

The **Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR**

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

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

Acting President and SSPC Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to pay a working visit to the Russian Federation at the invitation of Russian President Mr Vladimir Putin

AT the invitation of Mr Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will pay a working visit to the Russian Federation soon to attend the World Atomic Week Forum 2025 to be held in Moscow, the Russian Federation. During the visit, the Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will attend the World Atomic Week Forum 2025, and hold talks with Mr Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, and officials to firmly promote strategic cooperation in friendship, economic, security and other sectors between the governments and people of both countries. — MNA/TTA

Shan State approves 26 projects worth over K46B, with US\$25M in foreign investment

The Myanmar Investment Commission has approved 23 foreign enterprises and 88 local enterprises in Shan State, generating employment for 1,698 local workers and 78 foreign workers.



This photo showcases some agricultural lands in Shan State.

THE Shan State Investment Committee, at its 4/2025 meeting held at the Shan State Government Office in Taunggyi, approved eight foreign investment projects and 18 Myanmar national investment projects with a total investment of over K46 billion, including more than US\$25 million.

Foreign investment in Shan State is flowing into the agriculture, industry, electricity, mining, hotel and tourism, and service sectors, with the largest share going to agriculture. According to the Shan State Investment Committee, Myanmar nationals have invested most heavily in the hotel and tourism sector, followed by industry.

Currently, 23 foreign investment enterprises and 88 Myanmar investment enterprises have been approved by the Myanmar Investment Commission in Shan State, creating job opportunities for 1,698 local workers and 78 foreign workers.

Therefore, the Shan State Investment Committee is inviting investors to explore opportunities in Shan State’s agriculture, livestock, hotel and tourism, and mining sectors. — Htun Htun/TH

NATIONAL



2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

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

Union Election Commission



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

Objectives of 26th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2025

- To explore, preserve, and enhance Myanmar’s national prestige, integrity, and distinctive cultural heritage.
- To promote and exemplify the spirit of national solidarity and unity through Myanmar art.
- To transmit traditional performing arts to the younger generation.
- To function as a national cultural and artistic institution contributing to the State’s socioeconomic development.

Union Election Commission Statement

FOR the multiparty democratic general election to be held starting from 28 December 2025, political parties and independent parliamentary candidates submitted their nominations to the respective commissions and subcommittees between 8 September 2025 and 22 September 2025. A total of 4,963 parliamentary candidates, including nominees from 57 political parties and independents, have been registered.

Among them, six political parties are contesting nationwide, 51 political parties contesting within a single Region or State, and independent parliamentary candidates, as detailed below.

No	Party	Pyithu Hluttaw	Amyotha Hluttaw	State/Region Hluttaw		Total
				State/Region Hluttaw	Ethnic Nationality	
1	Union Solidarity and Development Party	265	156	569	28	1,018
2	National Unity Party	182	111	387	14	694
3	People’s Pioneer Party	193	145	320	14	672
4	Myanmar Farmers Development Party	125	55	243	5	428
5	Shan and Nationalities Democratic Party (White Tiger Party)	159	76	341	8	584
6	People’s Party	152	73	278	9	512
7	51 political parties contesting within a single region or state	203	213	525	19	960
8	Independent candidates	51	3	33	8	95
Total		1,330	832	2,696	105	4,963

It has been announced that the scrutiny of submitted candidate nomination lists is being conducted by the respective authorities at the relevant levels, where the nominations were filed, from 23 September to 4 October 2025.

Union Election Commission

Special Weather News

Issued at 4 pm MST on 23 September 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, due to the strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, due to the unstable air condition over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, due to the low-pressure area has formed West Bangal and adjoining North Odisha coast, India, and Northwest Bay of Bengal and due to the easterly waves, rain or thundershowers will be scattered

in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, northern Shan States and fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, (southern and eastern)Shan States with regionally and isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw. Yangon, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kayin, Mon, Rakhine States from today evening to 27 September 2025. Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-12 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

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

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

(An excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

President’s Office Minister 1 inspects Thakayta offshore oil supply base

UNION Minister for Ministry 1 of the President’s Office U Tin Aung San, in his capacity as Chairman of the Electricity and Energy Development Commission, yesterday inspected the offshore oil supply base (Thakayta), in Thakayta Township, Yangon.

The Union minister stated that the energy sector plays a vital role not only in the country’s development and progress but also in raising the living standards of the people. Although Myanmar is utilizing various sources of energy, oil and natural gas continue to hold a crucial position in the country’s energy mix. Hydropower and natural gas are mainly used for electricity generation.

Therefore, in order to meet the electricity needs and to support national development, it is necessary to prioritize the development of the energy sector, particularly the oil and natural gas sector. The four major



Union Minister U Tin Aung San views around the offshore oil supply base (Thakayta) yesterday.

offshore natural gas projects, such as Yadana, Zawtika, Yedagon, and Shwe, produce natural gas for export to neighbouring countries, contributing to the

economic development of the country. Natural gas is also being distributed domestically for electricity generation, CNG-powered vehicles, and factories and in-

dustries, making these projects highly significant for the country.

The Union minister added that these major projects have already been in operation for a

long period, and natural gas production has gradually declined. Therefore, it is necessary to continue to explore and develop new projects. The international energy companies should be invited to invest in both onshore and offshore oil and natural gas exploration and production.

The seismic data already obtained for identifying potential new oil fields must be analyzed within the set timeframe. To ensure that the private oil drilling enterprises operate systematically, priority should be given to replacing hand-dug oil wells with standard wells.

He also instructed the need to ensure the storage system, fire safety and security measures, and presented fruit baskets to the staff.

The Union minister observed around the offshore oil supply base compound and provided proper instructions. — MNA/KTZH



The ASEAN National Training of Trainers Course Batch II is in progress.

Five-day ASEAN Certified National TOT Course Batch II opens

THE five-day course ASEAN Certified National Training of Trainers Batch II has been opened, according to the Union of Myanmar Travel Association (UMTA).

With the approval of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the “ASEAN Accredited National Training of Trainers Course Batch II” organized by the Human Resource Development Committee of the UMTA was inaugurated on 22 September at the UMTA’s office.

The five-day training will be held from

22 to 26 September, and 23 participants from the tourism industry are reportedly attending. The course will be taught by U Kyaw Swa, an experienced trainer, who has already obtained the ASEAN Master Trainer & Assessor accreditation.

The UMTA is planning to continue to run high-quality courses like this at the ASEAN level in order to improve the training capabilities of the hotel and tourism sector in Myanmar and to continuously upgrade the technical skills. — MT/ZN

NATIONAL

MoSYA Deputy Minister attends 2025 World Youth Festival in Russia

THE Myanmar youth delegation, led by Deputy Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Zin Min Htet, who is also chairman of the Myanmar Youth Affairs Working Committee, attended the 2025 World Youth Festival Assembly held in Nizhny Novgorod from 17 to 21 September.

On 17 September, the deputy minister and party attended the opening ceremony and greeted the youths from around the world. On 18 September, they observed the activities of global youths in media, industrial, public administrative, education and science, entrepreneurship, sports and information.

The deputy minister and Russian officials attended the youths' dialogue held at Nizhny Novgorod Fair, and discussed



Deputy Minister U Zin Min Htet and Myanmar delegates are seen participating in the 2025 World Youth Festival Assembly in the Russian Federation on 17-21 September 2025.

the matters related to collaborating of international youth

organizations, governmental departments and private organiza-

tions to create opportunities for Myanmar youth to participate in

ASEAN and international youth programmes, competitions, and dialogues, youth dialogues and social volunteer service programmes aiming at enhancing the capacity of young people and fostering personal thinking skills, quality education system, job opportunities, healthcare service, sports and recreation, social welfare activities, global citizen, gender equality and human rights.

Over 2,000 youth delegates from 120 countries attended the event.

On 19 September, the deputy minister met Egor Litvinenko, Deputy Head of the Federal Agency for Youth Affairs, and discussed all-around development programmes for the youths of Myanmar. — MNA/KTZH

Global Youth Visual Exhibition marks UN 80th Anniversary in Beijing

THE launch ceremony of the UN@80 Campaign with China and the "One World: Shared Future" Global Youth Visual Exhibition was held in Beijing yesterday.

Mr Shen Haixiong, president of the China Media Group, and Mr Melissa Fleming, UN under-secretary-general for Global Communications, delivered video messages.

Shen Haixiong affirmed CMG's commitment to amplifying the UN's voice, covering global governance processes and building bridges between China and the world, to break down prejudice through images and bridge differences through works, and deepen the resonance of the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind.

The UN official welcomed China's steadfast support for multilateralism, saying the UN will continue defending the core principles of peace, equality and dignity laid out in the Charter 80 years ago – principles that must guide both present

and future generations.

The UN resident coordinator in China described the UN@80 campaign as a chance to focus on building the future rather than dwelling on the past, calling it a "legacy of peace, prosperity and sustainability".

The outstanding words and their creators of One World: Shared Future Global Youth Visual Challenge were uncovered, and launched a certain premium production of CGTN, marking the UN 80th Anniversary.

The CGTN co-hosted the event with UN agencies in China, and international diplomats, representatives of UN agencies and international media outlets. The CGTN launched the "One World: Shared Future" Global Youth Visual Challenge in July, receiving over 56,000 submissions from 51 countries. Entries reflected youth perspectives on key UN Sustainable Development Goals, including peace and justice, education, poverty eradication,



The group documentary, photo session of the UN 80th Anniversary in progress yesterday in Beijing.

climate action and biodiversity protection. Fifteen videos and 20 photos were selected as outstanding works and will be showcased on CGTN's website and social

media platforms.

Eight creators from Malawi, Portugal, France, Russia and China attended the ceremony. — Khin Yadana/KTZH

Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

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

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gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

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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.

General Aung San Declares Firm Stand Against Election Disruption

“Our Government shall not permit any disruption of the forthcoming election. The electoral process shall remain free and fair, and no interference shall be exercised upon those who participate in it. Yet, let it be firmly declared that any attempt to disturb or sabotage the election shall be met with the full weight of authority”.

(An excerpt from the radio address regarding the election, delivered by General Aung San on 13 March 1947)



Pedestrians account for most of 23 YBS accident deaths over eight months



This photo reveals that YBS and a private car collided at the corner of Strand Road and Shwebontha Road in Pabedan Township on 26 July.

FROM January to mid-September 2025, 23 people died from YBS accidents, of whom most are pedestrians, according to the Yangon Region Public Transport

Committee. Most cases are related to overtaking and crossing the road from an unexpected location, said YRTC joint secretary

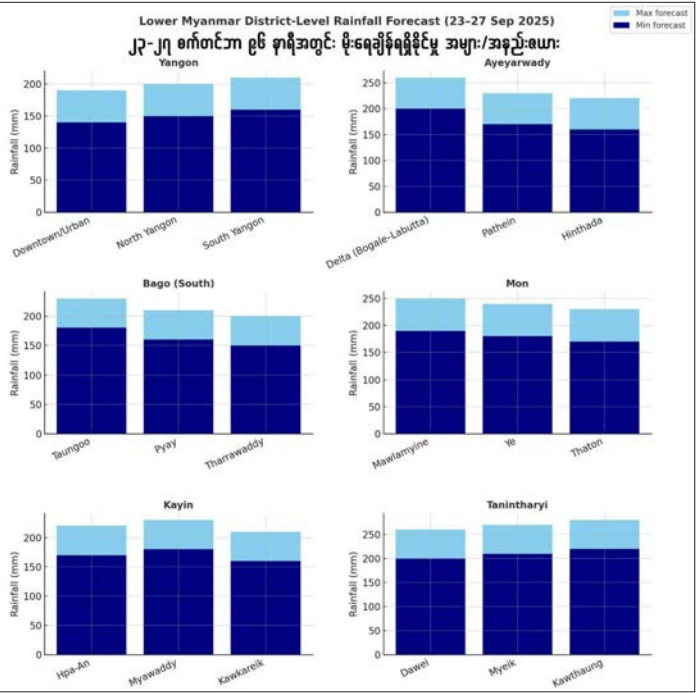
U Lyan Cing Mang. “There are 23 deaths from YBS accidents from January to mid-September this year. Most cases are pedestrian accidents, and other factors are overtaking and crossing the road from an unexpected location,” he said. YBS drivers will need to be more careful, as pedestrians should always be alert when they cross the road, he said. In 2023, six bus passengers died from driving off the side of the road, leaving the side door open, but such cases declined to two in 2024 as a result of education talks for drivers.

About 3,700 drivers under the YRTC provide a public transport service for about 1.5 million commuters every day. — MT/ZS

Heavy rain expected in southern Myanmar

METEOROLOGIST U Win Naing forecast heavy rainfall in the southern parts of Myanmar due to the effects of extraordinary weather conditions from the eastern and western seas. Due to a possible low-pressure area over the Bay of Bengal in four days (96 hours) from 23 to 27 September; and the remnants of Super Cyclone Ragasa with expected landfall in China on or after 25 September, heavy rainfall may happen across Myanmar, especially Ayeyawaddy, Yangon,

Bago regions, Kayin, Mon states and Taninthayi Region in four days, he said. Other forecasts include wind speeds of 20 to 30 miles per hour, and waves of four to eight feet, resulting in floods in Yangon Region, the lower parts of Yangon and fields in Ayeyawaddy. In addition, heavy rains in the mountainous areas may cause landslides in Bago Region, and heavy rains and flash floods in Mawlamyine, Ye in Mon State and Taninthayi areas daily, he added. — MT/ZN



A graph showing the rainfall over 96 hours.

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NATIONAL

MoEP Deputy Minister inspects power projects in Shan State (South)



Deputy Minister U Aye Kyaw and party inspect the 132-kV Kalaw Main Substation in Kalaw Township.

ON 20 September, during an inspection of the coal-fired steam power plant in Pinlaung Township, Shan State (South), Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Aye Kyaw instructed officials to ensure that the ongoing construction and installation of the coal-drying plant strictly adheres to the necessary regulations for continuous power generation.

The Deputy Minister then inspected the ongoing repair work on the power generator No. 1 in the turbine hall and instructed staff to complete the repairs swiftly. He also ordered that the construction of the coal-drying plant be carried out according to a set schedule.

Following this, the deputy minister and party visited the coal mining site of Eden Energy

& Resources Development Co Ltd. Here, he instructed officials to ensure that enough coal is mined and supplied to the plant to meet its needs when it operates at full capacity.

On the morning of 21 September, the Deputy Minister and departmental officials visited the 132-kV Kalaw Main Substation in Kalaw Township, Shan State (South). He toured the substation's control room and switchyard, observing the status of power control, transmission, and distribution, and gave necessary instructions.

— Htun Htun/KZL

Rising Sittoung River prompts flood warning for Taungoo residents

ACCORDING to measurements taken at 6:30 am Myanmar Standard Time on 23 September, the water level of the Sittoung River at Taungoo is at around two feet below the danger mark. The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) released a statement at 7:30 am on 23 September, warning that the water level could reach the danger mark within the next day.

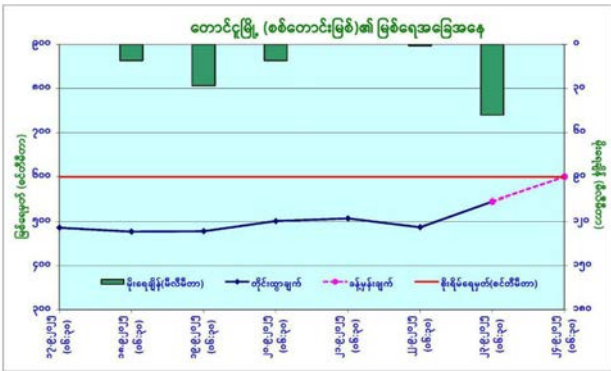
Consequently, residents living near the riverbanks and in low-lying areas of Taungoo Township are advised to take precautionary measures and to evacuate in time should the water level continue to rise.

The statement released at 7 am on 23 September also indicated that the low-pressure area that had formed over the northeast Bay of Bengal has moved westwards and continues to persist over the northern Bay of Bengal. It is forecast

that this low-pressure area may continue to move west-north-westwards within the next 24 hours. The monsoon is strong over the Andaman Sea and the southern Bay of Bengal, while it is moderate over the rest of the Bay of Bengal.

Additionally, the DMH has forecast that Typhoon Ragasa, which formed over the western Philippine Sea, has moved westwards and continues to persist over the South China Sea. It is expected to move west-north-westwards, crossing the southern coastal regions of China on 24 September 2025 and the northern coastal regions of Vietnam as a tropical storm on 25 September 2025.

It is also forecast that for the next two days, there will be more rainfall in Yangon Region, Ayeyawady Region, Taninthayi Region, Kayin State, and Mon State. — Htun Htun/MKKS



A diagram showing the water level of the Sittoung River in Taungoo.

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Tuesday 23 September 2025)

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

SPECIAL FEATURES: According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Typhoon “RAGASA” over South China Sea has moved west-northwestwards still persists. It is likely continue to move west-northwestwards and may cross on 24 September 2025. There after it may pass over the northern coastal areas of Vietnam as a tropical storm on 25 September 2025.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 24 September 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State, fairly widespread in Mandalay, Magway, Lower Sagaing Regions and Kayah, Chin, Rakhine, (northern and eastern)Shan States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and Mon States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, and (southern and eastern) 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 of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasionally squalls with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-12 feet in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along the Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squall may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 8-10 feet off and along the Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuations of increase of rain in Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 September 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 September 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24 September 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

Research must cover increased production of specific agricultural products

❖ It is necessary to research to enhance the production of region-specific agricultural products.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the coordination meeting of the Union government on 3 February 2025)

CBM sells US\$1.7M to importers



Greenbacks are seen at the exchange counter.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) injected over US\$1.7 million into edible oil and fuel oil-importing companies on 22 September, selling over \$1.29 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$452,500 to fuel oil-importing companies.

CBM pumped 758,400 yuan and over \$500,000 into the financial market on 19 September.

Those US dollar injections went to edible oil-importing companies (over \$368,100), fuel oil-importing companies

(over \$79,000) and those who made non-trade payments (over \$58,000).

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

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

CBM announced on 16 September that it would pump \$25 million into the fuel oil import sector.

In addition to an injection of \$100,000 and over 566,400

yuan on that day, CBM sold over \$1.6 million to edible oil-importing companies, \$437,000 to fuel oil-importing companies and over \$140,300 to those who made non-trade payments.

CBM sold over \$1 million, 11 million yuan and four million baht in August. Furthermore, CBM also pumped over \$32 million, purchased from the companies working on a Cut, Make and Pack basis, into the financial market.

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

Shan State government invites bids for fusion big data service

THE Shan State government invited qualified local business entities to submit a bid to procure a fusion big data server to support city management and urban policy when the Shan State government implements Taunggyi as a Smart, Safe and Happy City in the 2025-2026 financial year.

Local individuals interested in purchasing the Fusion Big Data Server required for the CCTV control centre are invited to submit a tender.

The tender form is available at the Shan State government office starting from 22 September, and the tender submission deadline is 5 October 2025, within office hours.

Individuals can enquire about details through the Shan State government's administration and logistics division at 081 2202208, according to the Shan State government office's Taunggyi Safe City implementation tender committee. — NN/KK

Gold Market Rate as of
23 September 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,990,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.



A welder carefully and meticulously carries out welding work.

DTVET to conduct 23rd Welding Course

DEPARTMENT of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (DTVET) under the Ministry of Science and Technology, and PTTEP International Limited (Yangon branch) operating the Yadana and Zawtika projects, will offer a 12-week welding course batch 23 starting from 13 October 2025 at Yadana Welding Training Centre (Aung San) on Lower Mingaladon Road, Singu Ward, Insein Township.

The number of trainees is limited to only 15. The applicants who are 18-35 years old must pass elementary school with a good understanding of basic English. They must be healthy enough to join vocational training. Qualified applicants

must take an interview to take the welding course. Yadana Project will fund a trainee K50,000 per month. It will contribute K100,000 towards some expenses of personal protective equipment, and the remaining cost needs to be borne by them.

Applications will be available at Yadana Welding Training Centre (Aung San) from 22 September 2025. Interested individuals can submit applications by 3 October 2025, along with two passport-sized photos taken within six months, a citizenship scrutiny card and an education certificate. They can enquire about details through 09 777387369 and 01 645759 of the department. — NN/KK

OPINION

Conserve a pleasant and prosperous environment

MYANMAR is a country rich in forests, natural resources, and diverse biodiversity. Therefore, in pursuing national sustainable development, it is necessary to preserve forests, greenery, and the natural environment across the country.

For the country to remain pleasant and green, environmental conservation must include not only the protection and care of forests and trees, but also efforts to reduce air and water pollution, properly manage waste disposal, minimize plastic use, and protect wildlife species. To further expand forest coverage nationwide, the government has also established annual monsoon tree-planting ceremonies as a national duty.

Since trees and forests are the only ecosystems capable of producing oxygen essential for the survival of all living beings, including humans, they are regarded as a vital Life Supporting System. Moreover, they help prevent global warming, climate change,

and natural disasters, while also conserving soil and water, ensuring food security, and supporting ecological balance. Therefore, systematic planting, management, and conservation of trees and greenery are indispensable for national sustainable development and the well-being of society.

The monsoon tree-planting ceremonies were held across 13 districts in the central dry zone on 11 July. The first nationwide mass tree-planting event was carried out simultaneously in Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay regions, during which about 35,000 saplings were planted across 29 townships. At the second ceremony on 19 August in Minbu Township, along the Minbu-Padan-Yenangyaung road section, seven tree species totalling 1,000 saplings were planted. At the same time, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, during this year's monsoon season, planted a total of 21.879 million saplings nationwide, including in State-owned forest plantations.

The third monsoon tree-planting ceremony for 2025 in the Union Territory of Nay Pyi Taw was held on 16 September near the Maravijaya Buddha Image precinct in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw. The event was organized to offer eternal homage to the Buddha by planting perennial trees that are rich in colour, form, and fragrance. Participants grew 3,000 saplings of 18 species.

If every individual, family, or organization plants and nurtures as many trees as possible each year—whether one or two, or in groups—around their homes, neighbourhoods, farms, workplaces, and other accessible areas, it is certain that the nation's goal of achieving 50 per cent forest coverage will be realized. This will also ensure steady progress in forest expansion and the flourishing of greenery nationwide to emerge in greening environs across the nation.

CHINESE President Xi Jinping exposed his latest premise in the recent Shanghai Cooperation Organization Plus Meeting, known as the “Global Governance Initiative (GGI)” for safeguarding world peace with the Shanghai Spirit – mutual trust, solidarity and respect. Given the international turmoil, crises, geopolitical tensions and institutional gaps in global governance, the GGI suggests five keys to realign the international order, which is currently malfunctioning.

The original commitment to peace with UN values is tested.

It has been 80 years since the United Nations was established to shape the world with its core values of equality, justice and mutual respect. During this eight-decade period, it is true that the world has flourished with prosperity and peace brought by the United Nations. People of various nations have witnessed rewards and incentives that the world gained as a result of the cooperation of nations multilaterally over the years.

Yet today, the United Nations and multilateralism are being challenged. Aggressive major power countries and their allies intentionally ignore the important UN resolutions; tanks have passed through the UN posts; shells have crossed the blue line;



Chinese President Xi Jinping exposed his latest premise in the recent Shanghai Cooperation Organization Plus Meeting, known as the “Global Governance Initiative (GGI)” for safeguarding world peace with the Shanghai Spirit – mutual trust, solidarity and respect.

GGI upholds the Shanghai Spirit in endorsing interstate equality

and bombs have hit the UN watchtower. “Peace is never abstract – it stands on the edge of life and

death.”

Furthermore, byproducts and side effects were produced in the

mechanism of the rules-based international order. In this matter, neocolonialism, neo-conservatism



Keywords of the Global Governance Initiative – sovereignty, international rule of law, multilateralism, people-centred approach and real actions – are deemed to be the right momenta in reshaping the global order into a fairer, more reasonable and more pragmatic one with advocacies for the Global South.

By Thet Mon Tun

and Cold-War mentality emerged as secondary phenomena in the post-World War II international order. When those unexpected, flawed ideologies are getting stronger in the years that follow, the peaceful post-World War II global order will be disrupted. Major countries place themselves in the position of global outliers by shaping the world with unipolar power. The concept of Manifest Destiny infected the equal-based multilateralism.

Thus, it becomes the responsibility of all nations for humanity to maintain the original commitment to peace and to improve the global governance system in line with the principles of the United Nations.

Epoch-making for fairer and more equitable international relations

Current global geopolitics has entered into turbulence and hostility. Without a doubt, nations are at the crossroads between uni-

ty and division, cooperation and confrontation, and zero-sum and win-win objectives. In response to such dysfunction of the global governance system, China calls for adhering to sovereign equality, abiding by the international rule of law, practising multilateralism, a people-centred approach, and taking real actions.

Keywords of the Global Governance Initiative – sovereignty, international rule of law, multilateralism, people-centred approach and real actions – are deemed to be the right momenta in reshaping the global order into a fairer, more reasonable and more pragmatic one with advocacies for the Global South. Peace needs to be formulated without undermining the national interests of the nations.

The Global Governance Initiative encourages cooperation and integrity by upholding multilateralism to defend international justice for building a synergetic shared future. In addition, the announcement of the newly proposed

initiative at the SCO+ Meeting is the symbolic strategy of being embedded with the Shanghai Spirit from Amazon to the Mekong. That shows the solidarity of Eurasia and Africa; in other words, the power of the Global South.

This latest initiative does not intend to build a parallel power towards the United Nations, but to restore the original inspirations of founding the United Nations. In fact, the United Nations is the place where countries can resolve issues on an equal basis, and where dialogue can be put at the forefront instead of waging wars in resolving disputes. “War cannot solve problems and sanctions will only complicate them,” – Wang Yi.

Myanmar-China's comprehensive strategic partnership supports GGI

Myanmar fully supports the Global Governance Initiative and its aim, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing asserted during his recent visit to Chengdu, following his days in Tianjin, Beijing, and Harbin of China. The Senior General noted: “Among the various sizes of countries with developed, developing or poor statuses, some major power countries are exerting coercive pressures on other countries both with equal strength and lesser strength by means of politically, economically, financially and militarily. President Xi highlighted this fact and suggested that reform is required.”

Time flies. This year marks the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Myanmar-China bilateral ties have reached their highest this time after being tested over time, turbulence, experiences, and propaganda strategy. Bound by history, the two intertwined nations are now committed to formulating a comprehensive strategic partnership in various sectors, which somehow upholds the consolidation of the Chinese proposed initiatives: Belt and Road Initiative.

ative, Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative, Global Civilization Initiative, and now the Global Governance Initiative.

What is more, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing also pledged during his recent trip to China that his administration will prioritize formulating a strategic partnership with China.

Since the two countries were colonized in bygone history, we have learned very well about the bitterness of being suppressed; the hostility of invasion; the atrocities of the invaders; and the sacrifices of many souls in fighting to get back the sovereignty. Standing shoulder to shoulder, both countries reject any form of hegemonism, neocolonialism and neo-conservatism.

Myanmar and China will work side by side in reaffirming the UN-centred international system by promoting an equal and orderly multipolar world. Multipolarity is a fact. It emboldens an inclusive global governance system by uplifting the voices of the South countries.

Constructor Versus Destructor

Instead of waging coercive tactics, sympathy and love for mankind should be placed. Instead of engaging in forcible diplomacy, dialogue should be upheld. Instead of monopolizing the global dominance, mutual trust and mutual respect should be strengthened. Instead of bullying others, a few major countries should collaborate and coordinate. Fruitful prosperity should be shared among nations across different continents; there must not no forgotten continent or country. As time goes by, unilateralism will end by itself. Only the milestones of humanity made by a constructive and people-centred approach will long exist, while destructive motives for mankind will definitely fail in the end.

Disclaimer

THE article entitled “Putting the EU Delegation in Myanmar in its Place” by Sitt Naing, published on pages 8 and 9 of The Global New Light of Myanmar Daily on 12 September 2025, represents solely the views and opinions of the author. These views do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board or the publisher. — Ed

ESSAY

ENVIRON: WORLD

Two Words, One Choreography: Conservative and Democratic

From the series: I Say What I See

BY @EDITOR

Introduction

Words are not just tools; they are textures. In this essay, I observe two words – *conservative* and *democratic* – not as political emblems, but as linguistic forces that shape behaviour, identity, and culture. I do not name names, nor do I argue positions. I simply watch how these words move through society, both globally and locally, from dictionary definitions to daily rituals. What I see is a quiet choreography – sometimes graceful, sometimes tense – between preservation and participation. This is not a study in ideology. It is a study in language and how language lives.

Lexicographic Layers

In the lexicon of public life, *conservative* and *democratic* are more than ideological signposts; they are linguistic mirrors. The Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary defines *conservative* as favouring traditional views and values, cautious about change, and often resistant to innovation. *Democratic*, by contrast, is rooted in the principle of equality and collective decision-making, emphasizing the role of the peo-

ple in governance. Locally, the English–Myanmar Glossary of Democratic Terms echoes these meanings: *conservative* (ထုံးတမ်းစဉ်လာကိုထိန်းသိမ်းလိုသောသဘော) implies a desire to preserve customs and resist rapid transformation, while *democratic* (ပြည်သူအခြေပြု အုပ်ချုပ်မှု) centres on people-based governance and inclusive participation. These definitions, stripped of political branding, reveal a quiet tension – one word leans inward, preserving; the other outward, inviting.

Social Texture

Outside the dictionary, these words walk among us. *Conservative* might be the neighbour who keeps their curtains drawn, not out of secrecy but out of habit. *Democratic* could be the street vendor who lets customers choose their own toppings, not because it’s policy but because it feels fair. These aren’t declarations; they’re gestures. In Myanmar, where tradition and transition often share the same sidewalk, the interplay between conserving and democratizing is visible in the smallest details: the way elders are addressed, the

way opinions are offered (or withheld), the way decisions ripple through a tea shop conversation. No one says the words aloud, yet they shape the choreography of daily life. One preserves the rhythm; the other invites improvisation.

Global Echoes

Preservation and participation are not adversaries; they are co-tenants in the house of society. One guards the foundation, the other rearranges the furniture. In Myanmar, this coexistence is often quiet, negotiated in glances and gestures. But elsewhere – across oceans and headlines – the balance is louder, more performative. The same words, *conservative* and *democratic*, travel differently. They are worn like badges, sometimes armour, sometimes an invitation. In some places, *conservative* is a call to remember; in others, a refusal to forget. *Democratic* may be a promise, a process, or a performance. The lexicon remains the same, but the choreography shifts. And so, as I turn my gaze towards America – not to dissect, but to observe – I carry these

definitions with me, watching how they stretch, bend, and echo in a different light.

American Choreography

In America, the words *conservative* and *democratic* do not merely hum beneath the surface; they often headline the performance. Yet even here, beyond the podiums and placards, their meanings stretch into quieter spaces. *Conservative* might be the suburban lawn trimmed with precision, the bookshelf arranged by decade, the handshake that favours firmness over flair. *Democratic* might be the town hall where voices rise unevenly, the community mural painted by many hands, the coffee shop tip jar labelled “vote with your change”. These are not slogans; they are signals. The lexicographic roots remain intact, but the soil is different. Preservation here may be nostalgic, even defiant; participation may be messy, even theatrical. And still, both words shape the choreography of daily life – how people gather, disagree, celebrate, and retreat. They are not just political – they are personal, cultural, and deeply

performative.

Closing Reflection

I say what I see, and what I see are words doing quiet work. *Conservative* and *democratic* – two terms that rarely sit still – have become part of the choreography of modern life. They guide gestures, tone, posture, and even silence. In Myanmar, in America, and beyond, they slip into conversations like background music – sometimes harmonious, sometimes discordant, always influential. I do not name names because the words themselves are enough. They carry their own histories, their own burdens, their own aspirations. And as I continue this essay series, I remain an onlooker – not to judge, but to notice. Because sometimes, noticing is the most radical act of all.

Author’s Note

This essay is part of *I Say What I See*, a series of quiet observations by @Editor. Each piece explores language as a living force; how words shape us, and how we shape them in return.

Uganda holds rhino naming ceremony to boost conservation efforts

UGANDA on Monday held a special ceremony where 17 rhino calves were named at the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary in the central district of Nakasongola as part of efforts to revive a species once extinct in the country.

In a speech delivered on his behalf by Minister of Public Service Wilson Muruli Mukasa, President Yoweri Museveni recalled that by 1986, Uganda’s rhino population had been wiped out due to conflict.

“Today’s event is a highlight of the effort of the ministry of tourism, and we now pride ourselves in the presence of 48 rhinos, 30 males and 18 females, excluding the two at the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre in Entebbe,” Museveni said.

The naming ceremony, which coincided with World Rhino Day, allows individuals, corporations, and philanthropists to symbolically “adopt” and name a rhino, with the proceeds supporting habitat expansion, veterinary care, and conservation efforts.

James Musinguzi, executive director of the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), said the ceremony was expected to raise more than US\$11 million for rhino conservation.

“Naming of 17 calves today is more than statistics; it is a powerful statement that Uganda has chosen restoration over despair and resilience over loss,” he said.

Musinguzi said 20 rhinos from the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary will soon be translocated to the



This photo taken on 22 September 2025 shows a group of rhinos at the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary in Nakasongola, Uganda. PHOTO: XINHUA

Ajai Wildlife Reserve, a conservation protected area in north-western Uganda, marking their reintroduction into the wild.

Uganda also plans to rein-

troduce the indigenous eastern rhino species alongside the current southern white rhino population, he added.

Tom Butime, minister of

tourism, wildlife and antiquities, said rhino conservation not only brings ecological benefits but also generates income and supports livelihoods.

Butime stressed that rhinos are one of the key tourism attractions in Africa, meaning that their reintroduction in Uganda has contributed to the country’s tourism development.

“Today tourism contributed 5.7 per cent of gross domestic product, making it one of the leading pillars of the national economy,” the minister said.

Meanwhile, the UWA announced plans to recruit more rangers and enhance monitoring through a joint command centre, using drones and helicopters to track poaching and protect wildlife. — Xinhua

Chinese artist wins lifetime achievement award at Serbia's Children's Theatre Festival

CHINESE artist Feng Li received the "Little Prince Lifetime Achievement Award" at the 32nd International Festival of Children's Theatres in Subotica, Serbia, on Sunday, becoming the first Chinese laureate of the festival's highest honour.

Feng, president of the China National Opera and Dance Drama Theatre, was recognized for her outstanding contributions to children's culture and performing arts. The award, presented

annually since 2000, celebrates exceptional achievements in children's theatre.

Established in 1994, the Subotica festival is regarded as one of Europe's leading events dedicated to children's theatre. Over three decades, it has welcomed more than 300 theatre troupes from over 50 countries, and a total of 53 artists have received the lifetime achievement award.

Running from 21 to 26 September, this year's festival fea-

tures 13 productions by international ensembles alongside performances by theatres from Belgrade, Novi Sad, and Subotica. All events are open to the public free of charge.

As one of the three jury members at this year's festival, Feng will help evaluate 13 children's theatre productions from 11 countries and will also host a personal exhibition and a discussion session during the event. — Xinhua



Chinese artist Feng Li (R) receives the "Little Prince Lifetime Achievement Award" at the 32nd International Festival of Children's Theatres in Subotica, Serbia, on 21 September 2025. Feng Li became the first Chinese laureate of the festival's highest honour. **PHOTO: CHINA NATIONAL OPERA AND DANCE DRAMA THEATRE/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**



This photo taken on 22 January 2025 shows lanterns in the shape of the head of Mickey at Shanghai Disney Resort of east China's Shanghai. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Shanghai Disney to expand its iconic attraction

SHANGHAI Disney Resort announced on Tuesday that it will expand its iconic attraction, Soaring Over the Horizon, to increase the daily capacity of this one of the most popular attractions in the park.

Soaring Over the Horizon offers people an immersive experience of a magical flight across the globe. The expansion is expected to see an approximately 50 per cent increase in the current attraction capacity. The attraction will remain open during the expansion phase.

"Soaring Over the Horizon is an iconic family-friendly attraction that has delighted millions of guests of all ages since opening. We are very excited to

welcome even more guests to embark on this magical ride in the near future and to encourage our seasoned fans to return and experience its new ending," said Andrew Bolstein, president and general manager of Shanghai Disney Resort.

Shanghai Disney Resort, which opened in June 2016, welcomed 14 million visitors in 2023. It continues to expand since its opening. Currently, two other major expansion projects, the Spider-Man-themed land and a third Disney-themed hotel in the resort, are also under construction, following the opening of the Disney Pixar Toy Story Land in April 2018 and Zootopia in December 2023. — Xinhua

New Zealand introduces flexible residence pathways for skilled migrants

MORE New Zealand businesses will soon benefit from two new skilled migrant residence pathways introduced by the government, aimed to boost workforce and support economic growth.

Economic Growth Minister Nicola Willis said Tuesday that skilled and experienced migrants are vital in filling

employment gaps, and in turn helping businesses to grow.

"Businesses told us it was too hard for some migrants to gain residence, even when they had crucial skills and significant experience that was not available in the existing workforce," Willis said.

From mid-2026, New Zealand will offer two new resi-

dence pathways for skilled migrants, according to a government statement.

The Skilled Work Experience pathway targets migrants with at least five years of relevant work experience, including two years in New Zealand earning at least 1.1 times the median wage, it said. — Xinhua

Beijing Culture Forum opens, spotlighting integration of culture, technology

THE 2025 Beijing Culture Forum opened here on Tuesday, drawing participants from home and abroad to discuss the integrated development of culture and technology.

Li Shulei, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and head of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee, attended the forum and delivered a keynote speech. Over 800 participants from 58 countries and regions attended the forum.

The attendees noted that the ongoing wave of technological and industrial transformation is driving deeper

integration of culture and technology, which can help promote changes in the con-

tent of cultural production and modes of dissemination. — Xinhua



Zhu Songchun, a national political advisor and director of the Beijing Institute for General Artificial Intelligence, delivers a speech titled "Civilization Evolution in the Intelligent Era" during the 2025 Beijing Culture Forum in Beijing, capital of China, 23 September 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

ECONOMY WORLD

OECD ups world economic outlook as tariffs contained, for now



This photo shows a view of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) headquarters in Paris on 22 September 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE world economy will grow more than previously forecast this year after absorbing the shock of US President Donald Trump's tariffs, but their full impact remains uncertain, the OECD said Tuesday.

In June, the Paris-based organization had cut its forecast from 3.1 per cent to 2.9 per cent, warning at the time that Trump's tariffs would stifle the world economy.

But in an updated outlook on Tuesday, it raised the projection to 3.2 per cent, saying the economy "proved more resilient than anticipated" in the first half of 2025.

The OECD said "front-loading" — companies rushing to import goods ahead of Trump's tariffs — "was an important

source of support".

The economy also got a boost from strong AI-related investments in the United States and government spending in China.

The updated figure is still a slight slowdown from 3.3 per cent in 2024.

"The full effects of tariff increases have yet to be felt — with many changes being phased in over time and companies initially absorbing some tariff increases through (profit) margins," the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development said.

"But (they) are becoming increasingly visible in spending choices, labour markets and consumer prices," the report. — AFP

Stocks diverge with eyes on key economic data

STOCK markets diverged Tuesday as traders monitored key economic indicators, with US inflation data due later this week that could influence Federal Reserve policy.

Paris, Frankfurt and London equities rose as investors digested purchasing managers' index (PMI) data — a closely watched gauge of economic health.

The index showed eurozone business activity hit a 16-month high in September, partly driv-

en by solid growth in Germany, while France weighed on performance.

Britain's reading came in below expectations, suggesting the economy is losing momentum, analysts noted.

Gold pushed to another all-time high and the dollar steadied.

Oil prices rose around one per cent after the OECD on Tuesday raised its forecast for world economic growth this year. — AFP

Indonesia, EU sign long-awaited trade deal

INDONESIA and the European Union finalized negotiations on a trade agreement Tuesday after nearly a decade of talks, a senior minister said.

The Indonesia-European Union Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) is the third deal Brussels has signed with Southeast Asian countries, after Singapore and Vietnam.

The pact was signed by EU Trade Commissioner Maros Sefcovic and Indonesian Minister of Economic Affairs Airlangga Hartarto in Bali and will open investment in strategic sectors such as electric vehicles, electronics, and pharmaceuticals.

"By finalising this agreement, the EU and Indonesia are sending a powerful message to the world that we stand united in our commitment to open rules-based and mutually beneficial international trade," Sefcovic said after the signing.

"In all, EU exporters will save some 600 million euros (\$708 million) a year in duties

paid on their goods entering the Indonesian market, and European products will be more affordable and available to Indonesian consumers," EU President Ursula von der Leyen said in a statement.

Indonesia has been in talks with the EU since 2016, but negotiations for a trade deal initially saw little pro-

gress.

Issues such as palm oil and deforestation posed stumbling blocks, but US President Donald Trump's sweeping tariff policy "created the urgency" to expedite an agreement, said Deni Friawan, researcher at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies. — AFP

Singapore's core inflation eases to 0.3% in August

SINGAPORE'S core inflation eased to 0.3 per cent year-on-year in August, down from 0.5 per cent in July, according to official data released Tuesday.

In a joint statement, the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Monetary Authority of Singapore said the slowdown was mainly driven by a moderation in services inflation.

On a month-on-month basis, core consumer prices rose 0.1 per

cent. The core Consumer Price Index, which excludes accommodation and private transport costs, is considered a key gauge of underlying, demand-driven inflation. Headline inflation also moderated, coming in at 0.5 per cent year-on-year in August, compared with 0.6 per cent in July. The statement noted that, in addition to lower core inflation, accommodation inflation also fell. — Xinhua



Indonesia's Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs Airlangga Hartarto (centre-L) and EU Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security, Interinstitutional relations and Transparency Maros Sefcovic (centre-R) hold their signed joint announcements on the Substantial Conclusion of the Indonesia-EU Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement in Nusa Dua, on Indonesia resort island of Bali on 23 September 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

Eurozone business activity growth hits 16-month high

BUSINESS activity in the eurozone rose in September, with the pace of expansion hitting a 16-month high, a key survey showed on Tuesday.

S&P Global's purchasing managers' index (PMI) — a key gauge of the overall health of the economy — registered a figure of 51.2 this month, up from 51 in August. It is the ninth consecutive month of increases, S&P said in a statement.

Any reading above 50 indicates growth, while a figure below 50 shows contraction.

"The eurozone is still on a growth path," said Cyrus de la Rubia, chief economist at Hamburg Commercial Bank. "That said, we're still a long way from seeing any real momentum."

Europe's biggest

economy Germany was a key driver of growth this month, the survey found, posting a solid increase in output.

The situation, however, appeared more bleak in France, where activity decreased for the thirteenth consecutive month, the survey found.

"The outlook for manufacturing is looking a bit cloudy. Production is still growing, but the pace is being dragged down by France, where the government shake-up in early September likely threw a wrench into companies' production plans," de la Rubia said.

The resignation this month of Francois Bayrou as premier threw France into fresh political turmoil as President Emmanuel Macron faces rising public anger. — AFP

S Korea's number of businesses rises in 2024

SOUTH Korea's number of businesses rose last year due to an expansion in the electricity and natural gas and the wholesale and retail sectors, statistical office data showed Tuesday.

The combined number of businesses was 6,353,673 at the end of 2024, up 1.7 per cent from a year earlier, according to Statistics Korea.

The number of manufacturers and real estate companies slipped in single digits last year, but the figure for electricity and natural gas companies surged 33.7 per cent, with the reading for wholesalers and retailers gaining 2.3 per

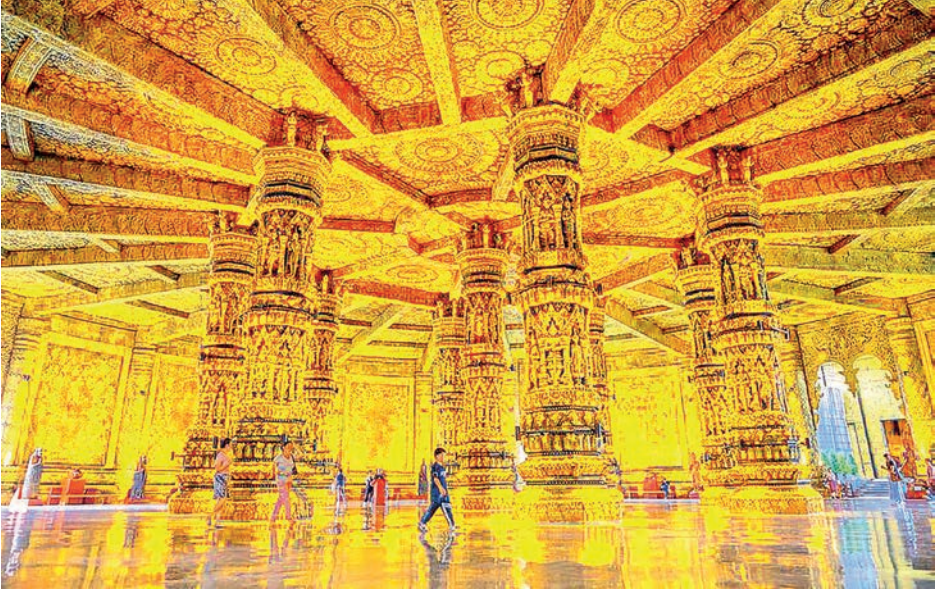
cent.

The wholesale and retail industry posted the highest number of businesses with 1,612,825, followed by the lodging and eatery sector with 858,373 and the transport sector with 673,324.

The number of workers employed by local businesses went up 1.1 per cent from a year earlier to 25,731,105 at the end of 2024.

The manufacturing industry hired the highest number of 4,146,119 employees, followed by the wholesale and retail sector with 3,599,680 and the healthcare and social welfare sector with 2,764,000. — Xinhua

Laos ramps up tourism push to attract more visitors amid 2025 growth trend



Tourists visit the Lao Art Museum in Vientiane, Laos, 13 July 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

AS tourism continues to boom in 2025, Laos is ramping up efforts to strengthen its tourism sector through targeted initiatives and workforce training, aimed at attract-

ing more visitors and sustaining the momentum.

Laos welcomed 3,061,928 foreign tourists in the first eight months of 2025, marking a significant 15 per cent increase com-

pared to the same period last year. The rise reflects growing global interest in Laos as a travel destination.

According to the latest report from the Lao Minis-

try of Culture and Tourism released in September, the top source countries from January to August 2025 included Thailand with 977,675 visitors, followed by Vietnam with 790,403, and China with 750,650 arrivals.

Bandith, a passionate traveller from Savannakhet province, is known among his friends as the go-to person for organizing adventurous trips across Laos. In his free time, he often plans group journeys, acting as an informal tour guide for both local and international friends.

"Laos truly has so many beautiful places to visit, from stunning waterfalls and mountains to ancient temples and serene landscapes. There's so much to explore," Bandith told Xinhua on Monday. — Xinhua

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Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC SUPARNA F VOY.NO. (SB537A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **24-9-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

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ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

World leaders call for renewed commitment to UN Charter



This photo shows a United Nations General Assembly special session to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the founding of the UN at its headquarters in New York, 22 September 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

WORLD leaders urged a renewed commitment to multilateralism and the founding principles of the UN Charter at a special session at the General Assembly on Monday, marking the 80th anniversary of the United Nations.

The theme of this year’s historic meeting — “Better together: 80 years and more for peace, development, and human rights” — was emphasized in several speeches, as was the need to strengthen the UN Charter, which was born

from the ruins of war. The one-hour commemoration mixed historical reflection with urgent appeals. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the UN’s guiding principles are “under assault as never before”, pointing to conflicts, hunger and climate chaos.

“To meet these challenges, we must not only defend the United Nations, we must strengthen it,” he said, highlighting reform initiatives including the Pact for the Future and the UN80 process. “The

only way forward is together. Let us rise to this moment with clarity, courage, and conviction. And let us realize the promise of peace.”

UN General Assembly President Annalena Baerbock said the UN’s 80th year comes at a turning point. “We must choose the right path; to show the world that we can be better together,” she said, adding that “better together” is more than a motto, but a hard-won truth and a commitment for the next 80 years. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Four dead in Thailand monsoon floods

FOUR people were killed in flooding in central Thailand, the nation’s disaster agency said Tuesday, with more heavy rain forecast this week during the annual monsoon.

More than 250,000 people across several provinces on the Chao Praya river basin were impacted by the floods this week, the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation said in a statement.

Two men drowned in Ayutthaya province, north of the capital Bangkok, while moving their belongings through floodwaters, and another was killed after his rowboat capsized in Phetchabun province.

In Phichit province, a 17-year-old girl was killed driving her motorbike through a flooded area. The meteorological department forecast more heavy rain in Thailand’s north, central and eastern provinces, including Bangkok, until Friday, with the possibility of flash floods.

Thailand regularly records heavy rainfall from June to September, but experts say human-induced climate change has intensified extreme weather, making conditions increasingly unpredictable.

In northern Thailand last month, five people were killed and 15 were injured in landslides and flooding triggered by Typhoon Kajiki.

Kajiki tore roofs off thousands of homes in Vietnam, killing several people and forcing tens of thousands to evacuate. Widespread flooding across Thailand in 2011 killed more than 500 people and damaged millions of homes around the country. — AFP

Indonesian president calls for ending war in Gaza

INDONESIAN President Prabowo Subianto has called for an end to the war in Gaza and vowed that Indonesia is ready to send peacekeeping troops under a United Nations mandate.

President Prabowo made the statement in his speech at the High-Level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States, on Monday.

The Indonesian president stressed that ending the war in Gaza must be a top international priority, saying Indonesia is ready to actively participate, including by sending peacekeeping troops under a United Nations mandate.

The president expressed a deep concern over the ongoing humanitarian tragedy in Gaza.

“Thousands of innocent lives, many of them women and children, have been lost. Famine threatens. A humanitarian disaster is unfolding before our eyes. We condemn all acts of violence against innocent civilians,” he said in a statement released by the Indonesian State Secretariat on Tuesday. — Xinhua

WHO sees no autism links to Tylenol, vaccines

NEITHER the painkiller Tylenol nor vaccines have been shown to cause autism, the World Health Organization said on Tuesday, following comments from the US president and his administration to the contrary.

President Donald Trump insisted on Monday that pregnant women should “tough it out” and avoid Tylenol due to an unproven link to autism and also urged major changes to the standard vaccines administered to babies.

Medical groups have long cited acetaminophen, or paracetamol — the primary ingredient in Tylenol — as among the safest painkillers to take during pregnancy.

WHO spokesman Tarik Jasarevic acknowledged that there had been some “observational studies that have suggested a possible association between prenatal exposure to acetaminophen or paracetamol and autism”. But, he told report-

ers in Geneva, “the evidence remains inconsistent”.

He pointed out that a number of studies conducted since the observational studies had “found no such relationship”.

“If the link between acetaminophen and autism were strong, it would likely have been consistently observed across multiple studies,” he said, warning against “drawing casual conclusions about the role of acetaminophen in autism”. — AFP



In this photo illustration, Tylenol packages and caplets are displayed, in Los Angeles, California, on 22 September 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

SPORTS

Asian Futsal Qualifiers: Myanmar to face Afghanistan today

THE final group stage matches of the 2026 Asian Futsal Qualifiers will continue today, with Myanmar set to play against Afghanistan.

Group (H) matches are being hosted in Myanmar, and today's match will take place at 4 pm at the MFF Futsal Indoor Stadium in the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre, Yangon, between Myanmar and Afghanistan.

Myanmar, competing in a three-team group, opened their campaign with a 7-3 victory over the Maldives. With that result, both Myanmar and Afghanistan now stand level on three points each, making today's fixture crucial for qualification.

Although Afghanistan holds a higher FIFA ranking and is regarded as technically stronger, Myanmar still has a chance to



Myanmar Futsal players celebrate victory in high spirits. PHOTO: MFF

progress. A win would secure Myanmar's advancement, but even in defeat, if they avoid a heavy loss, they remain in contention to qualify as one of the best second-placed teams.

According to the qualification format, the top team from each of the eight groups and the seven best second-placed teams will advance to the finals. With this structure, Myanmar is already close to ensuring at least a second-place finish, giving them a strong chance of progressing.

Meanwhile, Group D, featuring Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Chinese Taipei, and Pakistan, will be contested from 18 to 22 October. With Group H concluding on 24 September, the full list of qualifiers will only be confirmed after all groups finish their matches. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Dembele beats Yamal to Ballon d'Or as Bonmati retains women's award



Paris Saint-Germain's French forward Ousmane Dembele and Barcelona's Spanish midfielder and Ballon d'Or 2024 winner Aitana Bonmati pose after receiving the Ballon d'Or awards during the 2025 Ballon d'Or France Football award ceremony at the Theatre du Chatelet in Paris on 22 September 2025. PHOTO: AFP

PARIS Saint-Germain winger Ousmane Dembele won the Ballon d'Or on Monday as a reward for his starring role in the club's Champions League triumph last season, while Spain's Aitana Bonmati claimed the women's prize for the third year in a row. Dembele, 28, edged out Barcelona sensation Lamine Yamal to succeed Manchester City and Spain midfielder Rodri, who took the trophy in 2024, as the winner of the most prestigious individual prize in football

— an award that for many years had been dominated by Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo. Former Borussia Dortmund and Barcelona forward Dembele, who was part of the France team that won the World Cup in 2018, scored 35 goals in all competitions as PSG claimed a French league and cup double as well as winning the Champions League. With Dembele converted into a centre-forward following Kylian Mbappe's departure for

Real Madrid, PSG went on to hammer Inter Milan 5-0 in the final in Munich to win the European Cup for the first time in their history. "I really don't have the words. It was an incredible season with PSG," an emotional Dembele said on the stage at the Theatre du Chatelet in central Paris. He added that his boss Luis Enrique — who won the award for club coach of the year — had been "like a father" to him. "It is an individual trophy but it was really the collective that won it," insisted Dembele, who was one of nine members of the triumphant PSG team from last season to be nominated for the prize. "The Ballon d'Or has not really been an objective for me in my career but I worked hard for the team to win the Champions League." The 18-year-old Yamal, who was a teammate of Dembele's at Barcelona when he first broke through in 2023, did earlier win the Kopa Trophy for the best player aged under 21 — the second year running he has taken that award. — AFP

Man City have 'recovered many things': Guardiola

PEP Guardiola said Tuesday that Manchester City had "recovered many things" after last season's trophyless campaign, pledging there was more to come from his team. The City boss has rebuilt his squad over the past two transfer windows, with a clutch of long-serving players exiting the club, including Kevin De Bruyne, Ilkay Gundogan and Ederson. Guardiola adopted a defensive approach against Arsenal on Sunday, conceding a late goal to draw 1-1, losing further ground on runaway Premier League leaders Liverpool. He was asked about the reaction to his tactics against the Gunners at a press conference ahead of his team's League Cup third-round clash against third-tier Huddersfield on Wednesday. "I'm really proud of this fight," he said. "We recovered many, many things that last season we missed. We have an incredible spirit. "Of course we cannot sustain for all the season to play in the way we played, and we don't want it. But I give incredible

power and credit to the opponents, Arsenal." Guardiola said it was important to celebrate a point against a team of the quality of Mikel Arteta's Gunners, widely expected to be Premier League contenders. "Especially since (Manchester) United (a 3-0 win), we start to recover many things that define our teams for many, many years," said the Spaniard, who finished last season without a major trophy for the first time in eight years. "We can do better, yeah, we do it," he added. "We could do a few things, many decisions, yeah, we do it. "And we have to play a little bit more with the opponent, yes, we will do it. But first comes the spirit that we have shown this week. "And we have to take care, this kind of thing, like a father, a mother takes care of their son". City are ninth in the Premier League after five matches, already eight points behind champions Liverpool. The club have won the League Cup four times under Guardiola. — AFP



WORLD

Sri Lanka approves “SuperApp” for one-stop access to government services

Sri Lanka’s Cabinet of Ministers has approved a proposal to create a “SuperApp” that will allow the public to access all government services through a single digital platform, a minister said on Tuesday.

Minister of Health and Mass Media Nalinda Jayatissa told journalists in Colombo that Sri Lankans currently must access public services through multiple online apps, which wastes time and money. The annual economic cost of doing so is estimated at 500 million rupees (about US\$1.7 million), he said.

In line with its digitization drive, the government has decided to create a “Super-App” that will allow about 14 million citizens aged 18 and older to access all government digital services, Jayatissa said.—Xinhua

Russia remains world leader in uranium enrichment: Rosatom official

RUSSIA continues to lead the world in uranium enrichment for nuclear power plants, a position that the West has been unable to alter, Kirill Komarov, a senior official of Russia’s state nuclear corporation Rosatom, said on Monday. As First Deputy CEO for Corporate Development and International Business of Rosatom, Komarov stated that 25 per cent of US nuclear power plants rely on Russian uranium supplies.

“We remain the world’s leader in uranium enrichment,” Komarov said. “And no matter how much some of our Western partners may want to change that, they have not been very successful so far. Our share of the global uranium enrichment market stands at nearly 40 per cent.” — Xinhua

“Air Silk Road” cooperation to accelerate China-ASEAN trade: aviation sector experts



A staff member loads a cargo plane at Xinzheng International Airport in Zhengzhou, central China’s Henan Province, 1 August 2023.
PHOTO: XINHUA

COOOPERATION through the “Air Silk Road” will enhance the air freight sector between China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), with Malaysia emerging as a key regional hub, according to aviation sector experts.

The Zhengzhou Xinzheng International Airport-Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) “twin hub” initiative will deliver a strategic advantage by streamlining end-to-end logistics, reducing trans-

it time and improving market access, benefiting businesses and consumers on both ends of the corridor, they said.

“The initiative represents a strategic milestone in Malaysia-China economic cooperation, anchoring the ASEAN-China Air Silk Road,” Raya Airways group managing director Mohamad Najib Ishak told Xinhua in a recent interview.

“This partnership not only amplifies bilateral trade and strengthens supply chain resilience but also establishes Malaysia as a critical logistics hub within the dynamic framework of global trade networks,” he said. Mohamad Najib expressed confidence that the initiative will drive deeper economic integration among Malaysia, China and the wider ASEAN region over the next five years. It will expand cargo capacity, improve digitalization of trade processes and strengthen multimodal connectivity, positioning the twin hub as a leading air freight corridor in Asia, he said. — Xinhua



The Chinese Foreign Ministry’s building in Beijing. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

Intl community hopes US, Russia to fulfil nuclear disarmament responsibility: Chinese foreign ministry

THE international community hopes to see the United States and Russia earnestly fulfil their special and primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament, Guo Jiakun, a spokesperson for the Chinese foreign ministry, said here on Tuesday.

Guo made the remarks

when asked to make comment on the news that Russian President Vladimir Putin said Russia is ready to continue to adhere to core numerical limits under the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) for one year after the agreement expires in February next year.

Putin also noted that “this measure will only be viable if the United States takes the same step and refrains from actions that undermine or violate the existing balance of deterrence capabilities”. Guo said China commends the positive stance expressed by Russia. — Xinhua