

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.

Myanmar, Algeria agree to enhance trade, economic and tourism ties



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Algerian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Azeddine Bechka at the Credentials Hall of the Office of the National Defence and Security Council in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

ACTING President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing accepted the Credentials of Ambassador of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to Myanmar

Mr Azeddine Bechka at the Credentials Hall of the Office of the National Defence and Security Council in Nay Pyi Taw at 10 am yesterday.

At the ceremony, they discussed strengthening and long-lasting diplomatic relations between the two coun-

tries and further promotion of friendship.

They also emphasized promotion of cooperation in trade, economic and tourism sectors, political progress in Myanmar, and preparations to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic gen-

eral election in Myanmar soon.

Also, present at the ceremony were Commission Secretary General Ye Win Oo, Commission Member and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe, and Director-General U Than Htwe of the Protocol Department. — MNA/TTA

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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.**

Four National Objectives for 78th Independence Day 2025

1. To safeguard the non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty by all citizens, as they are the most essential and suitable national objectives and national duties
2. To strive forward for national unity and Union peace to implement sustainable and balanced development
3. To establish a genuine, disciplined democratic system completely by exercising the freedom and justice in accordance with the laws and regulations
4. To advance other economic sectors and promote MSMEs based on regional products

Domestic tourist numbers at Ngwetaung Beach rise in Nov



Domestic tourist arrivals at the Ngwetaung Beach observed during November.

ACCORDING to Daw Ni Ni Mar, an executive member of the Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs Association (Ngwetaung Beach), a total of 18,585 domestic travellers visited the Ngwetaung Beach in Hainggyikyun, Ngaputaw Township, Ayeyawady Region, during November 2025, with tourist arrivals continuing to rise.

Ngwe Taung Beach is located close to the Myat Mawtin Sun Pagoda and is therefore a beach that domestic tourists visit throughout the year for leisure and recreation. It is learnt that the majority of visitors to the beach come from Yangon Region and the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

“In October 2025, 17,455 domestic travellers visited the Ngwe Taung Beach, while in November the number rose to 18,585. Visitors come to the Ngwetaung Beach throughout the year, and the number of tourists is increasing month by month,” said Daw Ni Ni Mar.

To ensure that visitors can relax and enjoy their stay safely and peacefully, various arrangements have been made at the Ngwetaung Beach. Facilities and services include bicycle hire, motorboat hire, and horse-riding services. In addition, stalls have been opened where visitors can purchase local food products, daily-use articles and souvenir gifts. — ASH/MKKS

Myanmar Gazette

Duty Assignment of Permanent Secretary/Director-General

THE National Defence and Security Council has assigned the duties of the Permanent Secretary and Director-General to U Zaw Hein from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.

Appointment of Heads of Service Organizations confirmed, Head of Service Organization appointed

1. The National Defence and Security Council has confirmed the appointment of the following individuals as Heads of Service Organizations on the expiry of a one-year probationary period.

Name	Appointment
(a) U Htaung Shan Kam	Director-General Union Minister's Office Ministry of Transport and Communications
(b) Dr Win Htut	Director-General Settlement and Land Records Department Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation
2. The National Defence and Security Council has appointed U Soe Myint Aung, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Union Minister's Office of the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, as Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration of the same ministry on probation from the date he assumes charge of duties.

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

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)

Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets departmental officials, ethnic, and town elders in PutaO

STATE Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, accompanied by Kachin State Chief Minister U Khet Htein Nan, senior Tatmadaw officers, deputy ministers and relevant officials, arrived at the PutaO airport of Kachin State yesterday, and was welcomed by chairman of PutaO district management and administrative committee along with ethnic traditional dance troupes.

The Vice-Senior General and party proceeded to Phonkanrazi Hall in PutaO and met PutaO district and township level departmental officials, ethnic literature and cultural committee members and town elders.

The Vice-Senior General heard the report presented by PutaO district management and administration committee chairman regarding regional development programmes, implementation of the guidance of the Head of the State, implementation of agriculture and livestock breeding projects, proper work plans and loans using State Economic Promotion Fund, regional rice and oil security, rehabilitation processes, MSMEs, preparations for multiparty democracy election and measures for the development of the education sector.

Chairman of Rawang Literature and Culture Association U Khaung Lan Dee expressed gratitude for transporting food, medicines and fuel for farming machineries by Tatmadaw flight in 2024 monsoon paddy season due to hardship of Myitkyina-PutaO transport, and clarified



State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win warmly greets officials, ethnic literature and cultural committee members and town elders in PutaO yesterday.

installation of solar-power lamp posts along Pyidaungsu road, establishment of Department of Labour and Road Transport Administration Department offices in PutaO, and local U Myint Aung reported on procurement of animal feed adequately.

The Vice-Senior General then said it is necessary to ensure that existing cultivated areas achieve target yields rather than expanding the cultivation acres. As the current production rate is only 49.08 per cent, it is necessary to supplement the required natural urea fertilizers and agricultural inputs and to cultivate according to prescribed standards, and the officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation should conduct awareness programmes for

farmers. They should arrange for MSMEs to produce adequate foodstuffs and products for the region, and conduct clearing activities as the landslide blocked certain road sections on the Magwayza-Khaunglanphu road, particularly from Mile 6 onward, using proper machines and manpower.

As the access to clean drinking water in PutaO is only 47 per cent, he stressed the need to cooperate with relevant officials to improve water supply while protecting the natural environment at the water source and diversion points.

The Vice-Senior General highlighted his visit to carry out regional development measures and address the reports in pursuit of the instructions of

the Head of the State, and continued that the local ethnics of PutaO have cooperated closely with Tatmadaw in regional development efforts for years, and the region is the one on which the Head of the State places his great focus. It can also be found that the relevant officials of PutaO make preparations for the forthcoming election.

He stated that PutaO has now achieved sufficient rice due to the efforts of the Kachin State Chief Minister, and as there is a slight shortfall in edible oil, continued efforts should be made to cultivate edible crops. The government provides the needed support as much as it can. Economic development is essential for regional progress. To ensure the flow of goods, the

regional products should be produced in higher quality. The government granted loans, and all should systematically use them. The PutaO region is rich in valuable medicinal plants, international standard grapefruit, American lemons, Washington apples, and exportable spices such as Chinese black cardamom. Therefore, it is necessary to work with experts to produce systematically and export.

Tatmadaw will lead the upcoming election, and preparations are being made to prevent electoral fraud similar to that which occurred during the 2020 election. After the completion of the election, the Hluttaw will be convened, and State responsibilities

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Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets Tatmadaw personnel at PutaO Station

STATE Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win met officers, other ranks, and family members of the PutaO Station at the military headquarters in PutaO yesterday afternoon and delivered a speech.

The meeting was attended by senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), the Commander of the Northern Command, officers from the PutaO Station, soldiers, and family members.

State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win first delivered a speech stating that Tatmadaw members recite the Four Oaths every day and therefore must remain loyal to the oaths, to their country, to their citizens, and to their fellow service members. He emphasized that the primary responsibility of the Tatmadaw is to protect the nation and that it is their duty to defend the country's territorial land, waters and airspace from any invasion, not allowing even an inch to be encroached upon.

To achieve this, Tatmadaw needs to be strong and possess three capabilities: the ability to apply military skills acquired through an individual fighting spirit that remains bold despite any challenges. These qualities must be balanced with individual combat capabilities on the battlefield in order to enhance the organization's overall fighting capacity.

In order to achieve this, it is necessary to practise the military skills that have been taught



State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win delivers the speech at the meeting with officers, other ranks, and family members of the PutaO Station in PutaO yesterday.

and to continually study evolving military strategies. Since effective combat requires strength and good health, daily physical training must be carried out consistently. Personnel should adhere to the motto of "Study, Practise, and Comply" regarding the military skills and strategies they have been trained in. Only through repeated practice can they become proficient and confident, enabling them to fight with courage and determination when required. During training, it is essential that both individual and collective exercises be properly supervised by those responsible, and that the "three always" principle be upheld: always training, always maintaining military awareness, and always being ready to fight.

Regarding administrative

matters, officials in charge of battalions and units should provide support for the livelihoods, transportation, education, healthcare, and other needs of officers, soldiers, and their family members. They must ensure that all necessary provisions are supplied and properly supervised so that entitlements are delivered correctly and in full, thereby safeguarding their welfare. Only under these conditions can duties be performed with mutual respect and trust between superiors and subordinates, and with peace of mind. Officials should follow the constant guidance of the Defence Services Commander-in-Chief, namely the four principles of "doing what one should do". To enable Tatmadaw members to fulfil their national defence responsibilities, it is especially

important to maintain complete unity both within the Tatmadaw and between the Tatmadaw and the people.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win emphasized that Tatmadaw will conduct the upcoming free and fair multiparty democratic general election. Special care will be taken to prevent voting fraud, like that which occurred in the 2020 election; accordingly, the Myanmar Electronic Voting Machine (MEVM), a digital voting system designed to prevent electoral fraud, will be used. This system has also been observed in use in elections in other countries. Since regional stability is essential for voters to cast their ballots peacefully, security operations must be conducted jointly by Tatmadaw, the Myanmar Police Force, local militia groups,

public security and counterterrorism units, volunteers, village elders, and residents.

When voting, it is important to choose and cast ballots for representatives who are like-minded and able to work together with the Tatmadaw, who uphold the Three Main National Causes, who serve the interests of their region, who possess good moral character, who are healthy and strong, and who are capable of leading their organizations.

He also stated that, regarding education, the current population of our country is over 51 million, according to the 2014 Population and Housing Census. Of this population, 9 out of 10 children, or 90 per cent, are attending school. The school-age population, defined as children

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NATIONAL

General Aung San Declares Firm Stand Against Election Disruption

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

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



Vice-Senior General Soe Win visits injured security personnel in Myitkyina

STATE Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, accompanied by Senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), the commander of the Northern Command and relevant officials, comforted Tatmadaw officers, other ranks, members of Myanmar Police Force and People's Militia (local) who are receiving medical treatments at the local military hospital in Myitkyina yesterday morning.

The Vice-Senior General and party cordially met wounded officers, other ranks and members of the Myanmar Police Force and the People's Militia (local) in individual at the local military hospital and asked about medical treatment and progress of health conditions. After fulfilling



State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win seen giving words of encouragement to the patient at the military hospital in Myitkyina yesterday.

the needs of those patients, the Vice-Senior General presented cash awards to them and mem-

bers of the medical services corps working at the hospital.

The Vice-Senior General

and party inspected the Myitkyina bypass route by vehicles, local military command and units

and housing. The Vice-Senior General met state, district and township educational officers and headmasters at the guesthouse of the Northern Command.

During the meeting, he heard a report made by the Kachin State educational officer regarding measures for a high pass rate and educational development. In his discussion, the Vice-Senior General said, for the Grade 12 examination, efforts must be made to ensure that Kachin State's pass rate and ranking do not fall below those of last year's Grade 12 examination. He emphasized the need for cooperation among teachers and parents to enable students sitting for the exam this year to achieve outstanding success, maintain a high pass rate and transition rate.

The Vice-Senior General coordinated the measures reported by officials and concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH

Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets departmental officials, ethnic, ...

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will be transferred to the newly formed government. The Myanmar Electronic Voting Machine (MEVM) will be used to prevent electoral fraud, and that system has been used to conduct elections in 34 countries. The neighbouring country, India, with a population of 1.46 billion, uses that system.

The eligible voters residing in the country that is heading to multiparty democracy are responsible for voting individually, and the youths must cast a vote without fail, as they are the ones who will serve State duties in pursuit of the

democratic system one day.

Citizens aged 18 and above who possess a citizenship scrutiny card are eligible voters, and responsible officials should work to ensure that all eligible voters can cast a vote. Voters should choose candidates who can work in unity with Tatmadaw, who will uphold the Three Main National Causes, who can serve the interests of their local communities, who possess good moral character, are physically fit, and capable of leading organizations.

Regarding the education sector, he urged officials to strive for excellent results in

the Grade 12 examination to be held in March 2026 in Putao district, following the example of Myitkyina's high rate last year. Teachers were encouraged to ensure students from KG to Grade 12 achieve literacy and comprehension, noting that education is the foundation of future success and the development of skilled human resources such as doctors and engineers who can serve regional interests.

He then presented cash awards for ethnic literature and culture associations through officials. — MNA/KTZH

Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets Tatmadaw personnel ...

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aged 10 to 14 years, accounts for 94.8 per cent of children. Of these, 45.3 per cent are at the basic education level, 15 per cent are at the secondary level, and only a small percentage are enrolled at the university level, with almost none above the age of 25. Given the many weaknesses in grade transitions in our country, it is essential to work together to ensure that all children in our districts can progress smoothly through each grade. Additionally, we must provide the necessary support to help students from our districts who will sit for the Grade 12 examination in March

2026 achieve excellent results.

Afterwards, based on the presentations made by the families of the officers and other ranks who attended, the State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) coordinated with the officials to provide food and honorariums to the officers, soldiers, and their families, which were distributed through the officials.

After the meeting, Vice-Senior General Soe Win cordially greeted the officers, other ranks, and their family members who attended. — MNA/TH

NATIONAL

MoHA Union Minister attends S&R operation demonstration

BASED on reviews and lessons learned from cooperation with international search and rescue teams during the Mandalay earthquake, and in accordance with the guidance of the Head of State, preparations are underway to upgrade the Search and Rescue Team formed under the Fire Services Department into a Medium Team internationally recognized by (International Search and Rescue Advisory Group), enabling it to operate on par with international counterparts. Therefore, the government has already procured and supplied the necessary search and rescue vehicles, machinery, and equipment.

Together with these vehicles and equipment, a demonstration ceremony of earthquake disaster response and search and rescue capabilities by the National Search and Rescue Medium Teams was held at the Central Fire Station of the Fire Services Department in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

It was attended by State Security and Peace Commission Member, National Natural Disaster Management Committee Chairman, and Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, Vice-Chairman and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe



State Security and Peace Commission Member, National Natural Disaster Management Committee Chairman, and Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung observes the modern international-standard search and rescue equipment displayed at the Central Fire Station in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Win, and Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Than Tun Oo.

The Union ministers and party observed the displayed modern international-standard search and rescue vehicles and equipment. Director-General U Myat Thu of the Fire Services Department briefed attendees on the status of preparation, organization, and training of two Medium Teams equipped with designated vehicles and equipment.

The National Search and Rescue Medium Teams conducted a scenario-based demon-

stration simulating international deployment for humanitarian assistance. The demonstration began with an earthquake-stricken country receiving reports of structural collapse, after which local USAR teams arrived on site, conducted initial rescue of visible casualties, assessed hazards and findings, and marked structures using the international INSARAG Marking System, including systematic worksite and victim marking.

The Myanmar Fire Services Department's Myanmar Urban Search and Rescue Team

(MUSAR) received the request for assistance and deployed to the affected country. The team passed through the Reception and Departure Centre (RDC), serving as the airport-based reception and information gateway for international responders, coordinated with the USAR Coordination Cell (UCC) for precise sectoring and tasking of operational areas, and carried out administrative arrangements for systematic operations of the MUSAR Team. These included site management, equipment, medical supplies, food man-

agement, Base of Operations (BoO), rescue of MUSAR Team for trapped victims that cannot be rescued with the Local USAR Team level, medical treatment, report to OSOCC and withdrawal procedures.

The Medium-level USAR Team is capable of conducting both Canine Search and Technical Search operations for trapped, buried, or missing persons in disaster-affected areas. Such teams can operate continuously for 24 hours per worksite over a period of up to seven days. The medical component of the Medium USAR Team is able to provide effective emergency medical care to rescued victims, and the team is capable of conducting search-and-rescue operations up to ASR Level 4 (Assessment of Search and Rescue).

In accordance with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group's (INSARAG) Guidelines, the establishment of Urban Search and Rescue Teams will not only enable more effective and successful domestic search and rescue operations but will also allow Myanmar to deploy humanitarian assistance teams to regional and international natural disaster incidents representing the country. — MNA/KTZH



MoFA Union Minister receives Ambassador of Algeria to Myanmar

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe received Ambassador of Algeria to Myanmar, with residence in Hanoi, Mr Azeddine Bechka, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Union minister congratulated the ambassador on his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to Myanmar. They

cordially exchanged views on matters pertaining to further cooperation between the two foreign ministries for strengthening bilateral relations, cooperation on energy, agriculture, trade, investment and other potential areas. They also discussed cooperation at the bilateral and international levels. — MNA

Union Minister U Than Swe meets Ambassador of Algeria to Myanmar Mr Azeddine Bechka at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

MoFR Union Minister receives Indian Ambassador

UNION Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Kan Zaw received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur at the Internal Revenue Department in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

They cordially discussed bilateral cooperation between Myanmar and India, India's assistance for the development of Myanmar, post-Mandalay earthquake reconstruction, rehabilita-

tion and recovery activities, and further cooperation for the financial stability of Myanmar.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister Daw Than Than Lin, Joint Secretary Ms Suja Kizhakkepat Menon of the Ministry of External Affairs of India, the director-general of the Treasury Department, and officials. — MoFR



Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw and Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur discuss bilateral cooperation in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

MoFA Deputy Minister receives Sri Lankan Ambassador



Deputy Minister U Naing Min Kyaw and Sri Lankan Ambassador to Myanmar Ms Prabashini Ponnampereuma exchange gifts during their meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

U Naing Min Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Ms Prabashini Ponnampereuma, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

They cordially exchanged views on matters pertaining to the further advancement of the existing friendly bilateral relations and mutually beneficial cooperation in various areas, including consular matters between the two countries. — MNA

Dy Minister joins ASEAN Engineering Science Festival, Young Engineers Forum 2025 in Yangon

DEPUTY Minister Dr Aung Zeya of the Ministry of Science and Technology, together with representatives from the Myanmar Engineering Council and the Myanmar Engineering Society, attended the opening ceremony of the ASEAN Academy of Engineering & Technology (AAET) Science Festival and Young Engineers Forum 2025 in Yangon yesterday.

The event was held at the Sky Star Hotel using a hybrid format. At the start of the ceremony, the Deputy Minister, together with the President of the Myanmar Engineering Council and the Chair of the Myanmar Engineering Society, officially inaugurated the event by cutting the ribbon.

Following this, the Deputy Minister commended the students for demonstrating their engineering and technological innovation skills through their research projects. He encouraged young engineers to continue pursuing intellectual property rights for their innovations, and emphasised the importance of applying research results effectively in MSMEs, manufacturing industries, and start-ups to contribute meaningfully to national development. He also stressed the need to facilitate technology transfer

through relevant departments and organisations so that research outcomes could be utilised efficiently.

Subsequently, AAET Chair Professor Dr Ewe Hong Tat delivered a congratulatory message online. Speeches were also made by the President of the Myanmar Engineering Council and the Chair of the Myanmar Engineering Society, introducing the projects presented by AAET Associate Fellows.

After the opening ceremony, the Deputy Minister and his delegation visited exhibition booths where students from six universities, two institutes, and six private technological colleges displayed their research projects. They observed the exhibits, offered encouragement, and provided necessary instructions.

In the afternoon, student research teams presented their research papers to the officials. Certificates of recognition were awarded to the students by the responsible authorities, and the student representatives from universities and colleges expressed their gratitude. The event concluded with a closing speech delivered by the President of the Myanmar Engineering Council. — MNA/KNN

20th Myanmar-China Drug Control Meeting focuses on border drugs, chemical regulation

THE 20th Myanmar-China Joint Drug Control Meeting was hosted yesterday afternoon at Taunggyi Hotel in Taunggyi, with Myanmar serving as the host.

At the opening, Police Maj-Gen Win Bo, Deputy Chief of Police of the Myanmar Police Force, stated that the drug problem is one of the major challenges faced by countries around the world today. He noted that the production, trafficking and abuse of drugs not only lead to an increase in domestic crime but also give rise to economic, social and health-related consequences. As drug markets expand, they are increasingly linked to corruption, money laundering, terrorist activities and other forms of transnational crime, posing serious threats to national development and stability.

He added that drug prevention and suppression efforts play a cru-

cial role in safeguarding the lives of younger generations and promoting the socio-economic development of the people of both countries. Based on the long-standing friendship, mutual understanding and trust between Myanmar and China, he expressed full confidence that strengthening bilateral cooperation on drug control year by year would yield positive and tangible results.

Subsequently, Mr Zhao Zhongchen, Deputy Secretary-General of the National Narcotics Control Commission of the Ministry of Public Security of the People's Republic of China and Deputy Director-General of the Narcotics Control Bureau, said that Myanmar and China have been cooperating on drug control for many years and have achieved significant successes. He emphasized the critical importance of chemical control in drug suppression

efforts and stated that the two countries would continue to exchange information on the control of chemicals. He added that chemicals exported from China to Myanmar are being strictly scrutinized. He also noted that both sides would strengthen information sharing on the arrest of drug fugitives and the suppression of cross-border drug syndicates, and would continue to cooperate closely based on shared views and mutual understanding.

During the meeting, delegates from both sides held open and constructive discussions on the current drug situation in border areas, the status of information exchange, the control of precursor chemicals, cross-border cooperation mechanisms, measuring poppy fields using satellite imagery, and arrangements for China to host the 21st bilateral meeting in rotation. — MNA/MKKS



Deputy Chief of the Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Win Bo, Deputy Secretary-General of the National Narcotics Control Commission of China and Deputy Director-General of the Narcotics Control Bureau Mr Zhao Zhongchen and delegates pose for the documentary group photo at yesterday's Myanmar-China Joint Drug Control Meeting in Taunggyi.

OPINION

Combat trafficking in persons to ensure a safe society

MYANMAR has identified the prevention and suppression of human trafficking as a national responsibility and has embedded this commitment in its constitutional, legal, and institutional frameworks. In support of international cooperation, Myanmar has acceded to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its related protocols, reinforcing its obligation to address trafficking through coordinated national and cross-border efforts.

Following these commitments, Myanmar enacted the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons Law in 2005 to provide a legal basis for preventing, investigating, and prosecuting trafficking-related offences. To respond to emerging challenges and align with contemporary international standards, the law was amended and significantly strengthened on 16 June 2022. The revised legislation now serves as a more

comprehensive framework, enhancing preventive measures, victim protection, and punitive provisions against traffickers.

Under the amended law, Myanmar has expanded and established a range of specialized committees to ensure effective and coordinated action. In addition, a dedicated body oversees the implementation of Myanmar's Five-Year National Plan for Combatting Human Trafficking, alongside other relevant committees. Collectively, these mechanisms are actively implementing prevention, protection, and enforcement measures in a comprehensive manner.

Law enforcement agencies have continued to investigate trafficking cases and impose penalties in accordance with the law. From 1 January to 13 December 2025, a total of 139 human trafficking cases were investigated and prosecuted nationwide. During this period, 402 offenders were charged, and 116 received effective sentences. Sentences included 14

life terms, 25 prison terms ranging from 20 to 25 years, 63 sentences of 10 to 15 years, and 14 sentences of less than eight years. To curb illegal departures abroad that may result in human trafficking, action has also been taken against illegal transporters under the Overseas Employment Law. Between 1 January and 13 December 2025, 59 cases were handled, with 128 offenders – 53 males and 75 females – investigated and prosecuted.

Myanmar continues to strengthen cooperation at the regional and international levels. Bilateral memoranda of understanding on combatting human trafficking have been signed and implemented with neighbouring countries, including Thailand, China, Laos, Vietnam, and India. Regionally, Myanmar participates in mechanisms such as the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking and BIMSTEC. As an ASEAN member state, Myanmar has also ratified and is implementing the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, while cooperating across ASEAN sectors to carry out agreed declarations, work plans, and the Bohol Work Plans.

THE think tank - Xinhua Institute of China recently launched a book on the 'Colonization of the Mind - The Means, Roots, and Global Perils of US Cognitive Warfare' in September 2025.

The first chapter of the book describes the historical facts of how US colonize the minds of the world population. The second chapter deals with the modus operandi of how it is done. The third chapter highlights why this is extremely perilous to nations across the world. The book concluded by briefly describing how each country and its citizens could break these shackles of mind colonization.

This book itself, while some might call propaganda, is an interesting read as most of the facts, actions, strategies and intended results mentioned turned out to be extremely reflective of what has happened in the recent past years in Myanmar.

Chapter I

In terms of the forms of mind control or colonisation, there may be compulsory transformation, where the smaller and weaker countries are implanted with the US values and concepts. Or, malicious manipulation, where the US often cast aside morality and culture, to cultivate obedience and dependent factions of its target population. Next, they may tempt covert infiltration, where their ideologies and culture are exported as advanced concepts through cultural products, education, exchanges and hidden channels. The last option was long-term erosion of the target country's

A Fresh Perspective on the Colonization of the Mind

By U AC

culture and minds via sustained infiltration, to achieve the goal of mental remoulding and perceptual reshaping.

In this context, it all begins when the US expands on the North American continent. Using the Monroe Doctrine, the US incorporated Latin America on US's sphere of influence, under the banners of 'opposing European interference' and 'America for the Americans'. But the world only became the real target after the US ascended into the position of a global leader, after WWII. During the US-USSR confrontation period, the former coined phrases such as "Free World", "Marshall Plan" and "World Leadership".

In the late 20th to early 21st century, the US created the 'Washington Consensus' to counter the world socialist movement. After the 11 September attacks, it took counter terrorism, the war on terror, the freedom agenda and democracy expansion to further enhance mind colonisation centring on American-style democracy and liberty.

At present, the US has upgraded its mind colonisation through Obama's "Smart Power Diplomacy" to Biden's "Diplomacy Summit" to Trump's "America First" and "Make America Great Again" to programme the world into thinking that the US is al-

ways at the top and always be the ideological leader. Using its NSA agency, it manipulates information flows and social media to dominate global perception shaping through pretexts such as 'Countering misinformation' and 'Countering foreign influence'.

The results of years of successive and successful conditioning are such that the perception of the people in poorer countries develops in such a way that the US is thought of as the leader, having the best system in the world, and the rest of the countries are inferior. Even during the times of upheaval in 2021, the Myanmar people took whatever the US said to heart and thought that the US would come and rescue them to bring them up to the heavens of democracy. When the dust settled, only donation collectors such as Pan Cel Lo, a big-time looter, ended up becoming multi-millionaires in the US. At least the US did help, yes, to help people like them cheat the general population and the Myanmar diaspora of their hard-earned cash.

The book mentioned about delivery methods of such propaganda, where the US wears white, black or grey masks at different times.

For the mind colonisation to happen, the US has to continuously push English as the



This photo shows copies of the think tank report "Colonization of the Mind - The Means, Roots, and Global Perils of US Cognitive Warfare." The Xinhua Institute, a think tank affiliated with Xinhua News Agency, has released a report titled "Colonization of the Mind - The Means, Roots, and Global Perils of US Cognitive Warfare," providing an in-depth analysis of the historical facts, the complex operational system, and far-reaching global perils of the US mental colonization. **PHOTO: CHEN YEYHUA/XINHUA**

'world's language' to augment its propaganda. It also systematically glorifies itself through artificial binaries such as 'democracy versus dictatorship', 'freedom versus authoritarian', 'market versus controlled' and 'counter terrorism versus state-sponsored terrorism'. Through the control of digital platforms such as Facebook, YouTube and X, it seizes the high ground of communication and manipulates the algorithms. No one would doubt that Facebook played a critical role in the civil conflicts within Myanmar after the downfall of the NLD through voting fraud. And by monopolizing the knowledge production stand-

ards, through having top-notch universities on land, knowledge standards are Americanized to the extent of rejecting knowledge from non-Western countries.

The book highlighted three key motivations behind this whole exercise: to consolidate cultural hegemony, to strengthen its political power and finally to protect its economic privileges.

Chapter II

As mentioned previously, this chapter covers the modus operandi of mind colonization. In terms of strategic systems, the book categorized strategies into media and propaganda warfare,

information warfare, ideological warfare and cognition warfare. With the government providing leadership through its state agencies, social collaboration via NGOs and think tanks, and collaboration with allies, e.g., Five Eyes countries, how could weaker countries stand a chance in fighting back?

Another approach that the US used, according to the book, is rephrasing its values as universal values for deception. Democracy, freedom, equality, human rights are only defined by the US based on its own perspective. The famous American dream is the one that everyone in the world should aspire to be, not the Chinese dream or the Myanmar dream! And freedom of speech only exists in the US under the US version. The people in the other parts of the world have their mouths shut. All these narratives are made possible through giant US media organizations such as Big 4 TV stations (ABC, NBC, CBS, and Fox) that broadcast throughout the globe and through outlets such as AP, New York Times, Washington Post, etc. And they used multiple platforms, not just traditional ones, as described previously. Social media, pop culture, and Hollywood are dominated by the US and US values.

Chapter 3

As a result of these US activities, the ideologies of other countries, regardless of their good intentions, were eroded, making

it significantly easier to subvert foreign governments. Just take Myanmar as an example. Even during President Thein Sein's government time, despite many groundbreaking good deeds, people still decried, calling for change. The change was influenced by the US. Change for the worse for the country indeed!

Because of this ideological warfare, citizens develop cognitive wedges among themselves, making it a breeze to provoke demonstrations, regional conflicts and distrust. The US continued support of Kayin rebels and honourable dissidents makes it close to impossible to have long-term peace deals with EAOs in certain regions of Myanmar.

US forces impose western-style development paths, making it difficult for Myanmar to find a path of independent and autonomous development that suits its national conditions, forcing it into a development trap beyond redemption.

In culture too, the strategies and tactics of mind colonisation instil blind confidence in US culture around the world, dismantling local norms, cultures and customs. Eventually, countries broke apart after incessant stress on the differences. The former Soviet Union and Yugoslavia came to mind instantly.

The solution?

So what is the solution then? While the book provided ample

evidence of historical facts on mind colonisation, elaborated on how the system works and explained the severe consequences on the other nations, it listed rather short solutions to counter these wide-reaching attacks.

It urges the countries to develop an independent mind among their leaders and citizens. Education is a huge part of this. It encourages building cultural confidence as the foundation of national strength and prosperity. Last, it recommends exchanges and mutual understanding among smaller nations as an effective instrument for inter-civilizational coexistence.

In addition to the three points stated at the end of the report, I would suggest two additional practical suggestions...

1. By having a respected group of elderly statesmen who could speak up to pinpoint corrections when a country is faced with a black swan or grey rhino event. If those in Myanmar had done that in 2021 and 2022, the country would not have fallen that deep into the abyss.

2. Having think tanks who care enough for the country that they are not afraid to speak publicly, to bring forward the culture of caring for the well-being of the nation. All those in Myanmar had stayed completely quiet during 2021 to 2023, even refusing to appear on TV to speak up for the government to quell the havoc across the nation. Why take government pay and benefits if you are unwilling to stand up for the administration?

Maybe they are only interested in waiting for invitations to get free trips overseas, perhaps.

ural, e.g. facing an unexpected death due to black magic

And inner conflict means a conflict within the individual, i.e. an intrinsic mental struggle, maybe including a personal fear or paranoia. Thus, observing visible physical signs can also tell this internal conflict, e.g. a person who is going to commit homicide may exhibit shaking hands.

After a conflict in the story usually comes a climax. As we all know, the climax is the highest point to help develop a story. Between the conflict and climax of a story, a process often happens. It is nothing but that the plot thickens. If the story has reached a

climax, decision-making must be done by the relevant character or the original writer. In other words, the climax had better be decided for the character, the author, or even the reader before a resolution of the story. Additionally, the climax is identified as a moment of the greatest excitement or intensity in the story, examining how to develop the conflict towards the climax and making good use of suspense.

Following a conflict and a climax of the story, writers like to conclude several forms of resolution where the key issues are addressed.

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Fine Art of Plot Structure in the Story

By Hu Wo
(Cuckoo's Song)



Climax: Often described as the "turning point", this is the moment of highest tension where the conflict reaches its peak. **ILLUSTRATION: PIXABAY**

IN MOST cases, novels or even short stories are not written overnight. That is, it may take lots of time and effort to make sure that the plot progresses; characters develop or get to mature; and suspense is kept at a consistent pace. What almost all good writers try to do is create a realistic scenario so that readers are comfortable in whatever they

are beckoned to. Here, some techniques are subtly used to improve a story while sustaining readers' absorption in the fictional world. As for many writers, the conflict, climax and conclusion of a text are elements that are concerned with the development of a story and its ability to maintain the interest of a reader.

At the beginning of a story, writers tend to prepare the reader by providing background information, establishing the setting, and introducing the main character along with the central conflict of the story. In fact, conflict refers to the key problem or tension in the story, possibly taking two forms – external and inner. External conflict occurs when a character

struggles with an extrinsic situation, and there may be found four types of such a conflict:

- Conflict with another character, e.g. a family quarrel
- Conflict with society, e.g. drug dealing on the black market
- Conflict with nature, e.g. sailing in the sea during a violent storm
- Conflict with the supernatural

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Q&A session in press conference on national level prevention of telecom fraud held



U Kyaw Soe Oo.



U Aung Min Thein.

CHIEF Reporter U Kyaw Soe Oo from People Media Agency said that many questions had already been raised earlier. He would like to know how the State was managing and preparing measures to prevent online scam centres from spreading into major cities such as Yangon, Mandalay, and Mawlamyine. He further asked whether any arrests had been made in those locations.

Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun explained that efforts are being made to work to ensure arrests could be made wherever necessary. He added that, during their ongoing investigations into online fraud activities in the Myawaddy area, they had received information indicating that such operations had also spread to certain locations inside the country. They had also obtained reports that some individuals were involved. He said the details would be disclosed at the appropriate time. Since the operation was still underway, releasing information at this moment would make it difficult for those conducting the investigations to pursue the cases. He said the public would be informed when the time was right.

Senior Reporter U Aung Min Thein from Eleven Media Group said online scam operations were spreading among the public in various forms. He noted that mobile-phone games were a major channel through which these scams were being carried out, mainly via mobile operators and smartphones. He asked which office people should primarily contact if they fall vic-

tim to online fraud, whether knowingly or unknowingly, and how quickly action would be taken. He added that, as mobile operators play a significant role in these activities, he wanted to know how authorities were cooperating with those operators. He further said that in connection with online scam arrests, it had been observed that foreign nationals were being transferred by Myanmar authorities back to their respective countries. He asked whether any Myanmar citizens – whether knowingly or unknowingly involved in such operations – had been arrested, and if so, what actions had been taken against them.

Police Brig-Gen Kyaw Lin explained that earlier, he had already explained the actions taken regarding online scams and the Facebook and Telegram accounts used in online games. He stated that when reviewing Facebook, Telegram and TikTok social-media accounts, many of them were opened using fake ID cards or other people's ID cards, making it difficult to obtain accurate personal information of the account holders. He said that, to shut down the phone numbers linked to those accounts, they had to coordinate with the Ministry of Transport and Communications. Up to now, a total of 2,300 SIM cards have been deactivated. In connection with this, they had also identified and closed Pay accounts and investigated related bank accounts. So far, 149 bank accounts have been closed in coordination with the Central Bank. Regarding online scam

cases, he said that if someone becomes a victim of fraud, the first step is to file a case at the police station in the area where they reside. Only after the police station concerned opens the case will the police proceed with the investigation. He said that in order to conduct investigations promptly and effectively, SOPs had already been issued for shutting down related bank accounts, blocking SIM cards, and carrying out technical verification. These procedures were designed so that relevant departments could coordinate and act within a short time frame. He added that in cases involving large sums of money or a matter requiring deeper technical investigation, the CID was assigned separately to conduct inquiries and take action. He stressed that in online scam cases, victims must file a case at the relevant local police station as quickly as possible. He stated that among those arrested in online scam operations, there were Myanmar citizens who had been working alongside foreign nationals. Whether they were knowingly or unknowingly involved – as security guards, cooks, cleaners, or in other roles – the authorities scrutinized each case and took action against those who should be held accountable, in accordance with existing laws.



U Ohn Lwin (aka) Okka.

News Editor U Okkar from Myanmar Hard Talk News said that regarding online scam activities, there had also been cases where the demolition of buildings used for such operations was publicized so that the international community and the

world could see it. He added that propagandist media were now claiming that demolishing those buildings amounted to destroying evidence. He asked how the General would respond to such allegations. He also asked for clarification on the extent to which the KNU terrorist group was deeply involved in online scam operations.

Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun clarified that the allegation of destroying evidence was baseless, because if crimes had truly been committed across such a large area, it would be extremely difficult to conceal evidence. He said he was not suggesting the area was small, but that any ordinary citizen could understand the nature of the evidence. Even in murder cases committed secretly by individuals without eye-witnesses, evidence eventually emerges with time. He stated that his first response to the accusations made by propaganda media was that they were meaningless. Secondly, he remarked that such groups lacked even the basic level of reasoning possessed by ordinary citizens. He said those groups would always claim that the State was collapsing. He explained that the demolition of the buildings was not done secretly but openly, with full public disclosure to the world. When journalists entered the compound, they would have seen the phones, computers and documents that had been displayed as evidence. He emphasized that there was nothing to hide. The destruction of the buildings was intended to prevent future re-use and to set a standard as a government measure. He said some people had suggested that the demolished buildings could still be put to good use, but he disagreed, stating that such structures would only be exploited again. He noted that Myanmar's armed conflicts had begun since independence and had continued for 70 years, occurring all along the border regions. He said that the path to peace involved the NCA, with international participation, and that journalists themselves had attended NCA events many times. There was

no better framework than the NCA, and the international community also supported it. Even though a clear path had been created, some groups refused to follow it, and those who had agreed to it continued moving into violent territory. He added that the possibility of fully restoring long-term stability and 100 per cent rule of law in that region must also be considered, and he did not believe the area could be safely reused. Because of that lack of trust, they decided to completely clear, demolish and dismantle the sites. He said that this also served as a clear message to the world that such actions were necessary, and that they wished to show, openly and unambiguously, which groups were operating in such a manner. For these reasons, he explained, they had taken the actions they did.

U Okka continued his question regarding the involvement of the KNU. He asked for an explanation of the extent to which the group was involved.

Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun clarified that they had already shown video files related to the KNU, as well as documents bearing the KNU's signatures. He said they had presented evidence demonstrating the group's involvement. He explained how the KNU had made problems along the Thai-Myanmar border, noting that although they claimed Myanmar's heavy weapon shells had landed inside Thailand, there had been cases where they themselves fired into Thai territory. This, too, had been shown. He urged the journalists to consider these points. He said the KNU was present throughout various parts of the border region, with some of their bases visibly erected and other areas under their influence. In these areas, online gambling activities could not operate without paying them, he said. Even in locations near Myawady—where the police were able to enforce some degree of law and order—payments to the group were still required. He stated that in territories dominated by the KNU, even

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Kayin nationals running online gambling operations had to pay the group to continue operating. He suggested that journalists ask local Kayin businesspeople in Kayin State directly for confirmation. Because these activities required regular payments to the group, he said the KNU couldn't claim ignorance of the illegal operations occurring in those areas.



Daw Mi Mi Nwe.

Daw Mi Mi Nwe from the CCTV news agency said that she had observed that Myanmar was currently taking action against online gambling and online scam operations. She asked what further plans would be implemented and what results could be expected from these continued efforts."

Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun stated that the first country Myanmar collaborated with on online scam and online gambling suppression was China. He emphasized that the efforts by China and Myanmar represented the most active and effective measures so far. Because of the strong cooperation, Myanmar values and appreciates China's support and will continue to work closely with them. Secondly, he said that at today's press briefing, they had already explained the policies and methods currently being implemented. He added that actions undertaken solely by Myanmar would continue, and for activities requiring international cooperation, they would proceed clearly and decisively according to policy. He said that, as a result, the outcomes of efforts to suppress online gambling and telecom fraud would not only benefit the people of Myanmar but also neighbouring countries, regional nations, and the international community, ensuring widespread satisfaction

with the progress achieved.



Daw Ei Mon Kyaw.

Daw Ei Mon Kyaw from Xinhua News Agency asked how Myanmar plans to further enhance the effectiveness of measures against cross-border online scams operating within the country. She also asked what detailed plans the Myanmar government has implemented to ensure the safety and security of Chinese nationals within Myanmar.

Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun said that they had already explained the detailed measures to be taken regarding cross-border telecom fraud. He said that their actions would progress step by step, depending on the emerging situation, the level of international cooperation, and the outcomes of their own measures. Therefore, extensive international cooperation and collaboration with neighbouring countries are necessary, and Myanmar itself will continue to work together with these partners. Regarding the safety and security of Chinese nationals in Myanmar, he emphasized that the Myanmar government bears responsibility for ensuring the security of all foreign nationals residing in the country, not only Chinese citizens, and that the government will fulfil this responsibility. He added that, as a special case, many Chinese projects are underway in Myanmar, including both completed and pending projects, as well as projects planned for implementation in the near future. Security measures are being implemented to ensure that these projects can be carried out safely. Other countries also have projects in Myanmar, including investments from neighbouring countries, and these projects are handled similarly. The Myanmar government is implementing special security measures for these projects, and details will be disclosed at the ap-

propriate time. He stressed that the aim is to create a situation that is secure and guaranteed, without any compromise.



U Thant Zin Oo.

Senior Reporter Ko Thant Zin Oo from BBC News said he would like to ask follow-up questions regarding the demolition of buildings in the KK Park area. He noted that demolishing the buildings, along with presenting existing evidence from computers and phones, and working in cooperation with international partners, would produce better results. He added that a spokesperson from the National Defence and Security Council had claimed that the special US task force on scams had a hidden agenda. He asked if there was any information to confirm this claim.

Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun replied that since he had already spoken about the demolition, he would not repeat it, and would only comment on matters related to the United States. He explained that the so-called 'Hidden Agenda' he referred to could be understood by reviewing their own public statements, which mentioned that their team had visited and inspected two sites related to online scams near the Myanmar border. As a first question, he asked who from the United States had visited these sites, how they had accessed areas under the Myanmar government's control, and with whom they had coordinated. He emphasized that there had been no cooperation between them and the Myanmar government, and asked what the purpose of their plan was. He added that after forming their Task Force, they had not officially contacted the Myanmar government. He noted that, as an unusual point, some EAOs (Ethnic Armed Organizations) had also released statements about this,

and that as an international news outlet, BBC reported both the Myanmar government's and the EAOs' statements. Some EAOs had claimed that they were working to coordinate with the Task Force sent by the United States, which was also publicly stated. He said that if there was truly a hidden element behind these actions, that would explain why these behaviours and reports had emerged, and this, he said, constituted the 'Hidden Agenda' he referred to.

Ko Thant Zin Oo from BBC News said he would like to ask a follow-up question regarding the visit of the Chinese Assistant Minister and his delegation yesterday. He asked for the Myanmar government's response to the discussion in which the Chinese Assistant Minister of Public Security stated that online financial scam operations should be coordinated with regional countries and that foreign involvement in such operations would not be accepted.

Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun further explained that the Myanmar government's response stated that the joint Myanmar-China online scam suppression team was the first group to emerge within the international online fraud suppression framework. It added that this team is also the most practical and effective in its operations. Therefore, Myanmar will continue to cooperate closely and will not accept foreign interference in these matters. Regarding foreign interference, China, as a neighbouring country of Myanmar, shares its findings with Myanmar through diplomatic channels, and Myanmar, in turn, also shares its own findings. This approach is not limited to China-Myanmar relations but applies similarly in Myanmar's relations with India and Thailand, as well as with Bangladesh and Laos. The government explained that instability in any neighbouring country inevitably affects other neighbouring states. Likewise, instability in Myanmar could have direct or indirect impacts on its neighbours, and instability in Thailand could also have repercussions in Myanmar. Therefore, the exchange of information between countries reflects verified facts as known to each party. Neighbouring countries also share the information they receive with Myanmar. On this basis, the Myanmar govern-

ment's stance is that information exchange must be conducted carefully and responsibly, and that such exchanges should be given priority in cooperative efforts.

Dr Zaw Than, a resident correspondent for Japan's Sankei Shimbun newspaper, said that while the Myanmar government is actively working to completely suppress national-level online scams, the United States has formed a group called the Special Striking Force to combat online scams. It is noted that, with the same objective, the US also has collaborative activities with the Myanmar government regarding narcotics. He inquires whether the Myanmar government is willing to accept any proposal from the US Special Striking Force to cooperate with the Myanmar government in suppressing online scams.

Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun replied that the policy of the Myanmar government is that it is ready to cooperate with any organization that seeks the welfare of our country and our people. First and foremost, the interests of our citizens, and second, the welfare of our country, must be prioritized. Otherwise, the government will act in accordance with international procedures while taking into account the sovereignty of the country.



U Kyaw Myo Min.

U Kyaw Myo Min, editor-in-chief of The Statesman Journal, praised and expressed appreciation for the Maj-Gen's recent gesture of pausing and addressing the public with a message of goodwill. He expressed his honour, happiness, and approval of the Maj-Gen's decisive actions. Regarding the effort to completely suppress the roots of online scams, he hopes that the issue will indeed be eradicated. Currently, the online scam issue has become complicated,

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Q&A session in press conference on..

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involving both the United States and China, with both sides approaching it from a political angle. As the online scam matter gradually transforms into a political issue, some information suggests that it could even affect the fate of the country. In this context, what kind of message should the Myanmar government convey to the public? All those involved in online scams – whether directly, indirectly, knowingly, unknowingly, or unintentionally – could have an impact. In Thailand, government authorities are involved; similarly, in Cambodia and Laos, high-level authorities are also significantly implicated. Whether knowingly or unknowingly, all parties involved in this issue could create complications for the entire country. What message should be given regarding all of them? Furthermore, EAOs (Ethnic Armed Organizations) along Myanmar's borders have also been involved in online scams, directly, indirectly, knowingly, or unknowingly. How should the government communicate a message regarding their involvement as well?

Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun responded that he would like to point out a situation that is not directly related to the current question. When the media reports on this matter, they tend to focus mainly on those who have been arrested, mentioning, for example, that they are Chinese nationals or Thai nationals. In this regard, it should be clarified to the media that this issue is a form of international transnational crime, carried out collaboratively by unscrupulous actors from multiple countries, known as International Organized Crime. The media should avoid assigning blame to a single nationality or country. This is an international issue, and placing blame solely on Myanmar, Thailand, or China will not resolve it. This crime requires coordinated action from all countries and organizations involved. As the correspondent mentioned, this issue has the potential to affect the fate of the country, which is true, as we have already seen in the northeastern region. There are multiple types and layers

of involvement. However, the 1027 operation, which is already known to the correspondent, was launched under the banner of combating online scams. Behind this issue, there are various underlying factors, and the media are already aware of the extent to which it has unfolded. The government has repeatedly held press briefings to clarify the matter. For instance, many people fleeing from the conflict in Pyin Oo Lwin and Mogok have arrived in Yangon, and the government has been addressing their situations. What the government wants to convey here is that if one says the international community hates online scams, it is even more accurate to say that the government strongly opposes them. Some of the affected people are civilians fleeing conflict, and their sentiments can be assessed. Therefore, the government is actively working to suppress these crimes, and there may be many parties involved, whether knowingly or unknowingly. Even in the northeastern region, there are people involved knowingly or unknowingly. Within the government bodies, as well as regional and state administrations, there are also those involved. The government has already taken measures, including major actions, to address this. Similarly, neighbouring countries have cases that require action, whether they publicize the information or not. There are even people within government organizations who are unaware that online scams are being carried out, and many activities are concealed at the surface level. Therefore, what they want to make clear is that, whether aware or unaware, they will continue to take action. They must expose the harmful elements. Whether it is due to infiltration, internal sabotage, or virus attacks, once the country is stable, we must root out these harmful elements – there is no other way. As for the EAOs, if we are to speak openly and transparently, they often cite multiple reasons such as ethnic affairs, national issues, or federal matters. In reality, however, they are primarily pursuing their own economic interests.

In areas where minerals are found, they exploit the minerals; in areas with oil, they extract the oil; in forested areas, they illegally take timber. When they talk about “organizational survival”, it is worth noting how many members under their command, and the local people, are actually benefiting and prospering. To speak frankly, in Kachin State, how many union highways have been constructed by the KIA? How extensive are the railway lines? Similarly, in Kayin State, how many union highways and railways have been built by the KNU? How many homes exist to accommodate the local population? Yet, in all these areas, the EAOs are the ones enjoying and controlling these resources. Therefore, the message to the EAOs is that the NCA route already exists – it was not created by us. The EAOs themselves were the first to draft it, including within the international community. There is no reason to abandon the established NCA route due to outside pressures. By remaining on this route, they can receive the protection of the international community, the state, and the local population. Wanting to abandon it should not come as a surprise. So, the local people fully cooperate with the government. First and foremost, regarding online scams, they should not hide or feign ignorance. The government will continue to work jointly on these initiatives. The government also encourages the involved EAOs to return to the correct path and fully participate in the cooperative efforts.



Daw Khin Mo Mo Myint.

Daw Khin Mo Mo Myint from NHK of Japan TV news agency reported that, regarding the election, international com-

munities have criticized it as being conducted in a restrictive manner and lacking fairness. She requested a response concerning this point and asked for your perspective on this criticism. She also inquired whether you believe that the current election will be free and fair.

In responding, Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun stated that such an expression in the question is very proud. Before answering the question, I would like to first ask a question myself. What does NHK mean by “international communities”? What standards are being referred to when the NHK news agency mentions these communities? Do we, in Myanmar, consider the communities referenced by NHK to be incomplete, partial, or flawed? Or do we not share that view? If we do not share that view, that assumption should be corrected first. There is no need to conduct the election in a restrictive or harsh manner. Both the journalists and the public have observed that the election is not being conducted with coercion, force, or suppression, nor is there any reason to do so. Daily information is being broadcast to ensure the public is informed about the election, and it is clear how much the public desires it. Naturally, there may be some who are not interested, and that is acknowledged, but the majority of the public supports it. Furthermore, the election is being conducted for the people of Myanmar, not for the international community. It is the government's duty to administer it for the benefit of Myanmar. Therefore, the election is centred on the Myanmar people, and it is only important that they can cast their votes. Whether the international community is satisfied or not is irrelevant. Some partner countries provide support and assistance to ensure Myanmar's welfare, and those who wish to criticize may do so. Our government's goal remains to restore a multi-party democratic system and to build a union based on democracy and federalism. Whether the election is fair or not should be judged by examining all three stages: the initial conditions, the process during the election, and

the situation after the election. Evaluating fairness without considering all three stages, or making claims that an election cannot be free and fair, is neither a legal nor proper assessment.



U Moe Hein.

Executive Chief Editor U Moe Hein from Thuriya Naywun journal noted that there is a question of particular interest both within Myanmar and internationally. He wishes to ask about the political role and participation of Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing during the election period. To be able to ask this question, the Thuriya Naywun media conducted field and online surveys over approximately three months to gauge public opinion. The results show that the majority of the public believes that, from 2021 to 2025, during the multifaceted crises faced by the nation, the leadership role of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing has been crucial in preventing the dissolution of the Union, and they are grateful for his efforts. Therefore, the question is: if, after a successful election and the formation of the parliaments, both the choices of the legislatures and the will of the people were to offer Senior General Min Aung Hlaing the position of State President, would he be seen as willing to continue serving as President? Furthermore, does Senior General Min Aung Hlaing himself wish to accept the State President position as entrusted by the people and the Hluttaw? He requested Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun to reply to his question.

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Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun replied that since this question relates to personal matters, I will respond only to the extent of what I know and can provide evidence for. As Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing has previously made statements regarding his role dating back to around 2014, when he was Command-

er-in-Chief of the Defence Services. Before the 2015 election, the media had asked how he would participate politically as Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and he had also addressed this at that time. The Defence Services Commander-in-Chief himself has long assumed responsibilities at various levels of the State. Before he became the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, he served as the chairman of the Division Peace and Develop-

ment Council, holding responsibilities at both the regional and national levels. Having served as Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, he has extensive experience, and he has stated that if the state entrusts him with responsibilities, he will carry them out using that experience for the benefit of the nation. I refer to these points in my response. Regarding the selection of the President, it cannot be said personally that one “wants to become President”

or “does not want to become President”. All actions must be in accordance with the law. That is, even if someone says they want to take the position, it cannot happen if it is not legally permissible. Likewise, even if someone does not want it, if they are legally elected, they cannot refuse. Experience shows that even those who initially may not want to serve have had to follow legal procedures. There are basic procedures for selecting the President. The foundational

process involves the Hluttaw representatives, chosen by the people, selecting the Second Vice-President. The presidential selection process is provided in the 2008 Constitution. After the presidential electoral body is selected, votes are cast in stages, and once elected, the President assumes office in accordance with the law. In summary, I wish to emphasize that the process will be carried out in accordance with the 2008 Constitution.

Hundreds of illegal buildings demolished as Myanmar intensifies online scam and gambling crackdown

THE Government of Myanmar is carrying out operations through a joint task force comprising security personnel, administrative bodies and local authorities to enter and clear illegal buildings in the Shwe Kokko and KK Park areas, where online scam and gambling operations are most heavily concentrated. The operations include systematically demolishing illegal structures and destroying seized items used in online scams and gambling activities.

As part of these anti-online scam and gambling operations, further demolitions were carried out today in Section 3 of the Myawaddy-Maethawtalay (KK Park) area. These included

five three-storey buildings, two two-storey buildings and three single-storey buildings, bringing the total number of newly demolished illegal structures to ten. As a result, 466 out of a total of 635 illegal buildings in the KK Park area have now been systematically demolished.

In addition, joint teams comprising security forces, administrative bodies and local authorities have been conducting search and clearance operations since 8 December to prevent illegal foreign nationals from residing in buildings in and around Myawaddy, Kayin State, and to prevent the operation of online scam and gambling activities. Yesterday,



Images capture a one-storey housing facility is seen before and after the destruction.

inspections were carried out on another five illegal buildings, comprising one four-storey building, two three-storey buildings, one two-storey building and one single-storey building.

Moreover, in the KK Park and Shwe Kokko areas of Myawaddy

Township, items used in online scams and gambling activities were systematically destroyed by fire yesterday to ensure that they could not be reused.

The government has taken the suppression of online scams and gambling as a national duty. It

will continue to work in coordination not only with domestic forces but also with the governments of neighbouring countries to ensure that such activities cannot gain a foothold anywhere in Myanmar, according to reports. — MNA/MKKS

Online scam, gambling operations hit in northern Shan State as Myanmar seizes weapons

THE Government of Myanmar has taken the suppression of online scams and gambling activities, which pose threats both nationally and globally, as a national responsibility.

These operations are being carried out in coordination not only with domestic forces but also with the governments of neighbouring countries, to ensure that such criminal activities cannot gain a foothold in Myanmar.

Acting on the reports from conscientious citizens seeking peace and stability, security personnel yesterday conducted an operation near Pansin village, Hsipaw Township, Shan State (North), where online scam and gambling operations were re-



This image shows online gambling perpetrators under arrest alongside confiscated scam-related materials, arms and ammunition.

portedly being carried out. The team went to the area to conduct the necessary inspections.

Around 9:30 am, while the members of the security forces were inspecting the vicinity, two armed individuals within a tent complex opened fire on them. In response, the security forces

returned fire. Once the gunfire ceased, the security forces entered the site and arrested three SSPP/SSA members, seizing one AK-47, one M-22, one MK-12 and one Point-22 firearm.

Further inspections at the site revealed five Chinese nationals and one Myanmar

woman involved in online scam and gambling operations. Authorities also seized 17 large tents and small shelters, six all-in-one computers, 70 laptops, 160 mobile phones, 10 iPads, 10 routers, 37 modem sticks, three generators, 19 Starlink dishes, two four-wheel-drive vehicles, a three-differential vehicle, and related equipment.

Initial investigations indicated that approximately 200 individuals were involved in online scams and gambling activities at the location. During the firefight, many of the perpetrators fled to the surrounding areas.

The government of Myanmar will continue to suppress online scams and gambling operations extensively within the

country. Authorities are actively collaborating with neighbouring countries, nations in the region, and international organizations to identify, apprehend, and take strict action against all individuals involved, including those orchestrating the operations from behind the scenes.

All seized items associated with online scams and gambling, together with arms and ammunition, will be managed in accordance with established procedures. Those involved will be investigated and prosecuted in accordance with the law. For foreign nationals, their return to their home countries will be arranged with humanitarian considerations and respect for bilateral relations. — MNA/KNN

ARTICLE/BIZ

WORLD/AD

Toyota launches latest RAV4, 1st model with new software system

TOYOTA Motor Corp on Wednesday launched a new RAV4 model, installing for the first time a new software system that will enable customers to upgrade their vehicles without having to buy a new one.

The latest RAV4, symbolic of Toyota's push for software-centric vehicles, is available in plug-in hybrid, set to be launched within fiscal 2025, and hybrid electric models. The automaker does not provide a gasoline-powered version of the popular SUV.

Toyota said it plans to sell 3,000 units of the hybrid model per month

in Japan, priced from 4.5 million yen (\$29,000).

The sixth-generation RAV4 can receive updates that add new features or enhance existing ones under the Arene software development platform, which was used to develop the cockpit system and advance safety technologies.

As part of safety functions designed to avoid and mitigate collisions, the vehicle can quickly detect deceleration by preceding vehicles and automatically apply the brakes, according to Toyota, which carried out the first revamp of the flagship SUV in over six years.



Supplied photo shows Toyota Motor Corp's latest RAV4 model. **PHOTO: TOYOTA MOTOR CORP./KYODO**

The launch comes amid the growth of software-centric vehicles from automakers including US-based Tesla Inc and Chinese EV makers.

The RAV4, first released in 1994, helped drive

the SUV trend and is especially popular in the United States. Toyota sold about 1.04 million units globally in 2024, accounting for around 10 per cent of the automaker's total sales. — Kyodo

US unemployment rises further, hovering at highest since 2021

THE US jobless rate picked up again in November, hovering at its highest level in four years, official data showed Tuesday in a report underscoring a labor market cooldown in the world's biggest economy. The report, delayed by a lengthy government shutdown, also indicated that the US economy lost 105,000 jobs in October.

Hiring picked up again in November with a gain of 64,000 jobs, but this was still a slower pace than before, according to the Labour Department figures.

“Employment rose in health care and construction in November, while (the) federal government continued to lose jobs,” the department said.

There was a sharp decline of 162,000 government jobs in October, “as some federal employees who accepted a deferred resignation offer came off federal payrolls,” the report added.

In November, unemployment climbed to 4.6 percent from 4.4 percent in September. It is the highest rate since September 2021. — AFP

Fine Art of Plot Structure in the Story

FROM PAGE 9

In a complete resolution, the issue or conflict is resolved, which is typical of happy endings in many fairy tales. The expected resolution is reversed, which means that the opposite of what one expects takes place, in an ironic resolution. In a twist similar to the ironic resolution, a new fact is introduced, which then resolves the problems posed in a story, as commonly found in many detective stories. At this juncture, a common form of ending

is that the character gains a revelation or a new awareness of the situation or issue. In a sense, the character has matured and can step out of the circumstance to reflect on his experiences. Sometimes, it is not the character but the reader who attains that revelation. And the open ending comes about when the issue is not resolved or only partially resolved. At times, this creates a sense of realism since, in the main, happy endings do not arise in real life except in

the virtual world. Open endings are occasionally employed by authors to allow a reader to ponder further on the issues in the end, then invite the reader to imagine other possible outcomes. Most importantly, some stories end with a combination of the above-mentioned forms of resolution, e.g. concluding with happiness through both a twist and a revelation.

The time frame for a conflict to reach a climax, as well as for a climax to conclude, is also de-

termined by the pace of events narrated. These paces may be influenced by some techniques, such as catalysts and pauses, too. In the field of literature, a catalyst is simply a character or an event that can accelerate the speed at which a conflict comes to a climax. In contrast to the catalyst, a pause within the textual time frame slows down the movement from a conflict to a climax, which includes moments in the text at which events and situations are repeated so that

the narrative hardly appears to develop. Also, pauses should work by causing the character to spend time reflecting on a situation. Rarely may any action or event crop up at this point. As often as possible, great writers can employ catalysts and pauses in their works of literature appropriately, such that the story develops at the same time with moments of discovery or insight through the time taken to reflect well on an action which has transpired.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (275W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (275W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-12-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MOON LIGHT VOY.NO. (ML 010)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MOON LIGHT VOY.NO. (ML 010)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-12-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S THURIYA SANDAR WIN COMPANY LIMITED

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V NORDSCHELDE VOY.NO. (7/2025)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NORDSCHELDE VOY.NO. (7/2025)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-12-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** 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: 2301928

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD



SPORTS

Myanmar secures 2 additional bronzes, stays seventh at SEA Games

THE XXXIII South-East Asia Games are being held at various stadiums and sports halls in Bangkok and Chonburi, Thailand, where Myanmar athletes continue to compete across multiple disciplines.

Myanmar added two more bronze medals to its tally, securing one in international rowing and another in billiards and snooker. In the women's coastal beach single scull event with eight paddles in the international rowing category, Myanmar athlete Nilar Win claimed the bronze medal for the country. Meanwhile, in the men's individual snooker event, Phone Myint Kyaw won a bronze medal for Myanmar.

Senior officials attended and observed various competitions during the day. Myanmar Olympic Committee General Secretary and Deputy Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Htein Lin, along with other officials, watched the international rowing events at the Royal Thai Navy Rowing and Canoeing Training Centre in Rayong, Chonburi, as well as the SSL 47 sailing event at Samudera Klia Yachting Centre in Sattahip. Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Aung Kyaw Tun also observed kabaddi matches and other events in Bangkok and Nakhon Pathom.

Myanmar athletes competed in a wide range of events during



Athletes from the Myanmar sports contingent are seen competing in the XXXIII SEA Games.

the day, including sepak takraw, squash, cycling, shooting, table tennis, kabaddi, cricket, boxing, billiards and snooker, futsal, esports, international rowing,

equestrian, wrestling and sailing.

As of the conclusion of competitions on 17 December at the XXXIII SEA Games, Myanmar has secured three gold,

nineteen silver and twenty-five bronze medals, bringing its total to forty-seven medals, and remains seventh in the overall medal standings. — MNA/KZL

Myanmar wushu team welcomed home after XXXIII SEA Games success

THE Myanmar Wushu national team, which competed in the XXXIII South-East Asia Games held in Thailand, returned to Yangon on the evening of 16 December following the conclusion of the competition.

The team comprised eight male athletes, five female athletes, two officials and two coaches. During the Games, the Myanmar Wushu team secured a total of five medals, including three silver and two bronze medals.

In the Taolu duet bare-hand event, Tin Htoo Wai and Ye Yint Htun won a silver medal. In the Sanshou events,



A group photo session of the Medallists at the Yangon International Airport

Cherry Than claimed a silver medal in the 56-kilogramme category, while Hnin Nu Wah secured another silver medal in the 60-kilogramme category.

Myo Min Htet earned a bronze medal in the 70-kilogramme Sanshou event, and Thupann Htwa and Khine Sanda Soe won a bronze medal in the Taolu

duet bare-hand event.

To honour the team's achievements, the Myanmar Wushu Federation hosted a welcoming dinner on the evening of 16 December at its office hall at the Thuwunna Youth Training Centre. The federation awarded K8 million for each silver medal, K5 million for each bronze medal, and K2 million each to coaches and officials as honorary cash prizes.

At the ceremony, Myanmar Wushu Federation Chairman U Thitsa, also known as Mr Li Bo Bo, delivered congratulatory remarks to the athletes, coaches and officials. — MNA/KZL

Myanmar sepak takraw teams advance to semifinals at XXXIII SEA Games

THE Myanmar men's and women's sepak takraw teams advanced to the semifinals of the men's and women's quadrant events at the ongoing XXXIII South-East Asia Games on 17 December.

On the second day of the group matches, the Myanmar men's team defeated Timor-Leste 2-0 and the Philippines 2-0, while the Myanmar women's team beat Malaysia 2-0 and Indonesia 2-0. On the first day, the men's team lost to host Thailand but defeated Indonesia, whereas the women's team lost to Thailand.

After the group stage, in the men's event, Thailand topped Group A with Myanmar finishing second, while Laos topped Group B with Vietnam in second place. In the women's event, only Group B matches have concluded, with Vietnam finishing first and Myanmar second; Group A matches are still ongoing.

The Myanmar men's team will face Laos, while the women's team will play against Vietnam in the semifinals today. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

Myanmar teams bring home 7 medals in kickboxing, teqball, tug of war

THE Myanmar kickboxing, teqball and tug-of-war teams, which competed in the XXXIII Southeast Asian Games held from 9 to 20 December 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand, returned to Yangon yesterday evening via Myanmar Airways International (MAI).

At the Games, Myanmar

athletes won a total of seven medals across these sports. In kickboxing, May Thazin Htoo secured a silver medal in the women's K1 -52-kilogramme event, while Lin Sandar Htay claimed silver in the women's point fighting event. In teqball, the women's doubles pair of Naing Naing Win and Su Mon

Aung won a silver medal, and the mixed doubles pair of Ko Ko Lwin and Naing Naing Win also secured silver. In the men's singles teqball event, Saw Froiday won a bronze medal, while Su Mon Aung earned bronze in the women's singles. In the tug of war, the team competing in the four-

man pullers 300-kilogramme event won a bronze medal.

Upon arrival, officials from the Department of Sports and Physical Education, together with the athletes' parents, held a welcoming ceremony to honour the returning teams. — MNA/KZL

Toyota launches latest RAV4, 1st model with new software system



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WORLD

THE World Health Organization (WHO) opens a major conference on traditional medicine on 17 December, arguing that new technologies, including AI, can bring scientific scrutiny to centuries-old healing practices.

The meeting in New Delhi will examine how governments can regulate traditional medicine while using emerging scientific tools to validate safe and effective treatments.

The UN body hopes this push will help make ancestral practices more compatible with modern healthcare systems.

“Traditional medicine is not a thing of the past,” WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a video released ahead of the three-day conference.

“There is a growing demand for traditional medicine across countries, communities, and cultures.”

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his own message, said the summit would “intensify efforts to harness” the potential of traditional medicine.

Mr Modi is a longtime advocate of yoga and traditional health practices and has backed the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine, launched in 2022 in his home state of Gujarat.

Dr Shyama Kuruvilla, the head of the centre, said reliance on traditional remedies was “a global reality”, noting that 40 to 90 per cent of populations in 90 per cent of WHO member states used them. — AFP

WHO hosts the second Global Summit to advance evidence, integration and innovation for traditional medicine

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed a summit as a platform to “intensify efforts to harness” traditional medicine’s potential.



WHO created its first Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (GCTM) in Jamnagar, India, acknowledging that about 80 per cent of the world’s population relies on traditional medicine. **PHOTO: WHO**

A law for safe landing on Mars developed in Russia’s Samara

A scientist from the Samara University has derived a new mathematical law for controlling the rotational motion of spacecraft during descent in the Mar-

tian atmosphere.

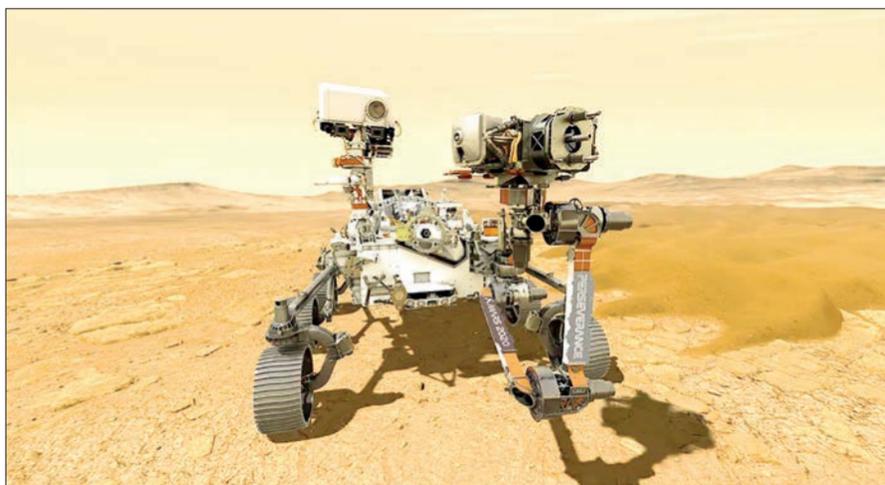
Its application will help safely deliver a payload to the planet’s surface, such as a small rover or scientific equipment.

The results were published in the journal *Mechatronics, Automation, Control*.

Stabilizing a spacecraft’s rotational motion before deploying braking parachutes requires controlling at least five parameters: three components of angular velocity and two orientation angles during atmospheric descent, said the author of the study, Vladislav Lyubimov, Head of the Department of Higher Mathematics at the Samara University.

The values of these parameters can be strongly affected by asymmetry in the spacecraft’s design, he added.

“During a spacecraft’s descent through the Martian atmosphere, there is a phase of flight with uncontrolled rotational motion. The presence of small force factors arising from slight asymmetry in the vehicle can lead to improper activation of the braking system,” Lyubimov explained. — SPUTNIK



NASA’s Perseverance rover, nicknamed “Percy”, is a car-sized robotic explorer currently searching for signs of ancient life in the Jezero Crater on Mars. Launched on 30 July 2020, it successfully landed on 18 February 2021 and remains active as of late 2025.

PHOTO: NASA/JPL-CALTECH

Vietnam’s public transport in major cities to run on green energy

Vietnam aims for all public transport vehicles in the capital Hanoi and the southern hub Ho Chi Minh City to use clean, green and environmentally friendly energy by 2030, Vietnam News Agency reported Thursday.

The target was set under a newly approved national action plan on pollution mitigation and air quality management.

The plan, designed for the period from 2026 to 2030 with a vision toward 2045, also called for policies to support the transition of technology-based delivery and ride-hailing vehicles to clean, green and environmentally friendly energy. The country aims to have 1,200 green buildings nationwide by 2030, according to the report. — Xinhua