European Tour event playing serious catch-up.

Chacarra along with six-time major champion McIlroy finished their second rounds earlier in the day.

The Spaniard, second in the Race to Dubai, has seven holes to play in his third round going into the final day, when good weather is expected.

Northern Ireland's McIlroy, after two good opening days, slipped badly with four bogeys and a double bogey in his incomplete third round.

He clawed back ground with an eagle on the 14th but was two-over with three holes to go in round three.

He was four-under overall and tied 40th.

Dutchman Joost Luiten and Spain's Angel Hidalgo are two shots behind Chacarra at 12-under.

New Zealand's Daniel Hillier, Pole Adrian Meronk and Scotland's Scott Jamieson are another shot back. — AFP



Eugenio Chacarra of Spain pictured in August. PHOTO: AFP

Asian Para Games: 2-time defending Paralympic champ Satomi eyes home reign

JAPANESE wheelchair badminton star Sarina Satomi is out to reaffirm her supremacy at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Para Games as she continues her pursuit of a third straight Paralympic title in Los Angeles in 2028.

The 28-year-old, who won women's singles WH1 gold at both the Tokyo and Paris Paralympics, wants to "win overwhelmingly" and leave no doubt about her status as the world's best in the category, where players require wheelchairs to play due usually to impairment in both lower limbs and trunk function.

Since returning from the 2024 Paris Paralympics, Satomi has maintained an intense training schedule, opting not to take the three-to-four months break she took after the Tokyo Games in 2021.

Believing she must be evolving "at any moment", Satomi has remained unbeaten in international competition while further refining her game. — Kyodo



Para-badminton athlete Sarina Satomi competes at an international tournament in Tokyo in September 2026. PHOTO: KYODO

Ancient southern China canal finds new life as living heritage

The Lingqu Canal is a historical marvel of civil engineering.

PRESERVATION efforts and growing tourism—including over one million tourist visits in 2025—have integrated the canal deeply into the cultural life and economy of local residents.

Canal experts and enthusiasts from around the world are gathering in the city of Guilin in Guangxi for the World Canals Conference, with the historic Lingqu Canal serving as a centerpiece of the event.

Built more than two millennia ago on the orders of Emperor Qinshihuang of the Qin Dynasty, the 37-kilometre Lingqu Canal connects the Yangtze and Pearl river systems and is regarded as one of



Aerial photo taken on 9 April 2022 shows Lingqu Canal in Xing'an County, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

ancient China's three major hydraulic projects.

Although cargo ships no longer travel its waters, the ancient waterway still

actively irrigates farmland, aids flood control, and feeds the Lijiang River. Local resident Ai Chenggang carries on a family tradition as a

volunteer canal guardian, patrolling the banks where his ancestors once served as official canal keepers. — Xinhua

Weverse Con Delhi festival features global K-pop, Indian artistes

Weverse Con Festival India announces major K-pop, Indian artiste lineup.

THE Weverse Con Festival India has announced the artiste lineup for its highly anticipated debut edition, bringing together some of the biggest names in K-pop and Indian music. It is scheduled to take place on 27 and 28 March 2027 in New Delhi. With this, the festival will mark its first edition outside Korea.

According to the press note, the two-day festival will feature an impressive roster of K-pop and global artistes, including Bumzu, Dayoung, ENHYPEN, Eric

Nam, Hwasa, Lara of global girl group KATSEYE, Lee Hyun, LE SSERAFIM, Rhea Raj and TOMORROW X TOGETHER.

The festival will also spotlight some of India's leading contemporary musical voices, with Gini, King, RANJ X Clift, Reble, and DJ Zelo joining the lineup. The international lineup brings together artistes spanning generations, genres, and musical styles, highlighting the diversity of Weverse Con Festival India.

According to the press



The two-day festival will feature an impressive roster of K-pop and global artistes. **PHOTO: VIEWOF THE ARTS**

note, ENHYPEN will bring their cinematic musicality to the festival, while K-pop veteran Lee Hyun will deliv-

er his signature emotional performance on stage. LE SSERAFIM will add their bold sound and powerful performance style to the lineup, and TOMORROW X TOGETHER will showcase their diverse discography to Indian audiences. Together, these artistes will represent the evolving sound and global influence of K-pop.

BUMZU, the acclaimed producer known for his work behind SEVENTEEN's music, will be seen in a new avatar; Dayoung will bring her confident and fearless energy onto the stage, while Eric Nam will return to India following his previous visits and the strong connection he has built with Indian fans. — ANI

Tokyo jazz camp marks decade of nurturing talent for world stage

Camp immersed 42 young musicians in jazz classes and composition.

MARKING its 10th anniversary this year, the Seiko Summer Jazz Camp provides aspiring young musicians in Japan with direct instruction from professional artistes active in the United States and beyond.

Led by trombonist Michael Dease, the five-day programme held in Tokyo emphasizes that jazz is built on core principles of listening, clear communication, and trusting one another.

Bringing together 42 participants aged 16 to 25 selected through video auditions, the camp immersed students in big-band classes, jam sessions, and a newly introduced composition course taught by Grammy nominee Miho Hazama.

Instructors heavily stressed the importance of individuality, noting that jazz music and life alike thrive on diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences. — Kyodo



The image shows a jazz workshop and performance session from the Seiko Summer Jazz Camp in Bunkyo City, Tokyo, featuring young musicians receiving instruction and playing in an ensemble. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Tiny Fiji village restores dying fishery with coral planting

MOTIVATED by declining catches, Fijian villager Manoa Duwai successfully convinced Naidiri Village elders in 2009 to establish a protected "tabu" area within their customary fishing grounds.

What began as a modest 30-by-40-metre conservation zone gradually expanded into a 280-by-240-metre protected area alongside a temporarily closed reserve known as "the fridge" to help rebuild

fish stocks.

The community-led initiative quickly yielded positive results, allowing fish to grow larger within the protected zone and subsequently spread into neighbouring waters.

Naidiri Village's youth group, led by 21-year-old Joseva Kuntagado, has played a vital role since 2011 by spearheading hands-on conservation efforts, including planting 18,000 corals and 10,000 mangroves in 2023 alone. — AFP