

# The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

## Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

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

## Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing tours Astana International Financial Centre (AIFC) of Kazakhstan

**A**CTING President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who is currently in Astana of the Republic of Kazakhstan at the invitation of President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Mr Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, accompanied by members of the high-level Myanmar delegation, visited the Astana International Financial Centre (AIFC) yesterday morning.

They were welcomed by Chairman of the AIFC Management Board Mr Bakhtiyar Tleubekov and officials. The Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and party visited the centre and asked about some points over the clarification of officials.

The Management Board Chairman and officials of the AIFC and officials from industrial and trade companies of Kazakhstan explained facts about AIFC, its high technologies, and operation of investment and technological innovation, invitation to investments to the special economic zones in Kazakhstan, arrangements for investors with opportunities, technological assistance and secure work process, promotion of trade between Myanmar and Kazakhstan, and measures of industries and trade sectors.

The Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and party had documentary photos taken together with officials of the



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits the Museum of Trust at the Astana International Financial Centre in Kazakhstan yesterday.

AIFC Management Board. After visiting the Museum of Trust in the centre, they discussed the matters explained.

The Astana International Financial Centre (AIFC), located in Astana, is a financial and investment services institution that officially opened on 5 July 2018. It was established to promote the devel-

opment of Kazakhstan's financial sector and to attract regional investments. As a financial services hub linked to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the AIFC is expanding cooperation with the aim of extending its reach beyond Central Asia to the Middle East, China, Mongolia, and across the world.

On the evening of 27 September, the Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and party visited the Baiterek historic monument and observation tower in Astana and viewed round urban development of Astana.

**SEE PAGE 4**

# NATIONAL



## 2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

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

Union Election Commission



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

### Condition of Southwest Monsoon Withdrawal

Issued at 28 September 2025

SOUTHWEST monsoon has been withdrawn from the Central Myanmar areas. — DMH

### Special Weather News

Issued at 4 pm MST on 28 September 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, due to the strong monsoon over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, due to the remnant of cloud from the Typhoon "BUALOI" over the South China sea, due to the unstable air condition over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in upper Sagaing Region and Kachin and northern Shan states and fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan states with regionally and isolated heavy falls in some region during today evening to 3 October 2025. Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-12 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

#### Advisory

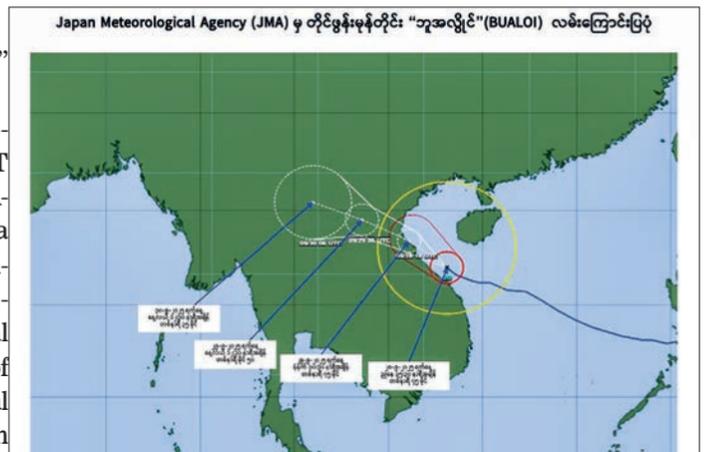
People should be aware of the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strike, lightning, hails, flash flood and landslides in hilly areas and near small rivers and to make necessary preparations for inland water transport, domestic flights and irrigation dams.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

### Typhoon "BUALOI" News, No 7, 2025

Issued at 4 pm MST on 28 September 2025

#### TYPHOON "BUALOI" Condition

According to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, the Typhoon "BUALOI" over the South China Sea has moved West-Northwestwards and it is centred at about 50 Nautical miles North-Northeast of Da Nang and 170 Nautical miles Southeast of Vinh (Vietnam).



#### Position of Typhoon "BUALOI", centre pressure and wind

The Typhoon "BUALOI" is located at Latitude 17.0 degree North and Longitude 108.1 degree East, centre pressure of Typhoon "BUALOI" is 975 hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is 75 miles per hour at 3:30 pm MST today.

#### Next 48 hours forecast

It is likely continue to move West-Northwestwards and cross over the northern coastal areas of Vietnam near Dong Hoi between Vinh and Da Nang as a Severe Tropical Storm "BUALOI" on tonight. And then, it may continue to cross the boundary areas of Vietnam and Laos as a Tropical Storm "BUALOI" on 29 September 2025, a Tropical Depression over Laos on 30 September 2025.

#### General Caution

Due to the remnant of cloud from the Typhoon "BUALOI", rain or thundershowers will be scattered in upper Sagaing Region and Kachin and northern Shan states and fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan states with regionally and isolated heavy falls in some region during today evening to 1 October 2025. Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 10-12 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

#### Advisory

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

### Bay of Bengal Condition

Issued at 4 pm MST on 28 September 2025

ACCORDING to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, a low-pressure area may form over the North Bay and adjoining Central Bay of Bengal on 1 October 2025. — DMH

# NATIONAL

## Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

## Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits Palace of Peace and Reconciliation, and National Museum in Kazakhstan

**A**CTING President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, who is currently in Astana of the Republic of Kazakhstan at the invitation of President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Mr Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, accompanied by members of the high-level Myanmar delegation, visited the Palace of Peace and Reconciliation, and the National Museum yesterday afternoon.

On arrival at the Palace of Peace and Reconciliation, the Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and party were welcomed by General Director Mr Yakupov Daniyar Abaevich and officials.

At the parlour of the palace, the General Director and officials from the Palace explained the history of the country, facts about the palace, construction of the palace to ensure peaceful co-existence among more than 300 diverse ethnic groups in Kazakhstan, yearly convening of the annual National Kurultai, need to ensure friendship and understanding among ethnic groups, holding the meetings of religious leaders in Kazakhstan, and convening of ceremonies for peace and religious affairs in the palace.

The Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar discussed making efforts in peace process for the peaceful co-existence as Myanmar is a Union where ethnic people are unitedly living, and asked about matters related to the Republic of Kazakhstan, and facts about the palace.

They visited the theatre and the palace and asked about the topics over clarifications of the officials.

The Palace of Peace and Reconciliation is a modern building constructed in



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing views round the booths at the National Museum in Kazakhstan yesterday.

the pyramid design with 300,000 square feet of area (28,000 square metres) and it is a 62 metres high grand structure (203 feet in height). It is a prominent venue accepting holding entertainments, film festivals, and ceremonies of National Kurulti in addition to religious ceremonies.

After visiting the palace, the Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented the commemorative gift to officials.

At the National Museum, they were welcomed by Deputy Director for General Affairs Mr Sairan Temirgalievich of the museum and officials.

They viewed round the booths on the background history and progress of nationals and country of Kazakhstan, traditions and customs, and development

measures and asked about some points over the clarifications of officials.

The National Museum of Kazakhstan is one of the largest and most modern museums in Central Asia, having opened in 2014. The museum consists of 11 halls, which showcase Kazakhstan's history and diverse cultures from ancient times to the present. The museum is closed every Monday and opened between 10:00 hour and 18:00 hour Kazakhstan standard time from Tuesday to Sunday. Exhibits are presented in Kazakh, Russian, and English to enable visitors to learn about Kazakhstan's culture and history.

After they visited the exhibits in the museum, at the section dedicated to Astana City, Mr Smogulov Nurasy from the City Administration explained the construction of the capital from Almaty to

Astana with drawing the systematic city layout plan on 6 June 2000, calculation of infrastructure, transportation networks, and other essential needs in the plan for accommodation of some 800,000 people as the initial stage, more expansion of the capital area due to growing number of population, and continuous maintenance of the urban area under the modern techniques. The Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar discussed matters explained.

The Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar exchanged commemorative gifts with Deputy Director for General Affairs Mr Sairan Temirgalievich and Mr Smogulov Nurasy from the City Administration. — MNA/TTA

# NATIONAL

## Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General ...

### FROM PAGE 1

After touring the Baiterek historic monument and observation tower, they asked some points over clarification of officials.

The Baiterek Historic Monument and Observation Tower, built in 1997, is a landmark symbolizing the relocation of Kazakhstan's capital to Astana. It stands as both a national symbol and a striking example of modern architecture, representing a new beginning for the Kazakh people. Baiterek is 97 metres (318 feet) tall, with a large glass sphere supported by 500 columns, which from certain angles appears to be made of gold. The initial sketch of Baiterek was drawn by Kazakhstan's First President Mr Nursultan Nazarbayev, on a napkin while on a flight. That napkin is preserved as a historic heritage item in the First President's Museum. The design and symbolism of Baiterek are closely connected with traditional Kazakh beliefs. In Kazakh legend, Baiterek represents the "Tree of Life," upon which the mythical bird Samruk resides. Samruk lays a golden egg in the tree, symbolizing the sun and bringing life and rays of hope. The 22-metre golden sphere at the top of Baiterek represents this legendary sun. Created as a cultural centre of the capital,



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits Baiterek Historic Monument and Observation Tower in Kazakhstan on 27 September.

the monument includes an aquarium, a café, and a cultural hall 4.5 metres underground, while the observation deck on the 34<sup>th</sup> floor where bears the golden sphere offers panoramic views of the city. In 2003,

representatives from 17 religions held the first interfaith prayer at the Baiterek monument. Baiterek is regarded as a unique structure blending Kazakhstan's culture, legends, and modern progress.

It is also seen as a symbol of peace, and many visitors make prayers at the monument when they come to see it.

Later, they viewed round urban development of Capital Astana. — MNA/TTA

## MoL Union Minister visits factories in Myaseinyaung Industrial Zone

UNION Minister for Labour U Aung Kyaw Hoe, along with officials, met staff and members of grassroots labour organizations from Myanmar Rui Xin Shoes Co Ltd and Sincere Season (Myanmar) Garment Co Ltd in Myaseinyaung Industrial Zone, Hline-thaya (West) Township, Yangon Region, on 27 September.

During the meeting, the Union minister highlighted the need for labour organizations and employers to cooperate in ensuring peace and stability in factories and workshops, improving productivity, and preventing



Union Minister U Kyaw Hoe observes the work place of shoe factory in Myaseinyaung Industrial Zone in Yangon on 27 September 2025.

workplace accidents. He also emphasized the importance of signing employment contracts in factories and workshops and implementing them in accordance with labour laws. The Labour Department, he said, must provide the necessary support for forming organizations at all levels in line with the 2011 Labour Organization Law, enabling workers to organize and operate independently, strengthen worker-employer relations, and protect workers' rights.

Additionally, the Union minister instructed the Workplace

Coordinating Committee (WCC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Committee to strictly comply with the regulations of the relevant departments in accordance with labour laws, and to cooperate promptly with employers, managers, supervisors, and workers to ensure peace and stability in the workplace.

Afterwards, the Union minister and officials observed the Social Security Board's Mobile Medical Unit providing medical treatment, laboratory tests, and ECG tests to insured workers in factories. — MNA/MKKS

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.  
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## 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)



## Ceremony held to donate and install polycarbonate walls at Botahtaung Hair Relic Pagoda



Ven Shichang Zang of Lingguangxi Temple, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and dignitaries cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the newly installed polycarbonate walls at Botahtaung Pagoda yesterday.

A ceremony to donate and install polycarbonate walls around the gold-coated sacred hair relic perimeter of the Botahtaung Pagoda, aimed at enhancing se-

curity at the entrance and exit of the relic chamber, was held at the pagoda yesterday morning. The donation was made by Ven Shichang Zang of Lingguangxi

Temple, Beijing of the People’s Republic of China.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture

U Aye Tun, Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs U Htay Aung, Chairman of the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central) U Tin Oo, and members of the pagoda board of trustees opened and viewed the newly installed polycarbonate walls.

The ceremony continued at the NanU Pagoda prayer hall with a merit sharing activity dedicated to the donors. The State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa of Thanlyin Minkyaung Monastery, presided over the event together with Sangha members, including Ven Shichang Zang. Senior government officials, members of the pagoda board of trustees, donors, responsible officials, and invited guests were also present.

During the ceremony, U Aung Myat, a member of the pagoda board of trustees, explained the purpose of the donation, while Ven Shichang Zang delivered a Dhamma talk expressing appreciation for the collective merit-making.

Deputy Minister U Aye Tun expressed gratitude for the donation, highlighting that it symbolized the friendship and cooperation between Myanmar and China, and he wished for the continued longevity of bilateral relations.

Later, the Chief Minister, the Deputy Minister and donors offered alms and requisites to the Sangha. Ven Shichang Zang also donated 10,000 yuan towards the construction of a new treasury hall at the pagoda to the Deputy Minister and trustees. — MNA/KZL

## Interview for 2026 GKS-U scholarship to be called on 8 October

FOR the Global Korea Scholarship (GKS-U) 2026 offered by the Korean government, interview will be called on 8 October, said the Embassy of the Republic of Korea to Myanmar.

Shortlisted candidates who applied the undergraduate scholarship from the embassy track will need to come to have the interview on 8 October without fail, it said.

Details about the interview will be informed exclusively, and candidates from other regions and states are eligible for online interview, it added. — MT/ZS

## MAJA encourages small Japan alumni establishments

THOSE who are related to Japan scholarship programme are eligible to form small alumni, said Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni (MAJA).

Under MAJA’s constitution, ordinary members are eligible to form small alumni, such as alumni of universities or colleges where they had learned, or alumni of scholarship programmes which they were offered or alumni of courses or programmes, it said.

At present, five small alumni have been established under the main institution and at least 10 alumni are eligible to participate. Those who wish to do similar establishment can apply to MAJA office located at Snow Garden Housing in Thingangyun Township, Tel: 09-262602121 and 09-944014410.

Applications can be submitted by 31 October. — MT/ZS



The Myanmar Association of Japan Alumni logo

# NATIONAL

## Bombay duck exported annually to Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh



Workers are preparing to transport Bombay Duck to cold storage from Kyimyindine Sanpya Fish Market. PHOTO: KO LWIN

SINCE the reopening of the sea fishing season, seafood has been arriving at Yangon ports on a weekly basis during favourable weather, with products such as Bombay duck exported annually to Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh, according to M&D Company at the Central Sanpya Fish Market in Kyimyindine Township.

When fishing boats arrive

at the Central Sanpya and Shwe Padauk fish market ports, they sell Bombay duck to fishmongers at K2,500 per viss. The fishmongers then pack the catch in boxes and send it to cold storage facilities in Hlinethaya, Shwepyitha, and Dagon Myothit (South) townships at K2,700 per viss. From there, the cold storage facilities export it by sea to Saudi Arabia

and Bangladesh.

“Bombay duck is sweet with a soft centre, which makes it popular in Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia. Domestic consumption, however, is low. It is often served as soup in hotels and is also eaten dried. Due to rough seas these days, fishing boats cannot enter the port every day. All incoming seafood is of good quality. Among

the exported seafood, fish are regularly purchased by two foreign countries,” said Daw Tin Nwe, a seafood entrepreneur at the Central Sanpya Fish Market.

The fish are usually shipped to cold storage facilities in quantities of 3,000 to 5,000 tonnes. After being cleaned and processed, they are cooled and exported according to orders. The fish are

mostly found in fresh and brackish waters near the coast rather than in the open sea, and most are caught from July to September.

This month, although fish and shrimp are being caught at sea, the low fishing season caused by strong winds and limited daily access to Yangon Port has affected the trade. Nevertheless, the trade in incoming seafood remains strong, particularly for export. Due to the threat of storms, fishing boats entering Yangon ports carry more than 50 types of fish. At the end of September, fewer trawlers are expected to enter Yangon Port because of rough sea conditions. In the third week of September, fishing vessels stopped at nearby islands. Once the waves calm, fishing will resume, and seafood products will continue to arrive. — Oktha/TH

## Rabies prevention vaccinations provided on World Rabies Day



A veterinarian injects a pet.

DEPUTY Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Gyi visited Tatkon Township in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, where he inspected the 20-acre farm of farmer U Tin Tun Aung. The farm cultivates Pawsan paddy, raises dairy cows and buffaloes, and produces and uses natural fertilizers. The Deputy Minister

also observed the paddy fields and a duck farm (600 ducks) of farmer U Soe Aung.

He discussed with farmers the benefits of the integrated farming system, which combines crop cultivation and livestock breeding to generate higher income. He also encouraged the use of crop by-products as animal feed and live-

stock waste as natural fertilizer.

Later, the Deputy Minister visited Pay Taw Farm Land in Paytaw Village, where 75,000 layers are raised under a caged air-conditioned system with automated feeding, egg collection, and marketing processes. He reviewed the farm’s operations and offered suggestions for necessary improvements.

Afterwards, he attended a ceremony marking the 18<sup>th</sup> World Rabies Day, held at the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department office in Tatkon Township. He delivered an awareness speech on the origins of World Rabies Day and its 2025 theme: “Act Now: You, Me, Community — For a rabies-free world, act together without delay.” The Deputy Minister also observed officials administering rabies prevention vaccinations. —MNA/KZL

## Vocal trio reunites for “Thadingyut Night” concert at THOR in Yangon on 7 Oct

A musical concert titled “Thadingyut Night”, featuring Cho Pyone, Soe Paing, and May Ywet Wah, will be held at The Heart of Rangoon – THOR in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, at 6:30 pm on 7 October, according to singer Soe Paing.

“In the past, the three of us sang many songs together, and the audience warmly welcomed them, so we had quite a number of successful hits. I also sang many duets with May Ywet Wah. This time, we have carefully selected the best from our earlier songs. Please come and enjoy them,” said Soe Paing.

The Daily Gita Band, the resident band of The Heart of



A promotional poster illuminates the “Thadingyut Night” musical concert.

Rangoon – THOR, will provide full musical backing for the “Thadingyut Night” concert. — ASH/KZL

### Gold Market Rate as of 28 September 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,980,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

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## Regions and states need to identify fallow lands to produce crude oil and generate solar power

❖ Regarding the development of the solar energy and power sector, it is necessary to identify, by region and state, unsuitable areas such as agricultural lands that should not be used, fallow lands, and wilderness areas, especially concerning increasing crude oil extraction and solar power generation systems.

*(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the meeting with Chief Ministers of regions and states who attended the opening of the Union-level MSME Product Expo and Contest held on 11 February 2025)*

## MIC approves 19 projects, generating over 4,400 jobs

THE Myanmar Investment Commission approved 19 new national and foreign investment projects that will create jobs for more than 4,400 workers at its meeting held on 26 September.

New projects include 15 national investments in the sectors including electric car assembling, service, electricity, trans-

port, communication, livestock and marine product industry, and four foreign investments in industry, transport and communication sectors.

The investment volume of these ventures is reported to be US\$109.626 million and over K 417 billion.

According to the list of 53

countries and territories that have invested in Myanmar as of the end of August 2025 released by the MIC, Singapore, China and Thailand stand as Myanmar's top investors while the power, oil and natural gas, and industry sectors receive most of these foreign direct investments.

— Htun Htun/ZN



The Myanmar Investment Commission meeting held on 26 September.

## MCB, Wave Money sign MoU to give digital monetary service

MYANMAR Citizens Bank (MCB) and Wave Money have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide more comprehensive digital money services, according to the MCB.

The MoU was signed on 26 September at the head office of the MCB Bank.

This strategic partnership aims to provide more comprehensive, innovative, efficient, and seamless digital financial services to customers who

already use the services of both partners. The partnership is also a major new step in Myanmar's financial sector to improve digital financial accessibility and promote the cashless system.

At the event, officials from both sides, U Myo Thet Naing, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the MCB, and U Ye Mon Min, Chief Business Officer of Wave Money, signed the cooperation agreement. — MT/ZN



Officials of Myanmar Citizens Bank and Wave Money at the signing of the MoU.

## Over 20 workers receive job training and OWIC registration



This image showcases an overseas job training course being conducted by the Department of Labour.

MORE than 20 workers who will go to Laos through licensed overseas employment agencies have been allowed to attend an overseas job training course and apply for Overseas Worker Identification Card (OWIC), announced the Department of Labour.

The department released

the list of workers on 26 September.

The workers will have to attend the training course on 2 October and apply the OWIC on 3 October. They will have to resubmit if they are unable to follow the prescribed schedule.

The agencies will have

to prepare and immediately resubmit a list of workers to be sent, the date of dispatch within one week from the date of departure, passport copy, OWIC copy and Excel soft copy to the Department of Labour at [dolmigrationsingaporeother@gmail.com](mailto:dolmigrationsingaporeother@gmail.com).

— MT/ZS

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.

# OPINION

## Enhance the capacity of youths as a future force for the State

THE Government firmly believes that “investing in youth is the best for the nation’s future.” Therefore, youth development has been designated as one of the government’s priority tasks in the country’s Five-Strength Development Strategy, and measures are being implemented through various approaches.

Today’s youth are the human resources who will build and shape the nation’s future, and they are also the future leaders of the country. Believing that the collective strength of youth represents the nation’s future, the government is implementing youth policies and development programs in line with the times. At the same time, measures are being taken to guide young people who have gone astray and

Youth should be trained and practised to develop the ability to solve problems using critical and analytical thinking, not only for their own lives but also for the benefit of the nation and its people. To understand Myanmar’s geopolitics, global affairs, and the country’s current geopolitical situation, and the country’s socioeconomic strategies, youth must systematically study and learn from discussions and presentations delivered by foreign experts and scholars covering these diverse perspectives.

strategies, youth must systematically study and learn from discussions and presentations delivered by foreign experts and scholars covering these diverse perspectives.

Youth are a vital human resource that a society can rely upon. Regardless of how times and systems change, each generation of youth should excel in intellectual, mental, moral, and personal capacities. To achieve this excellence, the government has firmly established opportunities and pathways within the youth development framework to enhance their skills and capabilities.

With regard to making efforts to enhance the capacity of youths, the government and related organizations hold forums and seminars on youth affairs. Through interactions and networking among youth, as well as the continuation of knowledge-sharing sessions and advanced leadership training programmes, the capacities and capabilities of young people are strengthened. Therefore, it is necessary for the youth themselves to actively and enthusiastically strive to become individuals whom the nation can fully rely upon for its future.

risk losing their future, treating them with parental care, while also creating opportunities to support their personal growth and development.

Only when youth possess a strong spirit and mindset, outstanding abilities, and upright character can the nation advance and prosper. As technology develops day by day, global political, economic, and social affairs are also rapidly changing. In this context, describing youth simply as “leaders of the future” is no longer sufficient. So, a forum for youth was held under the theme “Marching Towards a Prosperous Myanmar with the Full Strength of Youth”, a phrase carrying deeper and more meaningful significance.

Youth should be trained and practised to develop the ability to solve problems using critical and analytical thinking, not only for their own lives but also for the benefit of the nation and its people. To understand Myanmar’s geopolitics, global affairs, and the country’s current geopolitical situation, and the country’s socioeconomic

### Special Feature: World Heart Day 2025

# DON’T MISS A BEAT: A Global and National Call to Prioritize Heart Health

EVERY year on 29 September, the world unites to observe World Heart Day. This year marks a significant milestone – the 25th anniversary of this crucial global health campaign, initiated in 1999 by the World Heart Federation (WHF) in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) (1). Under the powerful theme “Don’t Miss a Beat,” the 2025 campaign serves as an urgent reminder for individuals, communities, and governments to pay close attention to cardiovascular health. This year’s theme, “Don’t Miss a Beat,” is more than a slogan. It is a call for urgent, collective action to protect every heartbeat. The global health community reminds us that up to 80 per cent of premature heart disease and stroke cases are preventable – a fact that turns tragedy into opportunity.

**The Global Burden:** Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) remain the world’s leading cause of death, claiming an estimated 20.5 million lives annually according to the latest Global Burden of Disease study (2). This accounts for approximately one-third of all global deaths.

**The Alarming Situation in Myanmar:** The burden is particularly heavy in Myanmar. According to the World Heart Observatory, Myanmar suffered 152,058 deaths from CVD in 2021 alone (6). The age-standardized CVD mortality rate stands at 364 per 100,000 population, placing Myanmar in the top 40 per cent of countries globally for highest CVD mortality rates (6). A 2012 community-based survey conducted in four townships (Kyauktan, Mawlamyaing, Patheingyi, and Pyaw) revealed high rates of CVD morbidity among adults aged 40 and above: nine per cent suffered from angina, 7.5 per cent reported a possible heart attack, and 2.8 per cent had heart failure (7). The same study found a hypertension prevalence of 51 per cent, indi-

cating a massive underlying risk factor burden (7).

“This year’s theme, ‘Don’t Miss a Beat,’ is especially relevant for Myanmar, where CVD mortality rates are critically high,” says a local public health expert. “It urges everyone not to overlook warning signs, not to delay check-ups, and not to skip healthy habits. With such a high prevalence of risk factors, proactive care is our best defence.”

#### The Silent Threat: Understanding Cardiovascular Diseases

Cardiovascular diseases are a group of disorders of the heart

and blood vessels. They often develop silently over time, making awareness and early detection paramount. Key conditions highlighted during World Heart Day include:

- **Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) and Angina:** Caused by the buildup of plaque in the heart’s arteries, leading to reduced blood flow. A study in Myanmar found that nine per cent of adults over 40 suffer from angina symptoms, a key indicator of CAD (7). It is the most common type of heart disease globally (4).
- **Hypertension (High Blood Pressure):** A ‘silent killer’ that
- **Heart Attack (Myocardial Infarction) and Heart Failure:** The prevalence of possible heart attack was 7.5 per cent, and heart failure was 2.8 per cent in the surveyed Myanmar population, showing the significant burden of these severe conditions (7).
- **Stroke Dominance:** Unlike

damages arteries and strains the heart. With a prevalence of 51 per cent in a local study and nearly 25 per cent in the general adult population according to 2015 estimates, it is a primary target for public health efforts in Myanmar (6, 7).

Dr Aung Tun

Western nations, where heart attacks lead, in Myanmar, stroke is the top killer, claiming more lives than any other CVD.

#### The Dangers and Far-Reaching Effects The Human Toll

A sudden stroke or heart attack can forever alter a family’s destiny. Survivors often face long-term disabilities, loss of independence, and emotional struggles such as anxiety and depression. The silent scars extend well beyond the hospital ward, affecting caregivers and communities.

#### The Financial Strain

Treatment for CVD – emergency surgeries, medications, lifelong care – comes at a high price. These costs can push families into debt or poverty. Many are forced to sell assets or sacrifice children’s education just to afford medicine. Worse still, CVD often strikes people during their productive working years, destabilizing family incomes and straining the nation’s workforce. CVD is not just a medical issue; it is a socioeconomic crisis that deepens inequality and slows national development.

If left unaddressed, Myanmar will continue to lose thousands of lives annually to preventable heart disease – a loss the nation cannot afford.

#### Key Risk Factors in Myanmar: A Call for Action

The high CVD mortality in Myanmar is driven by widespread modifiable risk factors (3, 5, 6):

- \* **Tobacco Use:** Prevalence of tobacco smoking is 23.9 per cent, significantly contributing to CVD risk (6).
- \* **Hypertension:** Affecting about one in four adults, it is a major driver of strokes and

- heart failures (6, 7).
- \* **Unhealthy Diet:** The country has relatively high rates of dietary sodium intake, fueling the hypertension epidemic (6).
- \* **Physical Inactivity and Obesity:** These factors, along with diabetes, are on a rising trend in both urban and rural areas (7).

#### Your Heart-Healthy Action Plan: Prevention is Better Than Cure

Adopting a heart-healthy lifestyle is the most effective way to reduce the high risk of morbidity and mortality seen in Myanmar. The World Heart Federation recommends several key steps (1, 5):

1. **Nourish Your Heart:** Focus on a balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and lean proteins. Reducing salt intake is particularly crucial given the high sodium consumption in Myanmar.
2. **Move for Your Heart:** Aim for at least 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week to combat a sedentary lifestyle.
3. **Prioritise Mental Wellness and Sleep:** Chronic stress and poor sleep can harm your heart.
4. **Know Your Numbers and Quit Tobacco:** Get regular check-ups to monitor blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar levels. Quitting tobacco is one of the most significant steps to reduce CVD risk.

#### National Efforts and The Role of Healthcare

There are positive developments in the national response. Myanmar has a National Action Plan for CVDs and has implemented seven out of eight key CVD-related policies (6). Cardiologists and dedicated heart care

units across the country play a vital role. However, challenges remain in ensuring equitable access to services. Strengthening primary healthcare for early detection and management of risk factors like hypertension is critical to reducing the overall burden, as evidenced by the high morbidity rates found in community surveys (3, 7).

#### How You Can Get Involved in World Heart Day 2025

This year’s celebration calls for collective action. Here’s how you can participate (1):

01. **Keep the Beat Challenge:** Move for 25 minutes for 25 days in September.
02. **Share Your Story:** Use social media to share your heart-health journey with #DontMissABeat.
03. **Support Local Awareness:** Participate in local health campaigns and advocate for stronger prevention programmes.

#### Let’s Make Every Heartbeat Count in Myanmar

World Heart Day 2025 is a global movement with profound significance for Myanmar. With an age-standardized CVD mortality rate of 364 per 100,000 and a high prevalence of conditions like angina and hypertension, the need for action is urgent (6, 7). The theme “Don’t Miss a Beat” is a direct call to a nation where CVDs claim over 150,000 lives annually. By raising awareness, adopting healthier habits, and supporting strengthened healthcare systems, we can work towards a future where fewer families in Myanmar are affected by preventable heart disease. This 29 September, let’s promise not to miss a beat in



protecting our hearts.

Cardiovascular disease is preventable, treatable, and beat-able. On this 25th anniversary of World Heart Day, let Myanmar rise together with the world:

- Individuals must commit to healthier lifestyles.
- Communities must spread awareness and support one another.
- Policymakers must strengthen access to affordable medicines and prevention programs. We cannot afford to miss another beat. The time to act for Myanmar’s heart health is now.

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# NATIONAL

## MRTV broadcasts disrupted by sun outage between 29 Sept and 8 Oct

WHEN the sun, satellite, and TVRO receiver align perfectly, a phenomenon known as sun outage occurs, causing interruptions to audio and visual transmissions via the satellite. Sun outages typically happen in March, at the end of September, and at the beginning of October. The duration of these outages and the resulting signal interrup-

tions can vary depending on the specific satellite, as well as the size and positioning of the TVRO. Due to the sun outage, TV channels and radio programmes transmitted by MRTV using the Thaicom-6 satellite may experience signal interruptions lasting from one to 18 minutes each day between 29 September and 8 October. — MNA/KZL

## Permissible Air Draft set for vessels passing under Dala Bridge

MYANMA Port Authority (MPA) released a notice to mariners that the maximum allowable air draft of the vessel passing under the Yangon-Dala Bridge should not exceed 44 metres starting from 1 October. Installation of steel suspension cables for the main bridge and dismantling work

of the form traveller of the Myanmar Korea Friendship Yangon-Dala Bridge project have been completed. The permissible air draft of the vessels to pass under the bridge is set at 44 metres after measuring the surface of the water and the highest point on a vessel. — NN/KK

## Judson Entertainment Bar to host Thadingyut festival concert

SINGERS May Khalar, Connie, Myo Gyi, and Y Wyne will host the Judson Thadingyut Concert at Judson Entertainment Bar in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, according to singer Connie.

The Judson Thadingyut Concert, which will start at 6 pm on 5 and 6 October, will feature top bands from Judson and Iron Cross.

“On the auspicious occasion of Thadingyut, I have created a special programme for fans. On the night of 5 October, May Khalar and I will perform. The following night, 6 October, there will be a Rock Night concert with Myo Gyi and Y Wyne. In addition, on both days, au-



This photo showcases Judson Thadingyut's music concert poster.

diences can fully enjoy the live stage performances. We warmly invite everyone to join us on both days,” said singer Connie. — ASH/MKKS

## 16-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K710M

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat the illicit trade are continued effectively by the law.

On 19, 21, 23, 24, 25 and 27 September, the combined teams impounded three unregistered vehicles worth K31.5 million in Pynmana and Dekkhinathiri townships, consumer goods, industrial materials and foodstuffs valued at K287.05 million without official documents in Hpa-an Township and three unregistered vehicles valued at K38 million in Tagaung Ward, Sagaing. The action was conducted under the Export/Import Law and Customs procedures.

Additionally, on 12, 13, 19, 20, 21 and 23 September, the combined on-duty teams seized four illegal fishing boats valued at K184.07 million near Kho Island of Bokpyin Township and Thandanet island of Myeik Township, illegal charcoal and other timbers from a three-wheel motorbike valued at K12.208 million in Dawei and Myeik townships and two unregistered vehicles along with three unregistered motorbikes worth K47.5 million. The action was taken under the Myanmar



Photos show seized fishing boat and an unregistered vehicle.

Marine Fisheries Law, the Forest Law and the Export/Import Law.

On 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24 and 25 September, the on-duty teams nabbed illegal teaks worth K74,870 in Zigon Township, a mobile phone used in gambling with cash valued at K443,000 in Sinbaungwe Township, and six unregistered motorbikes and an unregistered three-wheel motorbike worth

K4.8 million in Pyigyidagun, Amarapura, Pyawbwe and Patheingyi townships and at the Yadanabon bridge (Hnapauk) checkpoint. The action was carried out under the Forest Law, the Gambling Law and the Export/Import Law.

On 28 and 29 August and from 20 to 24 September, the combined teams captured illegal fuel oil worth K43.783 million in Thaton Township,

18 unregistered motorbikes worth K54 million in Mawlamyine and Thaton districts, seven motorbikes worth K2 million in Shwepyitha, Botahtaung, Pazundaung and Thakayta townships, illegal timbers worth K127,405 in Athoke Township, an unregistered motorbike valued at K200,000 in Hinthada Township and industrial materials and consumer goods worth K5.15 million without offi-

cial documents at the Myanmar Post (International Desk). The action was conducted under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law, Customs procedures, the Forest Law and the Export/Import Law.

The Steering Committee reported 62 arrests on 28 and 29 August, from 12 to 25 September seizing illegal goods worth approximately K710 million. — MNA/MKKS

# NATIONAL

## 300 runners join Yangon's 'Viksit Bharat Run' celebrating unity and service

THE Embassy of India in Yangon organized the "Viksit Bharat Run 2025", a race in which approximately 300 runners participated, according to the Embassy.

The event, held on the morning of 28 September at the People's Square in Dagon Township, Yangon Region, was organized as a marathon in collaboration with 50 volunteers and three organizations.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein graced the event as a special guest of honour, together with Yangon Mayor and Chairman of the Yangon City Development Committee U Bo Htay, as well as regional ministers. Indian wrestling coaches currently in Myanmar and prominent Indian-origin social media influencers were also in attendance.



Officials have photos taken before the "Viksit Bharat Run 2025" event.

More than just a fitness activity, the event celebrated the spirit of Seva Bhav (selfless service)

and highlighted India's Swadeshi ethos — embodying self-reliance, inclusivity, and environmental re-

sponsibility — in line with Prime Minister Modi's vision.

At the award ceremony fol-

lowing the run, Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Indian Ambassador Abhay Thakur and his wife Dr Surabhi Thakur presented trophies to the winners and praised all participants for their sporting spirit.

As part of a commitment to environmental protection, the Ek Ped Maa ke Naam campaign was also carried out during the event, with the planting of ten trees at India House as a symbol of a sustainable and greener future.

The event was not only a marathon but also a symbol of progress, unity, and resilience, demonstrating the message that "the world is one family." Similar runs were held in 125 countries, including major cities such as London, Paris, New York, Moscow, and Sydney. — Htun Htun/KNN

## People's Square to host MSME products fair on 4-7 October

THE Yangon Region Government has announced that the MSME Products Thadingyut Market Fair and Music Festival will be held from 4 to 7 October at the People's Square in Dagon Township, Yangon Region.

The festival is being held to promote local MSME products, support the export of high-quality goods, and facilitate the exchange of technology and market knowledge by bringing together MSME and other products in one place.

"During the festival, more

than 400 stalls will sell products from industrial zones, MSME businesses, the Small Scale Industries Department, the Cooperative Department, as well as industrial, regional, and state products, along with food stalls and restaurants in Yangon Region," said U Aung Kyaw Soe, Assistant Director of the Yangon Region Government Office.

During the festival, the Shwedagon Pagoda will be illuminated with colourful lights, and flower beds in various

styles from eight townships will be arranged for visitors to enjoy and take photos as families, groups, or individuals.

In addition, during the festival, there will be e-sports competitions, food donations, and performances by well-known artistes from the film, theatrical, and music industries, as well as shows by circus performers, magicians, DJs, and dancers. Shuttle buses will be provided to facilitate transportation for festival-goers. — ASH/TH



This photo features the previous market fair held in Yangon's People's Square.

## MEB (Mandalay Region branch) to issue loans to rice mills, MSME businesses



A Myanmar Economic Bank branch issues loans under relevant procedures.

MYANMA Economic Bank issued a press release on 28 September, saying that the bank has a plan to disburse loans to rice mills and micro, small and medium-sized enterprise businesses.

As MEB issues loans to MSME businesspersons to import necessary machinery abroad and expand their businesses, those businesspersons can apply for borrowing loans at district and township branches of MEB to take K500 million in maximum in the JICE MSME two-Step loan and K100 million in maximum in the MSME development loan system.

Myanma Economic Bank under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue disburses loans

at soft interest rate to entrepreneurs under the loan policy in order to develop micro, small and medium-sized enterprises including rice mills.

The State has set up K170 billion for development of MSME. Plans are underway to contribute K20 billion to development of MSME and disburse K150 billion as loans to these businesses. Loan disbursement procedures for MSME entrepreneurs have already been issued. MSME business owners may apply for loans not only through the State-owned Myanmar Economic Bank and Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank but also through 16 private banks, according to the announcement. — Htun Htun/TTA

# ECONOMY WORLD

## Snapback mechanism for sanctions “a trap” for Iran: Russian FM

*Unlike typical arrangements, the snapback mechanism allows any party to initiate a vote on terminating sanctions relief.*

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Saturday that the “snapback” mechanism for sanctions against Iran was a trap.

The mechanism was included in UN Security Council Resolution 2231 that endorsed the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, following direct negotiations between the Iranian foreign minister and then US secretary of state at the time, Lavrov told reporters.

This mechanism is not a

typical arrangement, he said, adding that in essence, it allows any party to put sanctions relief to a vote and a Security Council member with veto power could unilaterally block it, opening the way for the return of sanctions.

The Iranians agreed to it because they had never anticipated a US withdrawal from the deal in 2018, said Lavrov, who was involved in the negotiations for the deal, formally known as

the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

After the US withdrawal, Europe, instead of demanding that the United States go back to its obligations, also started to shy away from commitments to the deal. The Europeans are now cherry-picking what they want from Resolution 2231, said Lavrov. “And what they want is this exotic mechanism for a snapback.” — Xinhua



Effective 28 September 2025, broad United Nations sanctions, including restrictions on Iran’s oil and financial sectors, have been reinstated through a “snapback” mechanism. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**



The Indian plastics pipes industry weathered multiple headwinds in FY25. **PHOTO: ANI**

## Plastic pipes industry navigates challenges in FY25, eyes steady growth: Report

THE Indian plastics pipes industry weathered multiple headwinds in FY25, grappling with subdued infrastructure spending, liquidity challenges, and volatile PVC prices, according to a recent JM Financial report.

The report highlights that the sector, traditionally fragmented and agriculture-focused, has steadily shifted towards a more organized ecosystem catering to water supply, sanitation, plumbing, and industrial applications. Despite the challenges in FY25, the industry expects near-term support from channel restocking and stabilizing PVC prices, which reached

around INR 79 per kg in September 2025. PVC prices, a critical pass-through cost for pipe manufacturers, have seen significant fluctuations over the past few years. Looking ahead, structural demand drivers remain strong. Government initiatives such as the Jal Jeevan Mission, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, and Housing for All, alongside rising agricultural and replacement demand, are likely to accelerate the adoption of plastic piping systems.

The report estimates India’s plastic piping market at around INR 600-650 billion, projecting a growth rate of 10-12 per cent CAGR over FY25-30. — ANI

## Japan to face price hikes on over 3,000 food items in October

CONSUMERS in Japan are expected to face price hikes on more than 3,000 food and beverage items for the first time in six months in October mainly due to an increase in raw material

and labor costs.

The burden on Japanese households will be felt even more also because three-month subsidies on electricity and gas bills will end at the end of this month, keeping pressure on real wages that fell for the seventh consecutive month in July, as salary growth has been outpaced by price increases. According to a survey by Teikoku Databank Ltd, the number of food and drink items planned for price hikes next month rose from the initially estimated 2,989 on 29 August. For example, the suggested retail price of a 500-millilitre bottle of Coca Cola will be raised from 194 yen (\$1.30) to 216 yen. — Kyodo

According to a survey by Teikoku Databank Ltd., the number of food and drink items planned for price hikes next month rose from the initially estimated 2,989 on 29 August. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ KYODO**



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## EBRD forecasts Mongolia’s economy to grow by 5.8% in 2025

MONGOLIA’S economic activity remained robust in the first half of 2025, despite weaker mining-sector activity and a deteriorating macroeconomic environment, local media reported on Sunday, citing the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

In its Outlook for Central Asian economies in 2025 and

2026, the EBRD forecasts growth of 5.8 per cent for Mongolia’s economy in 2025 and 5.5 per cent in 2026, the Eagle News TV channel reported.

Mongolia’s real gross domestic product (GDP) expanded by 5.6 per cent in the first half of 2025, driven primarily by a strong rebound in the agriculture sector and continued expansion of the services sec-

tor, according to the EBRD.

Currently, Mongolia’s economy depends heavily on the mining sector and on the export of mineral resources. Mining commodities, such as copper, iron ore and unprocessed or semi-processed gold, constituted 93 per cent of Mongolia’s total exports during the first eight months of 2025. — Xinhua

## New high-speed rail route to further fuel China's winter sports boom

A new high-speed rail link began operation on Sunday, significantly shortening the travel time from Beijing to the renowned Changbai Mountain in the northeastern province of Jilin, offering a boost to China's growing winter sports and ice tourism market. The Shenyang-Baihe section of the Shenyang-Jiamusi High-Speed Railway, with a design speed of 350 km per hour, officially commenced service on Sunday.

The new line cuts the journey from Beijing to the Changbai Mountain area, a popular winter destination with several top-

notch ski resorts, to just four hours and 33 minutes, saving about one and a half hours.

Catering to the needs of the tourists, the trains feature extra space between the seats to accommodate bulky ski equipment. Carriages are equipped with an intelligent temperature control system to minimize discomfort from drastic indoor-outdoor temperature swings. Stations along the route offer integrated tourism service counters for one-stop bookings to the Changbai Mountain scenic area and self-drive tours. — Xinhua

## Entry of luxury hotels in India to remain tight due to barriers: Report

THE supply of luxury hotels in India is expected to remain constrained due to several high barriers to entry, including limited land availability, extensive regulation, restrictive zoning, high capital costs, and long gestation periods.

According to a sectoral report on the luxury hotel segment by JM Financial, these challenges continue to restrict new developments in the luxury hospitality segment.

“Supply in the luxury segment is expected to remain constrained due to high barriers to entry, including limited availability of land, extensive regulation, restrictive zoning, high cost of capital and long gestation periods,” the report added.



These barriers include limited land availability, extensive regulation, restrictive zoning, high capital costs, and long gestation periods. PHOTO: ANI

The report noted that, despite supply constraints, demand for luxury hotel rooms is growing rapidly.

Rising disposable incomes and a shift in consumer preference towards premium experi-

ences have driven strong growth in Average Daily Rates (ADR) and occupancy levels. — ANI

## Foreign visitors to Mongolia reach 678,850 in first 9 months

MONGOLIA recorded a total of 678,850 inbound tourist visits by foreign passport holders in the first nine months of 2025, according to official data released by the Mongolian Tourism Organization on Saturday.

During the period, China has become one of the biggest sources of foreign tourists to Mongolia, followed by Russia and South Korea.

Currently, Mongolia's economy continues to rely most heavily on the export of mineral resources. Tourism promotion is considered one of the priorities for diversifying the country's economy and increasing the competitiveness of its tourism in the context of



Mongolia's tourism and culture are deeply intertwined, with its nomadic heritage, vast landscapes, and ancient traditions serving as the main draw for visitors. PHOTO: LAN HONGGUANG/XINHUA/FILE

global competition.

According to the Ministry of Culture, Sport, Tourism and Youth, the

Mongolian government has decided to continue the “Years to Visit Mongolia” tourism program

until 2028 to promote the development of four-season tourism in the country. — Xinhua

## Japan major bank to make 1-month paternity leave mandatory

JAPAN'S Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp will require its employees to take at least one month's paternity leave in principle from October to encourage participation in childcare and improve the working environment, the company said.

As part of the measures to be adopted by fiscal year 2028, the major bank will pay a bonus of 50,000 yen (\$335) to employees on parental leave and their colleagues if the business continues to operate stably during their absence.

Taking into consider-

ation that workers will be able to secure adequate time for preparation, “We will promote initiatives to strengthen team resilience, seeing absences arising from childcare as an opportunity,” the company said in a press release on 19 September.

The new measures will be adopted after the bank achieved a 100 percent acquisition rate for paternity leave in the 2023 fiscal year. However, the average length of leave was just 12 days, falling far short of the 30-day target.

— Kyodo

### MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

AS the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025 to 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025 (Thadinkyut Public Holiday), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

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# ROLLING UPDATES WORLD

## IAEA: No nuclear fuel crisis; reserves secure for 21<sup>st</sup> century

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has dismissed concerns about a potential nuclear fuel shortage, stating that global uranium reserves are sufficient to power nuclear plants through the end of the century.

THE International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has dismissed concerns over a possible shortage of nuclear fuel, saying global uranium reserves will be sufficient to power nuclear plants through the end of this century.

IAEA Deputy Director General Mikhail Chudakov, told Russia's TASS news agency on the sidelines of World Atomic Week Forum in Moscow that mining activity follows market prices, with electricity production costs remaining the key factor. His remarks echoed those of Rosatom Director General Alexey Likhachev.

Chudakov added that ongoing geological exploration continues to reveal new deposits worldwide, reinforcing the long-term stability of the nuclear energy sector. — ANI



The World Atomic Week Forum was held in Moscow from 25 to 28 September 2025, to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Russian nuclear industry. Hosted by Russia's State Nuclear Corporation, Rosatom, the event focused on the peaceful applications of nuclear technology. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

## Trump orders deployment of troops to Portland

US President Donald Trump said Saturday that he will deploy troops to Portland, the state of Oregon, to handle "domestic terrorists."

"I am directing Secretary of War, Pete Hegseth, to provide all necessary Troops to protect War ravaged Portland, and any of our ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) Facilities under siege from attack by Antifa, and other domestic terrorists," Trump said in a social media post.

Portland Mayor Keith Wilson said in a statement in early September that, like other mayors across the country, he had not requested nor did he need "federal intervention."

On Saturday, Wilson said that "the number of necessary troops is zero, in Portland and any other American city" after Trump ordered "all necessary Troops" to the city. — Xinhua

## Agricultural damage from recent storms in Philippines nears US\$24 mln

TROPICAL storm Mitag and super typhoon Ragasa, which battered the Philippines this month, have caused an estimated 1.38 billion pesos (around US\$24 million) in damage and losses to the country's agricultural sector, the Department of Agriculture (DA) said on Sunday.

The figure reflects the combined impact of the two powerful storms and the southwest monsoon across the country's nine regions, the DA said in a statement. Around 55,595 farmers and agricultural workers have been affected, with damage spanning 47,723 hectares of farmland, the department said. Preliminary estimates point to production losses of 109,997 metric tonnes across rice, corn, high-value crops, and livestock and poultry, the DA added. — Xinhua

## UNESCO adds 26 new biosphere reserves, including 2 in China



An aerial drone photo taken on 4 April 2024 shows a view of Daqingshan Nature Reserve in Hohhot, North China's Inner Mongolia autonomous region. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

UNESCO has designated 26 new biosphere reserves in 21 countries, including two in China, bringing the world network

of biosphere reserves to 785 sites across 142 countries, the organization announced Saturday.

The new Chinese sites are the Daqingshan Biosphere Reserve in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and the Zhouzhi Biosphere Reserve in Shaanxi Province.

Covering nearly 3,900 square km in the central Yinshan Mountains, Daqingshan is the richest biodiversity hotspot in the region. The reserve is home to nearly 1,200 higher plant species, 300 vertebrate species, and 1,800 arthropod species.

Zhouzhi Biosphere Reserve, spanning 690 square km on both the northern and southern slopes of the Qinling Range, is 96 per cent forested and rises to 2,904 metres above sea level. Its striking vertical vegetation zones shelter more than 3,630 species of wild flora and fauna, including the Qinling Panda, Golden Snub-nosed Monkey, and Golden Takin. — Xinhua

## New York may no longer be fit to host UN headquarters, says Colombian president

COLOMBIAN President Gustavo Petro said Saturday that the US decision to revoke his visa underscores that New York may no longer be a suitable host for the United Nations headquarters.

The US decision violated the principle of immunity that underpins the United Nations, said Petro, while calling

for respect for international law.

On Friday, Petro joined a pro-Palestinian demonstration outside the UN headquarters in New York, where he urged US soldiers not to turn their weapons against humanity.

"Disobey Trump's orders! Obey the orders of humanity!" he said. — Xinhua

## Israel says 750,000 have fled Gaza City as offensive intensifies

ISRAELI Defence Minister Israel Katz said on Saturday that more than 750,000 residents have fled Gaza City as the military steps up its offensive in the enclave.

Katz said the exodus was continuing as Israel moved into what he called the "decisive" phase of its operation. "Autonomous explosive-laden military vehicles

are being deployed ahead of the forces to defuse explosives, and the fire cover to protect the maneuvering forces from the air and ground is heavy and strong," his office said in a statement.

He warned that unless Hamas releases all Israeli hostages and disarms, "Gaza and Hamas will be destroyed." — Xinhua

# SPORTS

## Traditional Lethwei challenge bouts staged in Yangon

THE Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and the Myanmar Traditional Lethwei Federation oversaw traditional Lethwei challenge bouts organized by Pride Glory Honour, held at Theinbyu Gymnasium in Yangon at 1 pm yesterday. A total of ten bouts took place.

In the men's four-round bouts, Gaw Pa Ka (Khe Yuwah) versus Lar Kapaw (Yoya Kyar), Htet Lin (Factory) versus Kyaw Nating Tun (New White Blood), Kyaw Wai Yan (Top One) versus Kyauk Yine (New White Blood), and Africa (555 Mix Sports) versus Aung Hein Swan (Top One) all ended in draws, entertaining the audience.

In the men's five-round challenge, Salai Thang Khwi Shein (Kyar Ma Naing) defeated Shan Tauk (Zar Htet Meiktila) in the second round with a decisive uppercut punch, forcing Shan Tauk to concede.

Ye Lin Oo (Doh Yoya) and Si Toe



Raman (Khe Yuwah) versus Aung Khine (Factory) in action.

(Khe Yuwah) fought to a draw despite a full-round exchange of strikes. Saw Ba Hein (Factory) won by second-round kick against Saw Min Naing (MFC). Htun Min Naing (MFC) lost in the first round to Saw Htoo Aung (Khe Yuwah) after a heavy punch to the neck rendered him unconscious.

Raman (Khe Yuwah) versus Aung Khine (Factory) ended in a draw after both fighters landed equal strikes through the full rounds.

In the women's three-round bout, Lin Sanda Htwe and Malar Win battled strongly but the match concluded in a draw. — Arkar Linn/KZL

## Dagon Star United, Dagon Port share points in MNL clash

DAGON Star United and Dagon Port played out a 3-3 draw on the third day of Week 5 in the 2025-2026 Myanmar National League (MNL) season at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre on 28 September.

Dagon Star United, who could have regained top spot with a win missed the chance and dropped to third place following the draw. Dagon Port, still struggling at the bottom of the table managed to secure a late equalizer to collect one point.

Dagon Star United lined up with Yan Kyaw Htwe, Swan Htet, Zaw Ye Tun, Aung Thiha and Yan Naing Oo, while Dagon Port fielded both foreign players and local stars including goalkeeper Myo Min Latt, La Min Htwe and Yaza Aung. Both teams fought hard for victory and produced an entertaining match with end-to-end action and goals.

For Dagon Port, Moku opened the scoring in the 14th minute and Michael added another in the 37th minute. Aung Thiha equalized twice for Dagon Star, scoring in the 27th and 45th minutes, leaving the first half tied at 2-2. In the 80th minute, Htet Phyo Wai put Dagon Star United ahead, but Moku struck again in stoppage time to seal a 3-3 draw.

The final fixtures of Week 5 will be played today, with Yadanabon facing Rakhine United at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre, while Maha United meet Thitsar Arman FC at Thihadipa Stadium. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

## Real Madrid's Carvajal Clasico doubt after calf injury



Real Madrid's Spanish defender Dani Carvajal is set to miss around a month with a calf injury and may not be able to face Barcelona in October. PHOTO: AFP

REAL Madrid defender Dani Carvajal is set to miss around a month after the club diagnosed him with a calf injury on Sunday, making him a doubt for the Clasico in October.

The Spain international suffered the problem during the 5-2 defeat by Atletico Madrid on Saturday in La Liga.

Real Madrid did not specify an expected absence length, saying his "progress will be monitored" but Spanish media reported he will be out for around a month.

Los Blancos face rivals

Barcelona in La Liga on 26 October at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Carvajal, 33, is also expected to miss Champions League games against Kairat and Juventus, and league clashes with Villarreal and Getafe, as well as Spain's upcoming World Cup qualifiers.

Madrid's other right-back Trent Alexander-Arnold is out with a hamstring injury and also a doubt for the game against Barca, with Fede Valverde an option to fill in there as he has done previously. — AFP

## Son brace fuels LAFC as Messi frustrated in Miami draw

SON Heung-min scored two goals and Denis Bouanga added another as Los Angeles FC beat St Louis City 3-0 on Saturday for a fourth straight Major League Soccer victory.

Bouanga's 23rd goal of the season puts him one behind Inter Miami's Argentine superstar Lionel Messi atop the MLS scoring charts.

Messi has 24 goals in 23 games, but he came up empty as Miami were held to a 1-1 draw with Toronto.

South Korea star Son, the former Tottenham captain who signed with LAFC in August for a re-

ported MLS record \$26 million, has eight goals in eight MLS games, quickly settling in with Bouanga to build a formidable attack.

Gabon international Bouanga seized upon a St Louis miscue and buried a shot from outside the area to give LAFC a 1-0 lead in the 15th minute, marking his fifth straight game with at least one goal.

Son made it 2-0 in first-half stoppage time, collecting a pass from Artem Smoliakov and motoring into the box to rifle a right-footed shot past St Louis keeper Roman Burki. — AFP



Denis Bouanga celebrates with Los Angeles FC teammate Son Heung-min after scoring in a 3-0 MLS victory over St Louis City. PHOTO: AFP



## Lavrov's UNGA address echoes Global South demands for equality and reform – Experts

*Lavrov advocated for democratizing the UN Security Council by increasing representation from Asia, Africa, and Latin America.*

**E**XPERTS spoke to Sputnik to give their thoughts on Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's speech at the UN General Assembly in New York, where he touched upon a whole array of pressing issues, including the reform of the UN, Russian-US relations, the Ukraine conflict, and the Iran sanctions.

Lavrov's speech at the UN General Assembly (UNGA) is an "important milestone in what the world is going through now," Argentine political scientist Marcelo Montes underscored.

"Why do the so-called democratic United States and Europe, which consider themselves civilized, forget all their crimes, genocides, and other atrocities, both committed within and beyond their own continents?" Montes stressed.

The Russian FM's statements were

aligned with what Brazilian President Lula da Silva said at the UNGA, especially when it comes to multipolarity, the UN Charter, and the UN's founding principles, Brazilian political analyst Raphael Machado said.

"I believe this alignment lies precisely in the criticism of what the United Nations has turned into: Lula questioned its effectiveness because we are witnessing genocide in Gaza," Machado underscored.

Speaking at the UNGA, Lavrov said that Russia calls for UN Security Council democratization by increasing the representation of Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

The top Russian diplomat pointed out NATO members' dominance in key leadership positions at the UN. He also recalled that the world's current balance of power



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov addresses the 80<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly at the UN Headquarters, in New York City, the United States. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

differs drastically from what was established 80 years ago. These new realities "have not yet been adequately reflected in the system of institutions" of the UN.

Lavrov's UNGA speech should be

viewed in the context of Russia-US relations and the fact that the Kremlin is not interested in confrontation, Peruvian sociologist and geopolitical analyst Carlos Mamani Aliaga underlined. — SPUTNIK

## World's tallest bridge opens to traffic in Guizhou, SW China

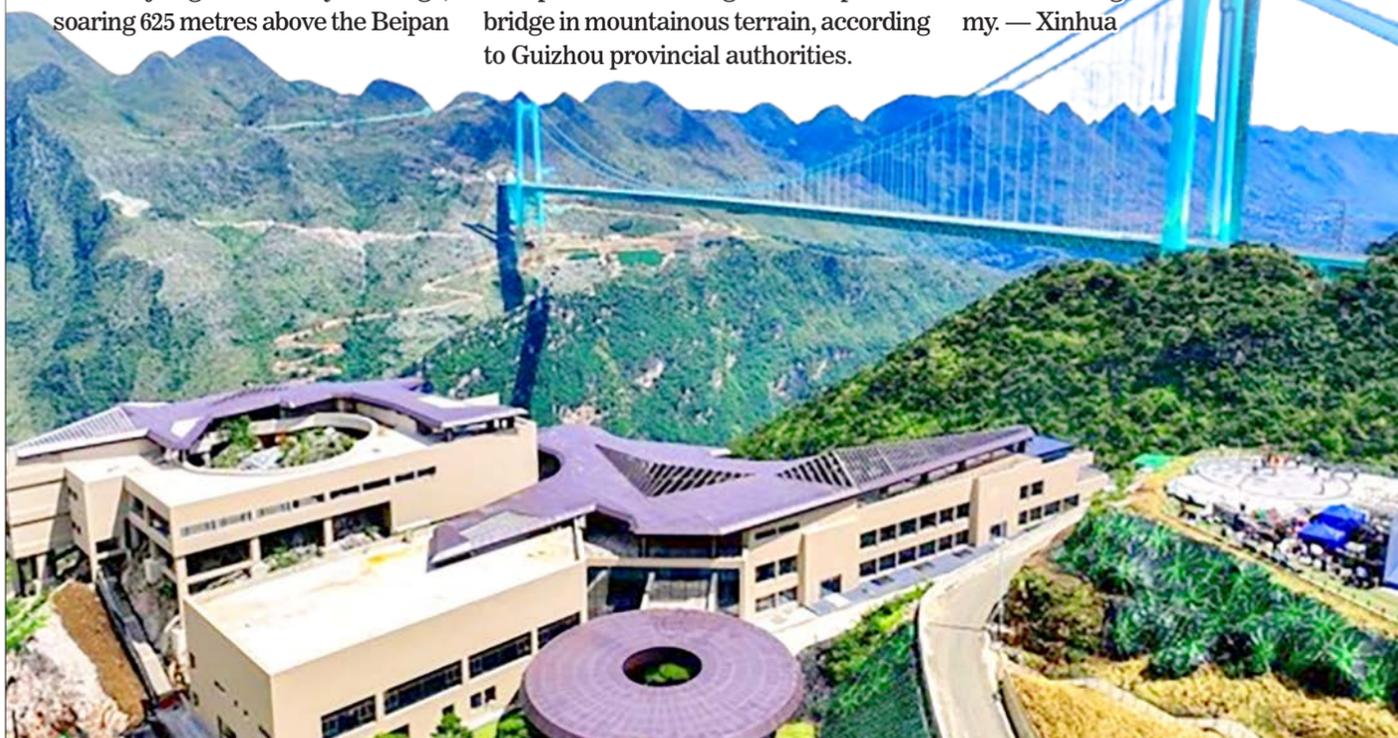
**T**HE world's tallest bridge opened to traffic Sunday morning in Guizhou, slashing travel time across a deep canyon from two hours to just two minutes after three years of construction.

The Huajiang Grand Canyon Bridge, soaring 625 metres above the Beipan

River in Guizhou's mountainous terrain, is nearly nine times as tall as San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge.

With a main span of 1,420 metres, the project has become the world's longest-span steel truss girder suspension bridge in mountainous terrain, according to Guizhou provincial authorities.

Spanning the Huajiang Grand Canyon, dubbed "the Earth's crack," the 2,890-metre-long structure is the latest addition to the rapidly expanding infrastructure network of the world's second-largest economy. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 28 September 2025 shows the Huajiang Grand Canyon Bridge and nearby Yundu service area in southwest China's Guizhou Province. **PHOTO: OU DONGQU/XINHUA**

## Osaka Expo's total visitor number exceeds break-even point

**T**HE cumulative number of visitors to the 2025 World Exposition in Osaka City, western Japan, has exceeded 22 million, which is regarded as the break-even point, its organizer said Sunday.

Preliminary data shows that about 22,000,500 people visited the Osaka Expo as of Saturday since its 13 April opening, reaching the figure seen as the number needed to avoid a loss, the Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition said.

More than 200,000 people have visited the Expo daily over the past two weeks. If the pace continues through the expo's final day on 13 October, the cumulative number of visitors will come to around 25 million, the association added.

The organizer expects a total of approximately 28.2 million people to visit the Osaka Expo before it ends next month. — Xinhua