

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.

PM U Nyo Saw visits Liuzhou Industrial Museum and Wuling auto factory in Luizhou, China



Prime Minister U Nyo Saw views around the Wuling auto factory of SAIC GM-Wuling Auto Co Ltd in Liuzhou, China, yesterday.

PRIME Minister U Nyo Saw, who is currently in Nanning, the People’s Republic of China, accompanied by Union Ministers Dr Charlie Than and U Chit Swe, Myanmar Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China U Tin Maung Swe, Chinese Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ms Ma Jia, and officials, yesterday visited the Liuzhou Industrial Museum and the Wuling auto factory of SAIC GM-Wuling Auto Co Ltd in Liuzhou.

The Prime Minister and party arrived in Liuzhou from Nanning by high-speed

train in the morning. They proceeded to the Liuzhou Industrial Museum, where they were welcomed by the Second Secretary of the Liuzhou CPC Committee, Mayor Mr Zhang Zhuang and officials.

The deputy curator of the museum explained that significantly ancient industrial equipment used in 1902 is displayed at the booth on Liuzhou industrial history, in addition to the ecological booth, and the booth for workplaces, the gradual development of industries till today, documentary photos on industrial development of Liuzhou in successive eras, and other booths.

The Prime Minister visited the museum and asked about some topics.

While in Liuzhou, the Prime Minister and party visited the Wuling Auto Factory of SAIC GM-Wuling Auto Co Ltd in the afternoon. The managing director of the company explained the history of the factory, yearly manufacturing of automobile types, sales of automobiles into the market, manufacturing of electric vehicles starting from 2017, the AI Operations Centre, and the quality, strength and safety of automobiles. The Prime Minister discussed the interesting topics. — MNA/TTA

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Taunggyi hot-air balloon festival seeks bids for 4 businesses

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Solar panel market booms as businesses go solar

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)



- 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.

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

1.Office of the State Administration Council https://sacoffice.gov.mm	4.Ministry of Information https://www.moi.gov.mm
2.Ministry of Defence https://www.mod.gov.mm	5.Myawady Webportal https://myawady.net.mm
3.Ministry of Legal Affairs https://www.mlis.gov.mm	6.Myanmar National Portal https://myanmar.gov.mm

Early Voting Guide for Voters Away From Home

15 September 2025

1. The Union Election Commission has already announced that the general election will begin on 28 December 2025.

2. The eligible voters who are currently out of the respective townships mentioned in the lists for respective Hluttaw constituencies shall follow the under-mentioned processes regarding the early voting.

(a) The heads of the respective schools, training schools, detention camps and hospitals shall seek the Form 15 from the website of the UEC and township subcommissions and distribute it to the eligible early voters.

(b) The heads of the respective schools, training schools, detention camps and hospitals shall send these Form 15 filled by the voters to the township subcommissions together with registration Form 15 (a) compiled by townships not later than 12 October 2025.

(c) The township subcommissions shall send the early ballot papers and envelopes together with the voter lists Form 15 (a-1) compiled in accordance with schools, training schools, detention camps and hospitals to the respective schools, training schools, detention camps and hospitals not later than 24 November 2025.

(d) Arrangements shall be made to cast early votes at the respective schools, training schools, detention camps and hospitals between 25 and 29 November 2025.

(e) The envelopes containing early ballot papers, Form 15 (a-1) with the signatures of early voters, the unused early ballot papers and envelopes shall be transported to the respective township subcommissions not later than 4 pm on 26 December 2025.

3. The heads of the respective schools, training schools, detention camps and hospitals shall coordinate with the township subcommissions regarding the early voting day mentioned in paragraph 2 (d) at least three days in advance.

4. Cooperation shall be made with the relevant subcommissions for those detained and hospitalized at the police cells, prisons, detention cells and hospitals under the Myanmar Police Force and the Correctional Department after 29 October 2025.

5. Regarding early voting for the temporarily displaced people: -

(a) The temporarily displaced people who are out of constituencies are required to get the Form 15 via the UEC website and relevant township subcommissions, fill the forms, and return them to the township subcommissions on 12 October 2025.

(b) These township subcommissions shall return the Form 15 together with Form 15-c to the relevant township subcommissions on 29 October 2025.

(c) The listed township subcommissions shall send the early voting paper and envelopes to

the respective township sub-commissions that submitted the Form 15 (c-1) and Form 15 on 24 November 2025.

(d) The township subcommissions shall arrange to cast early votes between 25 and 29 November 2025.

(e) The envelopes containing early ballot papers, Form 15(c-1) with the signatures of early voters, the unused early ballot papers and envelopes shall be transported to the respective township subcommissions not later than 4 pm on 26 December 2025.

(f) The temporarily displaced people from the listed constituencies, who do not want to cast early vote for the constituency with Form 15, are required to apply to be listed in the townships where they are currently residing in accordance with the respective Hluttaw Election Rule 10 before 60 days of the election not later than 27 October 2025 to the township subcommissions via the ward or village tract subcommissions with Form 3-a.

6. Therefore, the relevant subcommissions and leaders should work together for the eligible voters for early votes from schools, training schools, detention camps and hospitals out of the listed townships and the temporarily displaced people not to lose their chance to cast votes.

Union Election Commission

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)

MoTC Union Minister inspects Nawnghkio, Gokteik railway stations, Gokteik Viaduct

UNION Minister for Transport and Communications U Mya Tun Oo, accompanied by relevant departmental officials, inspected the Nawnghkio and Gokteik railway stations and the Gokteik Viaduct in Nawnghkio Township, Shan State (North) on Sunday.

During the inspection of the Gokteik viaduct, the Union minister heard the report on repair works forwarded by Myanmar Railways officials, and instructed the need to reconstruct the bridge in its original style, meet the standards, complete in time and ensure the safety in workplaces. He then inspected the destroyed railways, concrete sleepers and locations exploded by the terrorists in the 350-foot-long tunnel near the bridge. He also presented cash prizes to the staff and security force members.

He observed the record photos of the Gokteik Viaduct taken during the construction of the bridge, which are specially preserved and displayed at the Gokteik station. They also separately met with station staff, engineers responsible for the maintenance



Union Transport & Communications Minister U Mya Tun Oo is pictured during his inspection tours in Nawnghkio, Gokteik railway stations, and the Gokteik Viaduct.

and repair of the viaduct, and officials from various departments serving in Nawnghkio Township, and offered them food.

The Gokteik Viaduct, located on the Mandalay-Lashio railway line between Nawnghkio and Kyaukme in northern Shan State, spans over 2,200 feet in length and crosses a deep gorge of about 500 feet, connecting two mountain cliffs. The bridge was designed by Sir AMR Rendel &

Co of London and constructed by the Pennsylvania & Maryland Bridge and Construction Co of the United States. Construction began in 1899 and was completed in 1900, with the bridge coming into service in 1903. It has now been used for over 120 years. The bridge is about 2,260 feet long, with steel towers reaching a height of 320 feet, and a total height of 825 feet from the gorge floor to the railway



track level. At the time, it was recorded as the world's highest steel bridge. Its construction used around 4,311 tonnes of iron and steel and about one million rivets. Built with great difficulty between steep mountain slopes, the bridge and its surrounding scenic beauty, when viewed while travelling by train, are renowned. It stands as one of Myanmar's most remarkable bridges.

The viaduct was exploded by TNLA on 24 August, and the State-owned media announced the news. Currently, the engineers of Myanmar Railways are reconstructing the viaduct in its original style. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing, Chinese Embassy Charge d'Affaires ad interm Ms Cao, and CFRD Vice-President Mr Liu Wenkui open CFRD's 10th anniversary event in Yangon yesterday.

CFRD celebrates 10th anniversary in Yangon

UNION Minister for the Ministry 2 of the President's Office U Ko Ko Hlaing attended the 10th anniversary of China Foundation for Rural Development (CFRD) at the Wyndham Grand Yangon Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

The Union minister, Ms Cao Jing, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Embassy of China, and CFRD Vice-President Mr Liu Wenkui made speeches respectively at

the event.

The organizations working with the CFRD signed the agreements, and the Union minister and the CFRD vice-president gave presents to donors.

The relevant officials expressed gratitude on behalf of the donors.

CFRD Myanmar has been fully implementing poverty reduction programmes in Myanmar under

the concept of "Great Love", in line with the Belt and Road Initiative strategy. These efforts include donating nutritious food to children in certain states across Myanmar, providing solar lamps to students and families in areas without electricity, supporting university students with scholarships and skills training programmes, and installing water purification systems in rural communities. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

Union Info Minister inspects quake repairs, meets MRTV staff

UNION Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn yesterday visited Mahazanaka Monastery in Tatkon, Nay Pyi Taw, where he inspected the ongoing renovation of the Dhamma Hall, which had been damaged by an earthquake, as well as the repair of concrete roads within the Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) compound. He also met MRTV staff during his visit.

At the Mahazanaka Monastery, the Union minister examined the repair and reinstallation of the façade and tiled walls of the damaged Dhamma Hall. He coordinated necessary arrangements, offered support, and presented donations of requisites to the monastery's presiding abbot, the Township Ovadacariya, Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Vandāraha.

Afterwards, he inspected the



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn meets MRTV staff in Tatkon, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

repair work on damaged sections of the concrete roads at MRTV, urging that the work be carried out in line with prescribed stand-

ards and completed within the designated timeframe.

Later, at the MRTV meeting hall, the Union minister met the

international news translation team and newsreaders. He discussed key points to be observed in news reporting, provided nec-

essary guidance, and presented cash awards.

In the afternoon, the Union minister met MRTV staff at the Auditorium. He urged them to serve the public with accurate and reliable news, to promptly verify and expose fake or false information, and to provide swift clarification with complete and correct facts. He also encouraged staff to cooperate with writers, filmmakers, performers, and musicians in promoting a happy and harmonious social life for the people. Furthermore, he emphasized the need for national media to make energetic and effective efforts before, during, and after the upcoming multi-party democratic general election, scheduled to begin on 28 December 2025, and concluded by warmly greeting the staff. — MNA/MKKS

MTB, ARCEA form business partnership



An MoU signing ceremony for the cooperation between the Myanmar Tourism Bank and the Ayeyawady Region Construction Entrepreneurs Association.

WITH the intention of enhancing the business and building a partnership, Myanmar Tourism Bank (MTB) and Ayeyawady Region Construction Entrepreneurs Association (ARCEA) signed a mem-

orandum of understanding (MoU) in Patheingyi.

The MoU aims to facilitate the region's construction sector development and engage in the country's economic and social sector

as a major role. It was signed by MTB's chief credit officer U Kyaw Thura Win and ARCEA's chairman U Nyi Nyi Tun in the presence of witnesses: MTB's chief administrative officer U Zaw Thu and ARCEA's secretary U Myint Lwin, at Patheingyi Hotel.

Regional-level head and officials, MTB's chairman, vice-chairman and BOD members and the staff and guests attended the ceremony, said MTB.

During the signing ceremony, the regional-level head and MTB chairman gave opening speeches and officials in attendance gave congratulatory speeches.

MTB presented K10 million to support the regional sports development and the regional women's football team victory, said MTB. — MT/ZS

Electric vehicles arrive at Yangon Port

WITH the approval of the Steering Committee on National-level Development of Electric Vehicles and Related Industries, Aiqaar IcarO3 and Aiqaar eQ7 electric vehicles imported by Unitrust Enterprise Group of Co Ltd and Faw Volkswagen by Htet Wai Yan Hein Co Ltd arrived at Yangon Port. Vehicles were allowed to be claimed according to the procedures yesterday. — MNA/KTZH



Newly arrived EVs are seen at Yangon Port.

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

NATIONAL

Agricultural targets set according to production potential, emphasizing yield analysis

❖ In agriculture, targets are set based on actual production potential.
❖ Since yields vary depending on the variety, soil, water, and planting methods, it is essential to analyze crop yields when they fall short of the target.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at a meeting with district and township level department officials and micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) entrepreneurs in Meiktila District on 10 January 2025 to discuss regional development issues)

People’s Military Service Training 17 begins across various commands



Tatmadaw Training Depot 11 Commandant Brig-Gen Myo Set Aung addresses the opening ceremony of the People’s Military Service Training 17 yesterday.

THE opening ceremonies for People’s Military Service Training 17 were held yesterday at various military commands. Eligible citizens attended the training in their respective regions, and the commandants of the training depots delivered opening speeches.

Chief ministers of regions and states, military commanders, and relevant officials attended the ceremonies, met with the trainees of People’s Military Service Training 17, and presented them with cash awards, food items, and essential supplies. They also offered encouragement and greetings to the trainees.

The People’s Military Service Law was enacted because every citizen has a duty to safeguard Our Three Main National Causes: Non-disintegration of the Union, Non-disintegration of national solidarity, and Perpetuation of sovereignty. The law came into effect on 10 February 2024 to facilitate the organization of military training courses.

Those who have completed the People’s Military Service Training are now serving in various military units, fulfilling their responsibilities for national defence and security. — MNA/ MKKS

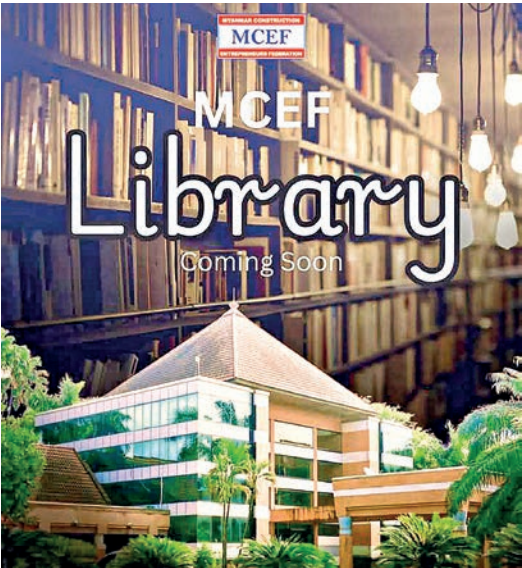
MCEF announces plans for new library

MYANMAR Construction Entrepreneurs Federation said it has planned to open a library soon, for all who want to explore technology.

This plan is being led by the MCEF public and social affairs committee and engineering technology books, geoscience books, architecture books and IT books and papers, as well as technology information that can be available for members and external users will be provided at the library, which is coming soon.

In addition, MCEF’s photos, videos, magazines and journals, historical documents and accessories will be displayed as an archive at the library in commemoration of the 30th Pearl Anniversary of MCEF, founded in 1996.

MCEF has urged its old founder members and present members to contribute documents, photos and memorabilia of MCEF to conserve the MCEF history. For contact, MCEF phone numbers are 09 893217109, 09 422721757 and 09 266823226, or email- mcef1996@gmail.com,



The MCEF library is launching soon. and its office is located in Thingangyun Township. — MT/ZS



No new COVID-19 cases

THE Ministry of Health tested 621 samples from 8 pm on 7 September 2025 to 8 pm on 14 September 2025, and no new cases were detected. No new casualties were reported.

Currently, there is no need to worry about infection and deaths from COVID-19, but all need to follow personal hygiene methods, and the high-risk groups.

- Elderly people (aged 60 and above)
- People with diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, and cancer
- Pregnant women (especially those beyond the third month of pregnancy) are prioritized to receive COVID-19 booster shots.

More detailed COVID-19 information can be found on the website of the Ministry of Health, moh.gov.mm.

Myanmar CDC
Public Health Department,
Ministry of Health

NATIONAL

Offenders supporting terrorists with online sales arrested

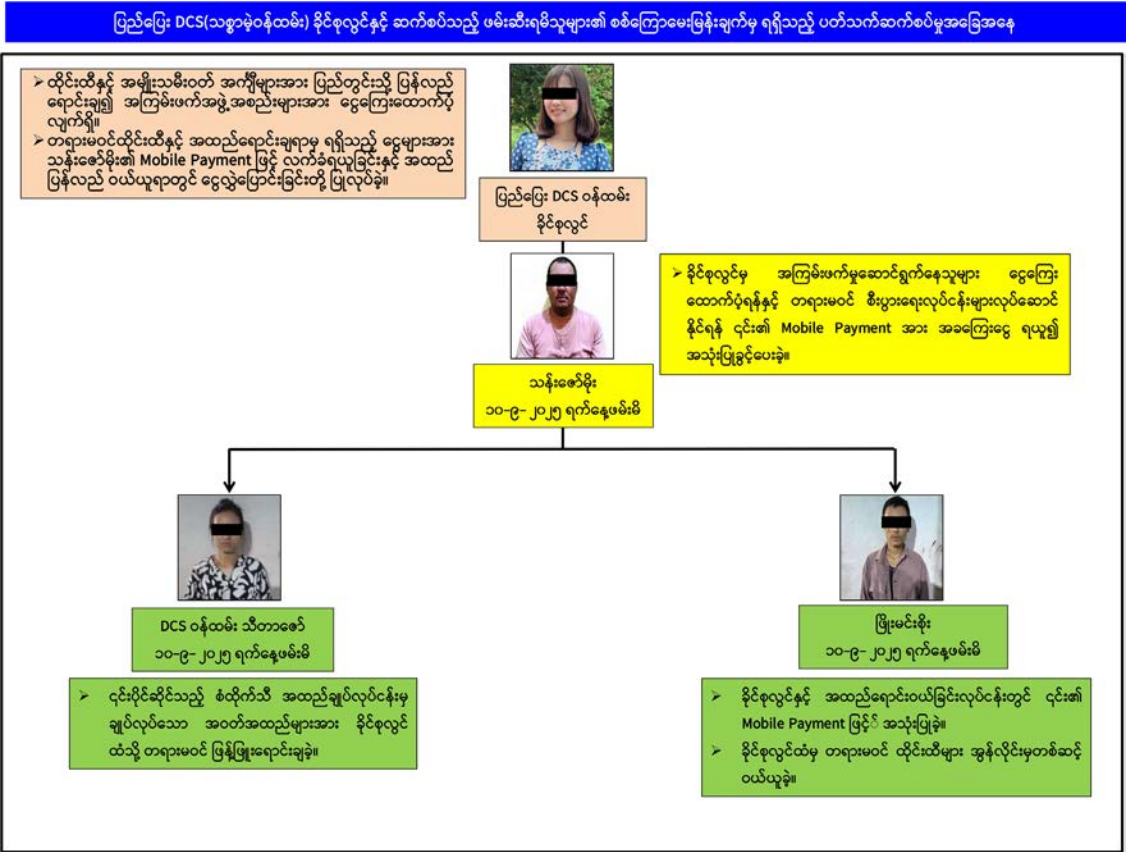
THE security forces arrested Thida Zaw, DCS of the Ministry of Education, and Phyo Min Soe, who are running the San Htike Thi garment business in Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay Region, and Than Zaw Moe from Mingaladon Township in Yangon on 10 September for involvement in financial fraud, illegal lottery and businesses.

According to their confession, they illegally transported the clothes to Khaing Su Lwin, DCS of the Ministry of Education, who made posts to destroy the state stability and initiate unrest and persuade the government employees to join DCS on social media. They also joined DCS and were charged under Penal Code 505 (a), and they purchased a Thai lottery

from Khine Su Lwin. Moreover, they allowed Khaing Su Lwin, residing in foreign countries, to use their mobile payments with fees to support the insurgents and make money transfers for the income from selling lottery tickets with their mobile payments.

Khaing Su Lwin opened her Khaing Su Lwin Facebook Account and khaingsu38cdm TikTok Account in 2024, and sold Myanmar traditional dresses, Shan dresses and night dresses online without licences together with DCS Thida Zaw, and she used the income from selling Thai lottery tickets illegally for her own sake and supported the terrorist groups.

The government has released an order designating



This diagram illustrates a network of offenders financing terrorism through online sales.

online sales as an essential service, and the illegal online sales in local and foreign countries without any licences cause revenue losses to the country. Therefore, the offenders DCS

Thidar Zaw, Phyo Min Soe, and Than Zaw Moe, who participated in money transfers, are being taken action under the law. Similarly, actions are being taken against those support-

ing the illegal sales, buying the products, reselling and helping in money transfers on social networks to support NUG and PDF terrorists, under the Counter-Terrorism Law. — MNA/KTZH

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Monday 15 September 2025)

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 16 September 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Magway Region and Kayah State, fairly widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady Regions and Rakhine State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavyfalls in Sagaing, and Taninthayi Regions. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

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

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

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Taninthayi Region and Kayin, and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 16 September 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 16 September 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 16 September 2025: One or two times of rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMC

Authorities arrest two foreign nationals for online fraud

THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is actively investigating and combating online fraud (telecom fraud) and other criminal activities in cooperation with international organizations, including neighbouring countries. Yesterday, in Myawady and Shwe Kokko area, Kayin State, authorities were able to apprehend two foreign nationals — a Filipino and an Indian — who had committed crimes, including online gambling and online fraud.

Combined teams made up of relevant departmental personnel are now collecting the necessary personal information and records of these foreign nationals so that they can be promptly repatriated to their respective countries. The operations are being closely supervised and coordinated by the deputy director of the Ministry of Immigration and Population of Kayin State and other responsible officials.



This photo captures immigration processes underway for the deportation of undocumented foreign entrants.

From 30 January to 15 September 2025, a total of 9,387 foreign nationals who had entered Myanmar illegally were investigated, identified, and detained. Among them, 9,305 individuals have been systematically repatriated to their respective countries via Thailand in accordance with legal procedures, while the remaining 82 foreign nationals are ready to be transferred and

are being securely detained and cared for. The Government is continuing to work vigorously with the relevant countries to ensure that foreign nationals who commit online fraud, online gambling, or other criminal acts are promptly investigated, identified, and systematically repatriated in accordance with established legal procedures. — MNA/MKKS

Bago Region Govt to host ten-day festivities during Thadingyut

THE Bago Region government will organize 10-day festivities on a grand scale, including MSME agricultural equipment and product sales expo, Thadingyut Festival and MSME Fair from 1 to 10 October 2025 at a parking spot in front of Shwemawdaw Pagoda, according to the event organizing committee.

In addition to the shops dur-



A general view of Bago and locals.

Taunggyi hot-air balloon festival seeks bids for 4 businesses



A hot-air balloon is seen in the previous year.

THE Financial Supervision Committee under the Shan State government called for bids at competitive prices to procure shops, playground businesses, bus terminal businesses and toilet facilities during the Taunggyi hot-air balloon festival that is scheduled to take place from 29 October to 5 November at the Awayya hot-air balloon square.

Bidding forms can be pur-

chased from 10 September at the committee's office, and the deadline for submission is 4:30 pm on 25 September.

The winning supplier will be selected at 9:30 am on 26 September at meeting hall 2 of the Shan State government.

Companies can reach out to the committee regarding AD signboards. Telecommunication companies also need to

contact to install a mobile tower for smooth service for telecom customers.

Interested entities can submit bids in the set time frame. Late submissions will not be accepted. Individuals can enquire about details through the contact numbers of the committee at 09 2004405, 09 250130279, 09 445131692 and 09 261746199.

— NN/KK

Swiss Challenge method launched for 20 MW solar project

TANINTHAYI Region Government's Tender Evaluation Committee invited interested suppliers and companies to procure 20 MW solar power generation in Sandawut village-tract in Myeik Township, Taninthayi Region, through a Swiss Challenge.

The tender form is available on 11 September 2025 at Electricity Division (4 & 10) in Dawei, Taninthayi Region, and the tender submission will be closed at 4 pm on 10 October 2025.

Local ethnic entrepreneurs will be prioritized in tender evaluation. Individuals can contact the details through 05923564 and 05923602. — NN/KK

Yangon palm oil reference price spikes at K6,610 per viss

THE wholesale reference rate of palm oil set for the Yangon market continued to rise at K6,610 per viss for a week ending 21 September, up from K6,520 registered in the previous week, according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Despite the reference price, the market price is way too high. To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department



Edible oil is arranged for sale.

under the Ministry of Commerce informed consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline in late August. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department, or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demands. — NN/KK

OPINION

Protect the ozone layer and ourselves as well

THE International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, which falls on 16 September, is marked in various countries worldwide every year with serious awareness of harmful UV radiation and the important role of the ozone layer.

All year round, scientists and experts warn the global people of the situation of the ozone layer around the world. They speak out reduction of using ozone-depleting substances and other chemicals, such as hydrofluorocarbons (greenhouse gases) as much as possible. The depleted part of the ozone layer must be recovered in all means through concerted efforts of the global people to ensure the safety of their lives and existence.

Forty years ago, nations came together under the Vienna

Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and agreed to take appropriate measures to protect people and the planet from harmful UV radiation pouring through a potentially damaged ozone layer. Moreover, the Montreal Protocol was adopted, and chlorofluorocarbons – man-made chemicals used in refrigeration, aerosol sprays and foam production – started being phased out, setting the ozone layer on the road to recovery.

Chlorofluorocarbons, halons, carbon tetrachloride, methyl chloroform, and similar substances must be controlled. Compliance with international agreements such as the Montreal Protocol is essential, as ozone-depleting substances are already being phased out step by step, and it is important to continue adhering to these measures. In refrigerators, aircraft, and other equipment, substitutes that do not harm the ozone layer should be used.

Planting trees does not directly restore the ozone layer, but since trees absorb CO₂ and help reduce global warming, they play an important role in

combating climate change. As rising global temperatures are also linked to chemical changes affecting the ozone layer, tree planting, while not a direct solution, can still provide supportive benefits.

The theme for the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer in 2025 is “From Science to Global Action”. This theme highlights how scientific discovery and data are translated into tangible global actions, such as international treaties like the Montreal Protocol, to protect the ozone layer and, consequently, life on Earth.

That is why every individual is responsible for their actions, whether or not they harm the ozone layer. In fact, the ozone layer is a blessing for the world. Everyone must seek the best ways to prevent its depletion and protect all living and non-living things on Earth from the threat of UV radiation. By protecting the ozone layer, they are ultimately protecting themselves.

That is why every individual is responsible for their actions, whether or not they harm the ozone layer. In fact, the ozone layer is a blessing for the world. Everyone must seek the best ways to prevent its depletion and protect all living and non-living things on Earth from the threat of UV radiation. By protecting the ozone layer, they are ultimately protecting themselves.

Reminiscences about Michigan Law School Classes of 1981-82



The late Professor Yale Kamisar.

JUST over 44 years ago, in late August 1981, I arrived at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in the United States to study as a postgraduate student at Michigan Law School.

Orientation at Michigan Law School, late August 1981

First Burmese to graduate with an LLM from the University of Michigan Law School

From what the late Professor William W Bishop Jr told me, I was the second Burmese to arrive from Burma (as it was then officially called) to study at Michigan Law School since 1951 (University of Michigan was established in August 1817, and the Law School in 1859). The person who arrived in Michigan in the Fall (Autumn) semester of 1951 was the late U Nyun Tin, who, after the first semester, shifted to Yale Law School and graduated with an LLM (Master of Laws) from Yale, perhaps in 1952. To the best of my knowledge, as of 2021, I am the only Burmese who has graduated with a Master of Laws (LLM) (1982) from Michigan Law School.

A Brief Glimpse of the Miranda versus Arizona case

Orientation for graduate students and research scholars was held at the Law School on or about 26 August 1981. Then, Michigan Law School Dean, the late Professor Terrance Sandalow, was one of the speakers at the orientation.

Professor Theodore St An-

toine (now Emeritus) at the Law School) spoke about Labour Law. I clearly recall that he concluded his remarks, graciously stating, ‘We [American Labour lawyers] have to learn both from the East as well as the West’.

Professor Yale Kamisar spoke about criminal law and procedure. Excerpts from the 1966 Miranda versus Arizona ruling, both majority and dissenting opinions, were distributed in advance to incoming LLM students before the orientation. The United States Supreme Court in Miranda versus Arizona 384 US 436 in effect ruled that when arrests of suspected criminals are made police officers making the arrests must give what came to be later known as Miranda warnings to the person(s) who are being arrested in that they have ‘the right to remain silent, the right to request an attorney (lawyer)’ and if they cannot afford an attorney an attorney will be provided to them’. The warning must also include the phrase that whatever the suspects say will be written down and these can and will be used against them in Court. In the year 1966, the United States Supreme Court, by a majority, held to the effect that if these warnings are not given, then the conviction meted out to the criminal defendants can be quashed or cases can be sent back to the trial court.

I recall that I first read parts of the dissenting opinions and was somewhat persuaded by them. When Professor Kamisar discussed the case, I changed my mind and agreed with the majority opinion (which indeed was the decision of the Court).

Fast forward to the year 2000. In the case of Dickerson versus Illinois, 530 US 428, the late United States Chief Justice William Rehnquist wrote that the ‘Miranda warnings have become part of our national culture’ and refused to overrule the Miranda decision. But the late Justice Antonin Scalia, in dissent, stated almost condescendingly that the refusal to overrule the Miranda case was ‘faux judicial restraint’.

Fast forward to the year 2025. Among the current nine

Justices of the United States Supreme Court, this writer is of the view that at least four Justices, namely Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel Alito, Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett, may well overrule Miranda if they were given the chance to do so judicially.

Reminiscence of A Few Classes and Interactions

Professor Don Regan’s ‘Constitutional Law survey for foreign students’

At least since the 1970s, if not earlier, foreign students in the Michigan LLM classes have to compulsorily take the course ‘Constitutional Law Survey for foreign students’. Most of the



Dr Myint Zan with inaugural Myint Zan LLM prize recipient Ciaron Murnane (New Zealand).

classes in all those decades were taught by now-retired Professor Donald Regan. Professor Regan informed me that he retired in December 2020, and he taught ‘the Constitutional Law Survey’ class to foreign LLM students for perhaps over 40 years since the mid-1970s.

During the fall semester of 1981, in a class of about 25 students, a student from New Zealand, Mr Peter Cawthorn, occasionally questioned or, if you will, challenged Professor Regan. I recall that in one class, Professor Regan, in response (perhaps indulgently) stated: ‘Believe me, Mr Cawthorn!’

I also learned from Don Regan’s class that President William Howard Taft served as Chief Justice of the United States after

serving as President of the United States. In independent Burma, it was the obverse since the ‘elevation’ was from the post of Chief Justice to President. The late Sir Ba U was Chief Justice from 4 January 1948 to 11 March 1952 and served as President of the Union of Burma from 12 March 1952 to 11 March 1957. The late Dr Maung Maung served as Chief Justice from 5 June 1965 to 11 July 1972 and then, more than 16 years later, as President from 19 August 1988 to 18 September 1988.

By Myint Zan

Dudley and Stevens had acted against the weakest member of the crew. Professor Allen, a bit theatrically and as a pedagogic tool, almost shouted, ‘WHY Parker?’ [was chosen to be killed by Dudley and Stevens]. I later learned from those who have taken Prof. Allen’s criminal law classes in previous years that in those classes, he also had stated the phrase WHY PARKER in teaching the case.

Fast forward to 2009. In an article published in July-August 2009 of the Malayan Law Journal (2009 4 MLJ), yours truly had in page clxxiv at footnote 92 of my article quoted the late Professor Allen’s remarks, albeit the ‘Why’ that I queried was not in relation to the Dudley and Stephens case as such.

Professor Yale Kamisar’s First Amendment class: ‘my show’ and ‘arguably wrong’

In Winter Term 1982, I ‘audited’ (in current expression) the late Professor Yale Kamisar’s ‘First Amendment’ class. I was the only foreign student from our batch to take the subject dealing with that specific area of American constitutional law. Another (then) student by the name of Jamil Nasir at times challenged Professor Kamisar’s statements. Once Mr Nasir stated in the class: QUOTE ‘What I find wrong in your argument’ UNQUOTE. Professor Kamisar responded by saying QUOTE Hey Nasir; this is my show! Say ‘arguably wrong’, not ‘wrong’ UNQUOTE, which Mr Nasir ‘followed’ by saying ‘What I find arguably wrong’.

In Burma/Myanmar, generally even at University and post-graduate levels, challenges as to what the teacher or ‘guru’ states are considered, oftentimes as being non-deferential or worse. At least at times, at Michigan and elsewhere in Australian and American law schools, where I have studied and taught, such challenges and comments are not discouraged.



Law Quadrangle of the University of Michigan.

Professor Andrew S Watson’s ‘Law and Psychiatry’ Class and Freud’s Joke Book

Another course that I took in Winter Term 1982 was ‘Law and Psychiatry’ by the late Professor Andrew S. Watson, who was a Professor of Law and Professor of Psychiatry. In one of his classes, Professor Watson recommended that if the students had ‘nothing pressing to read’ then they should read the (English translation) of Sigmund Freud’s Jokes and their relations to the unconscious (first published in German in 1905). As an incentive, Professor Watson added that the book contains ‘a lot of jokes’. More than 27 ½ years later, only in September 2009, while I was on a five-week Visiting Professorship at the West Virginia University College of Law in the United States, that I read Freud’s ‘joke book’.

(Un)self-consciously, I would mention that in the May 1983 University of Michigan Honours Convocation (which I was not able to attend), I was awarded a ‘Certificate of Merit’ for the best results in the course ‘Law and Psychiatry’ and for achieving co-equal first in the course attended by about 32 students. I have lost or misplaced the certificate, and so far have not been able to obtain a new copy.

Over 120 years of Michigan LLM programme(s) and this writer’s (humble) contribution

I learned from the Associate Dean of Michigan Law School that the ‘inaugural’ LLM programme at Michigan was in the year 1890, and among the graduates, one or two were from Japan. I have also learned that since 1890, even during the inter-war years (First and Second World Wars, 1914 to 1918, 1939 to 1945 respectively), there were no interruptions of the LLM programmes, in that the courses continued. As it enters its 121st year, one wonders whether the list of the names of countries from which the students came (if possible), since 1890, if that is not possible, then going back, say, to the 1930s, may be compiled by relevant personnel of the Law School. If such a compilation were to be made, it could be published in a small booklet and may also be stated on the Law School website.

In 2017, yours truly established a ‘Myint Zan LLM prize’ at Michigan Law school to give annual awards to ‘exemplary students with interdisciplinary interests and commitment to social justice, and an understanding of the role law can play in easing the plight of disadvantaged members of society’. From 2018 to 2025, eight LLM

graduates from New Zealand, Nigeria/Ghana, Indonesia (to two different students), Austria, Pakistan, Ecuador, Argentina, respectively, were awarded the Myint Zan LLM prize. In the future, the excess funds could be used to support students from Southeast Asia who might wish to study at Michigan Law School.

The English poet Alfred Lord Tennyson, in his poem The Brook, wrote, ‘Men may come and men may go but I [the Brook] go on forever’. (Aside: Tennyson composed the poem in 1886, hence the use of – in some circles - politically incorrect ‘men’; perhaps he also meant or included women as well in the ‘comings and goings’). More than four generations of foreign students - at least several hundred - have studied and graduated from the Michigan Law LLM and postgraduate programmes. The beautiful Law Quadrangle at Michigan Law School would continue to welcome the current (2025) and future generations of students.

Myint Zan, LLM’82 (University of Michigan), taught law and law-related subjects from 1989 to 2016 at 9 Universities in Malaysia, Australia, the South Pacific and the United States.

NATIONAL

Solar panel market booms as businesses go solar

WITH businesses embracing solar energy, domestic solar sales are robust and significantly growing in the Yangon market.

Earlier, solar for households was primarily installed. At present, many businesses such as workshops, factories, hospitals, and mini-markets are moving towards solar energy.

“The commercial solar installation is significantly increasing. Solar panels with high efficiency are systematically installed for commercial use beyond solar lights. The demand is spiking. Traders are managing inventory amid supply chain disruption,” said a representative of a solar panel shop in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region.

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises are linking with bank instalments to equip their businesses with solar power. MSMEs mostly install solar panels to generate five kilowatts to one megawatt. — ASH/KK



A business is seen installing solar panels.

Charity drive provides supplies to nuns in Mingaladon Township

ACADEMY Khant Si Thu said that his family donated alms rice, cooking oil, and foodstuffs to nuns residing at the Chan Myay Yadana (Parahita) Nunnery in Mingaladon Township, Yangon Region, on 14 September.

The family of Academy Khant Si Thu offered day meals and donated alms rice, oil, and various provisions to seventy nuns who reside at the Chan Myay Yadana (Parahita) Nunnery in Mingaladon Township.

“We made this offering of day meals and donations for the seventy nuns residing at the Chan Myay Yadana (Parahita) Nunnery in Mingaladon Township, as they have been facing difficulties with daily alms. We donated five 24-four-pyi bags of rice, five visses of oil, ten visses of fish paste, ten visses of onions, beans, tamarind, curry powder, tea leaves, household medicines, slippers, ceramic plates, packets of dried noodles, various snacks, and monetary donations,” said Academy Khant Si Thu.

Similarly, on 16 August, Academy Khant Si Thu, together with charitable donors, also provided support at a training school for the girls of various ethnic



Academy Khant Si Thu and family making offerings and donations to nuns.

nationalities in Mayangon Township, Yangon Region. They served lunch, ice cream, and cakes, and donated rice, oil, medicine, onions, potatoes, curry powder, slippers, packets of dried noodles, assorted snacks, clothes, household goods, and monetary contributions. — ASH/KNN

‘Achit Kyainsar’ starts shooting at Yangon’s Kyaikkasan Pagoda

THE opening ceremony for the filming of the Myanmar feature film ‘Achit Kyainsar’ (The Love Curse) was held on the morning of 14 September at Kyaikkasan Pagoda in Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region, according to actor Zaw Shine Htet, who will play a leading role in the movie.

The story and screenplay were written by May Thu Htun, while Min Sanay will direct the film for Verden Production.

“This is the very first major film of my career, and I was so excited that I could hardly sleep last night. Since both the story and the script were written by my sister, May Thu Htun, I was truly delighted when I was offered the chance to take part in the film. I even shed tears while reading the script. The meaning behind the curse, ‘Because I love you too much,



This photo shows the opening ceremony for the filming of ‘Achit Kyainsar’.

may we be apart in every life to come,’ will be revealed when the film is released,” said actor Zaw Shine Htet.

The cast of ‘Achit Kyainsar’ includes Zaw Shine Htet, May Thu Htun, Thura Hein, Aye Thida, Chaw Su Hlaing, Theingi Myint, Win Myat Myat Phyto, Mi Mi Thein, Kyaw Soe Hein, and child actor Htaik Teza Aung, among others. — ASH/MKKS

‘Longing for Cherry Land’ music concert set for 18 Sept



This image showcases a promotional poster for Sung Tin Par's concert ‘Longing for Cherry Land’.

SINGER Sung Tin Par will hold a music concert titled ‘Longing for Cherry Land’ at ParGyi Bar & Restaurant in Thakayta Township, Yangon Region, on 18 September, according to the singer.

“At this solo concert, I will be performing selected songs related to the highlands. I warmly invite everyone to come and enjoy the show,” said Sung Tin Par.

The concert will begin at 6 pm and will be supported by the well-known Old Flame Band, which will provide musical backing. — ASH/MKKS

WORLD

India, US to hold trade talks amid tariff storm

INDIA and the United States are set to hold trade discussions in the capital New Delhi on Tuesday, officials and Indian media reports said, as the two countries seek to resolve a tariff row.

The world's most populous country currently faces steep US tariffs on most of its exports and has so far failed to clinch a trade deal that will ease this burden.

US President Donald Trump's decision to bump up tariffs on India to 50 per cent last month in retaliation for New Delhi's continued purchases of Russian oil as he seeks to pressure Moscow over the war in Ukraine has also strained ties between the two nations.

But despite the diplomatic chill, the leaders of both countries said recently that they remain committed to continuing negotiations.

Officials will hold in-person discussions on trade on Tuesday, The Indian Express newspaper reported, citing remarks made

by commerce ministry official Rajesh Agarwal at a briefing on Monday.

Broadcaster NDTV said Brendan Lynch, assistant trade representative for South and Central Asia, will be part of the US delegation and noted that the talks would merely be a "precursor" to an eventual full-fledged round of negotiations.

The discussions come a week after Trump announced that talks would continue between New Delhi and Washington to address trade barriers.

"I feel certain that there will be no difficulty in coming to a successful conclusion for both of our Great Countries!," he said in a post on his Truth Social platform last week, without offering further details. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in response, said the two nations were "close friends and natural partners" and that teams were working to conclude discussions "at the earliest". — AFP

Lancang-Mekong ministerial meeting calls for enhanced law enforcement, security cooperation

A Lancang-Mekong ministerial meeting on law enforcement and security cooperation was held in Beijing on Monday, with participants agreeing to enhance law enforcement and security cooperation.

The meeting was chaired by Chinese State Councilor and Minister of Public Security Wang Xiaohong.

Noting this year marks the 10th anniversary of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC) mechanism, Wang said in a keynote speech that in recent years law enforcement departments of LMC countries have earnestly implemented the consensus reached at the LMC leaders' meetings, jointly safeguarded regional security and stability, and achieved a series of cooperative outcomes, delivering tangible benefits to the people of all LMC countries.

Wang called on all parties to implement the Global Security Initiative and the Global

Governance Initiative, improve the framework for regional security governance, crack down on transnational crimes such as telecom and online fraud, and fully support the development of the Lancang-Mekong Integrated Law Enforcement and Security Cooperation Centre.

He stressed the need to jointly enhance law enforcement capabilities, promote security through cooperation and ensure development through security, and work together to build a Lancang-Mekong community that goes through thick and thin together and works together with one heart to advance the building of a Lancang-Mekong community with a shared future.

Heads of delegations from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam said they will actively implement the outcomes of the meeting and further advance law enforcement and security cooperation in the Lancang-Mekong region. — Xinhua



This undated photo shows part of the restoration site of the Chorm Temple in Siem Reap province, Cambodia. **PHOTO: ANA/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

Restoration of Chorm Temple in Cambodia's Angkor complex nears completion

THE restoration of the centuries-old Chorm Temple in northwest Cambodia's Angkor Archaeological Park is nearing completion, the APSARA National Authority (ANA) said in a news release on Monday.

Located in the Preah Pithu Temple complex within the former Angkor Thom capital, Chorm Temple has undergone major restoration work since 2019 and is expected to be completed in December 2025, the news release said.

The project has been a collaboration between Cambodian and South Korean specialists, including architects, archaeologists, and skilled restoration workers.

ANA architect Thai Yamang said Cambodian experts have actively contributed to various tasks, including preparing layouts before and after restoration, identifying and collecting scattered stones, and reassembling them into the structure.

"To date, more than 200 stones have already been restored and reintegrated, with ongoing efforts to recover additional missing pieces," he said.

Eo Jin-kyu, architect and head of the restoration project, said the temple had been in a highly dilapidated state prior to the restoration.

"Experts decided to completely dismantle the temple in order to strengthen its foundation and rebuild it step by step," he said. — Xinhua

"The Pitt", "The Studio" win top prizes at 77th Primetime Emmy Awards

APPLE TV+ comedy "The Studio" made Emmy history Sunday while hospital drama "The Pitt" captured the top drama prize, capping a tightly fought awards night that mixed expected wins

with dark-horse surprises.

"The Studio" won the Emmy for outstanding comedy series, becoming the most awarded comedy in a single season, with 13 trophies across the main telecast and last weekend's Creative Arts ceremonies.

Its co-creator, Seth Rogen, added wins for acting, writing and directing. The show had tied the all-time nominations mark for a comedy in a single year with 23.

In drama, "The Pitt" won outstanding series. Noah Wyle earned his first Emmy for lead actor, and Katherine LaNasa won supporting actress. Britt Lower of the series "Severance" took lead actress, and Tramell Tillman of the same series won supporting actor. Tillman became the first Black man to win best supporting actor in a drama series. — Xinhua



British actor James Callis arrives for Apple TV+'s Primetime Emmy Party in West Hollywood, California, on 14 September 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

ECONOMY
WORLD

Chinese, US teams reconvene
for 2nd day of economic, trade
talks in Madrid



The Chinese and US delegations hold talks on economic and trade issues in Madrid, Spain, 14 September 2025. The Chinese and US delegations reconvened on Monday for the second day of their talks on economic and trade issues. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

THE Chinese and US delegations reconvened on Monday for the second day of their talks on economic and trade issues.

On Sunday, the two teams conducted their first day of talks at the Santa Cruz Palace that

houses the Spanish Foreign Ministry.

According to a spokesperson for China’s Ministry of Commerce, the two sides will discuss issues such as the US unilateral tariff measures, the abuse of export controls and TikTok. — Xinhua

Vietnam proposes imposing personal
income tax on gold trading

THE Vietnamese government has proposed imposing personal income tax on gold trading to improve market transparency and curb speculation, the local daily Kinh Te & Do Thi reported Monday.

The move came in response to recent sharp fluctuations in domestic gold prices.

Saigon Jewelry Company gold bars were sold at a record high of more than 135 million

Vietnamese dong (US\$5,118) per tael, 20 million dong (some \$758) higher than global prices, according to the report.

Last week, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh instructed the State Bank of Vietnam to strengthen inspections and strictly deal with market manipulation and hoarding aimed at pushing up prices and illegal trading activities that destabilize the gold market. — Xinhua

Malaysia’s largest island
state aims to be region’s
‘green battery’

MALAYSIA’S verdant, river-crossed state of Sarawak is charging ahead with plans to become a regional “green battery,” but its renewable energy dreams could come at serious environmental cost, experts warn.

Wedge between peninsular Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and the Philippines, Sarawak’s leadership believes it could become a keystone in a regional energy transition.

Its many rivers and streams offer potentially abundant hydro-electricity and could one day power production of green hydrogen.

It is also installing solar and touting biomass to grow its renewable capacity, with Premier Abang Johari Tun Openg telling investors in Europe last week the state is “committed to a low-carbon and sustainable energy future”.

But environmental groups warn much of this green energy infrastructure contributes to deforestation and the displacement

of Indigenous groups.

And for now, Sarawak’s main export is a fossil fuel: liquefied natural gas.

Harnessing hydro power

Sarawak began generating hydroelectricity several decades ago, and is currently building a fourth hydro-power plant.

They currently account for around 3,500 megawatts — enough to light about two to three million Southeast Asian households daily.

Its first floating solar field is already producing around 50 megawatts, and more than a dozen others are planned, Chen Shiun, senior vice president of Sarawak Energy Corporation, told AFP.

With a population of fewer than three million, the huge potential energy surplus is obvious, he said.

By 2030, Sarawak aims to generate around 10,000 megawatts, mostly from hydropower, with solar and natural gas contributing. — AFP



This picture taken on 20 June 2025 shows a logo of Sarawak Energy at an electric vehicle (EV) charging station in Kuching on the island of Borneo. **PHOTO: AFP**

Chinese economy sustains stable performance in Aug



A consumer buys condiments at a supermarket in Zaozhuang, east China’s Shandong Province, 10 September 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

CHINA’S economy maintained its steady momentum in August despite external uncertainties, with solid progress continuing to be made in high-quality development, official data showed Monday.

The country has witnessed steady advancement in economic operation, with growth rates of major indicators such as production, retail sales and employment for the January-August period all broadly in line with that of the first

seven months of 2025, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

Domestic demand continued to expand, the NBS said. In the first eight months of 2025, retail sales of consumer goods rose 4.6 per cent from a year earlier, while service consumption, such as tourism and live performances, was particularly active. In the January-August period, service retail sales grew by 5.1 per cent — faster than that of goods.

In the industrial sector, the value-added output of major industrial enterprises rose by 5.2 per cent year on year in August. The manufacturing sector performed well, recording a 5.7-per cent increase in value-added output. Fu Linghui, a spokesperson with the NBS, said with artificial intelligence thriving and digital empowerment accelerating — rapid expansion has been witnessed in relevant sectors. — Xinhua

Toyota launches box-shaped e-Palette compact electric bus in Japan

TOYOTA Motor Corp said Monday it has launched the box-shaped e-Palette compact electric bus in Japan that can be used not only for transportation but also as a mobile store or service space.

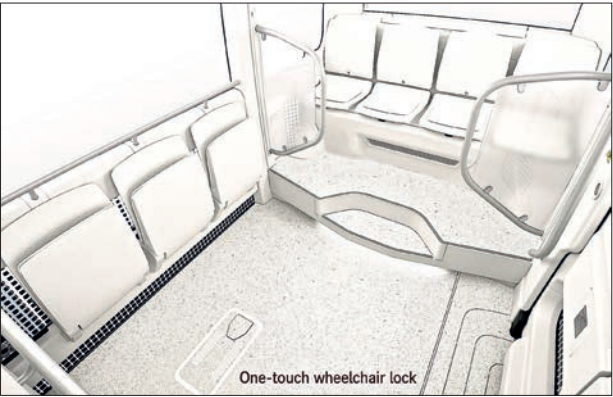
The starting price for the battery-powered bus with capacity for 17 people, including a driver, and maximum speed of 80 kilometres per hour, is set at 29 million yen (\$197,000).

In the six-tier evaluation scale for vehicular autonomy, the e-Palette is capable of Level 2, or partial automation, in which a vehicle is able to steer

and accelerate itself but human intervention is still possible.

Toyota aims to install Level 4 automation, or a situation where vehicles perform all tasks under specific circumstances, in the new EV model by March 2028.

Featuring spacious interiors, large windows, a low floor and wide sliding doors that allow easy boarding and exit even for wheelchair users, the vehicle was widely used for transporting athletes at the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics held in summer 2021. — Kyodo



The interior of Toyota Motor Corp's e-Palette is pictured. (Photo courtesy of Toyota Motor Corp) PHOTO: KYODO

Cambodia's trade with RCEP countries surpasses US\$26 bln in first 8 months of 2025

CAMBODIA'S trade with the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) member countries amounted to US\$26.35 billion in the first eight months of 2025, up 15 per cent over the same period last year, said an official report on Monday.

The country's export to fellow RCEP member countries was valued at \$6.63 billion during the January-August period this year, up 9.5 per cent from \$6.05 billion over the same period last year, said the report compiled by the Ministry of Commerce.

Meanwhile, the kingdom's imports from the RCEP member countries hit \$19.72 billion, up 16.9 per cent from \$16.87 billion, the report added.

The report indicated that the RCEP is a major market for Cambodia, accounting for 61.5 per cent of the kingdom's total trade volume of \$42.8 bil-



An aerial drone photo taken on 11 September 2024 shows a container terminal at the Sihanoukville Autonomous Port (PAS) in Sihanoukville, Cambodia. PHOTO: XINHUA

lion during the first eight months this year.

Cambodia's top five trading partners under the RCEP are China, Vietnam, Thailand, Japan, and Singapore.

The RCEP comprises 15 Asia-Pacific countries, including 10 ASEAN member states — Brunei, Cambodia, In-

donesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam -- and their five trading partners, namely China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and New Zealand.

Cambodian Ministry of Commerce's Secretary of State and Spokesperson Penn Sovicheat said

RCEP, the world's largest free trade pact, has played a crucial role in boosting global trade amidst the United States' tariff hikes.

"The RCEP is a catalyst for long-term export growth and a magnet to attract more foreign direct investment to Cambodia," he told Xinhua recently. — Xinhua

India's wholesale inflation rises to 0.52% in August

INDIA'S wholesale price index (WPI) rose to 0.52 per cent in August, data released by the federal

Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Monday said.

The wholesale inflation turned positive in

August after remaining negative in the past two months. The August figure marks a four-month

high.

"Positive rate of inflation in August 2025 is primarily due to increase

in prices of food products, other manufacturing, non-food articles, other non-metallic min-

eral products and other transport equipment, etc.," reads a statement issued by the ministry. — Xinhua

Major Australian bank hit with record fine for widespread misconduct

ONE of Australia's "big four" banks has been hit with a record-breaking fine after admitting to engaging in widespread misconduct.

The Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) on Monday announced that the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ) has agreed to pay 240 million Australian

dollars (US\$159.5 million) in penalties in relation to four separate investigations spanning the bank's institutional and retail divisions.

ASIC said that ANZ, Australia's fourth-largest bank by market capitalization, admitted to engaging in unconscionable conduct in dealings with the federal government by incorrectly reporting trading data re-

lating to its management of a 14 billion Australian dollars (US\$9.3 billion) bond deal.

Additionally, it said the bank engaged in widespread misconduct across products and services impacting nearly 65,000 customers, including failing to refund fees charged to dead customers.

ASIC said the agreed settlement, which is sub-

ject to approval by the Federal Court, is made up of a 125 million Australian dollars (US\$83.1 million) fine for the institutional and markets matters and a 115 million Australian dollars (US\$76.4 million) penalty for the retail matters.

"Time and time again, ANZ betrayed the trust of Australians," ASIC Chairman Joe Longo said in a statement. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V DONG MINH VOY.NO. (2512)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V DONG MINH VOY.NO. (2512)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **16-9-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MKH** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S WILSELMSEN PORT SERVICES(S) PTE LTD

WORLD

PM Modi's address to SCO 2025: Security, Connectivity, Opportunity

TO confine the aspirations of the Global South to outdated frameworks is to deny justice to future generations. The SCO can play a guiding role in promoting multilateralism and an inclusive world order

I am pleased to participate in the 25th SCO summit. I extend my sincere gratitude to President Xi for the warm welcome and gracious hospitality.

Today marks Uzbekistan's Independence Day, and yesterday was the National Day of Kyrgyzstan. On this occasion, I extend my congratulations and best wishes to both leaders.

Over the past 24 years, the SCO has played a vital role in connecting the extended family across the Eurasian region. As an active member, India has always contributed in a constructive and positive manner.

India's vision and policy towards the SCO are built on three key pillars: S — Security. C — Connectivity. O — Opportunity.

On the first pillar, I would like to emphasize that security, peace, and stability form the foundation of any nation's development. However, terrorism, separatism, and extremism remain major challenges along this path.

Terrorism is not only a threat to the security of individual nations but a shared challenge to all of humanity. No country, no society, no citizen can consider themselves completely safe from it. That is why India has consistently stressed the importance of unity in the fight against terrorism.

The SCO-RATS has played a very significant role in this regard. This year, while leading the Joint Information Operation, India undertook an initiative to counter al-Qaeda and its affiliated terrorist organizations. We have also proposed enhanced coordination, and joint measures against radicalization.

We have raised our voice firmly against terror financing, and I sincerely thank all of you for the support extended in this effort.

For the past four decades, India has been bearing the grave scars of ruthless



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks during the 25th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) at the Meijiang Convention and Exhibition Center in Tianjin, north China, 1 September 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

terrorism. Countless mothers have lost their children, and innumerable children have been left orphaned.

Recently, we witnessed the most heinous face of terrorism in Pahalgam. I express my deep gratitude to all the friendly nations that stood by us during this moment of grief. This attack was not only an assault on the conscience of India, but also an open challenge to every nation and every individual who believes in humanity.

In such circumstances, it is natural to ask: Can the open support for terrorism by certain countries ever be acceptable to us?

We must state it clearly and in one voice: Double standards on terrorism are unacceptable. Together, we must oppose terrorism in every form and manifestation. This is our responsibility towards humanity.

I would now like to share my thoughts on the second pillar, connectivity. India has always believed that strong connectivity does not merely facilitate trade but also opens the doors to trust and development.

It is with this vision that we are work-

ing on initiatives such as the Chabahar Port and the International North-South Transport Corridor. Through these, we can enhance our linkages with Afghanistan and Central Asia.

We believe that every effort towards connectivity must uphold the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity. This is also enshrined in the core principles of the SCO charter.

Connectivity that bypasses sovereignty ultimately loses both trust and meaning.

The third pillar is opportunity — opportunity for cooperation and reform.

In 2023, under India's presidency, the SCO witnessed fresh energy and ideas. New areas of cooperation were introduced, including start-ups and innovation, traditional medicine, youth empowerment, digital inclusion, and our shared Buddhist heritage.

Our effort was to take the SCO beyond governments. To connect people, young scientists, scholars, and start-ups as well.

Today, I would like to propose another step to strengthen our people-to-people ties: The creation of a civilizational dia-

logue forum under the SCO. Such a platform will allow us to share the richness of our ancient civilizations, art, literature, and traditions on a global stage.

Today, India is advancing with the motto of Reform, Perform, and Transform. From the Covid crisis to global economic uncertainties, we have endeavoured to convert challenges into opportunities.

We are consistently pursuing wide-ranging reforms, which are creating new opportunities for both national development and international cooperation. I warmly invite you all to be a part of India's development journey.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that the SCO is evolving with time. Four new centres are being established to address contemporary challenges such as organized crime, drug trafficking, and cybersecurity. We welcome this reform-oriented approach.

SCO members can increase mutual cooperation for reforms in global institutions. On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the United Nations, we can unanimously call for UN reform.

To confine the aspirations of the Global South to outdated frameworks is to deny justice to future generations. The colourful dreams of the new generation cannot be displayed on a black-and-white screen. It is time to change the screen.

The SCO can play a guiding role in promoting multilateralism and an inclusive world order. I welcome the issuance of a statement on this important subject today.

We are moving forward in close coordination and cooperation with all partners. I extend my best wishes to the next Chairman of the SCO, the President of Kyrgyzstan, and my friend, President Japarov.

Thank you very much.

(The writer is the Prime Minister of India. This is the English translation of his statement during the 25th SCO summit)

(Views expressed in the speech belong solely to the author.)

UN nuclear watchdog urges implementation of new deal with Iran

THE UN atomic watchdog's chief called Monday for the implementation of a co-operation framework it struck last week with Iran, saying it was essential to "restore confidence" after the agency's work was halted.

Iran agreed to the deal with the International Atomic Energy Agency

(IAEA) in Cairo, after it suspended co-operation following its war with Israel in June.

The 12-day war saw Israeli and US strikes on key Iranian nuclear facilities, which IAEA inspectors have not been able to access since.

Addressing the opening day of the

agency's annual General Conference, IAEA chief Rafael Grossi said it was now to implement the deal "to restore confidence" and allow the agency "to continue our work in spite of all these difficulties".

"Now it's up to... Iran and us to implement" the deal that "summarises the technical measures, the practical steps

that we need... to resume this indispensable work in Iran," Grossi said in his speech.

Tehran has said the new framework grants access to UN nuclear inspectors only after approval by its Supreme National Security Council, Iran's top security body. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar men’s futsal team resumes training for Asian Cup qualifiers

MYANMAR men’s futsal team has been in the training camp since 15 September to prepare for the 2026 Asian Futsal Championship qualifiers.

After competing in the China Invitational Futsal Tournament held from 5 to 11 September, the Myanmar futsal team has resumed their training since the morning of 15 September in Yangon. The head coach of Myanmar’s national futsal team, Thai national Pattaya Piemkum, took 18 players to the

China Invitational Tournament, of which three players were reduced, and 15 are currently training with the team.

Myanmar has been placed in Group H alongside Afghanistan and the Maldives. The group stage matches will be hosted in Myanmar, with the national team facing the Maldives on 22 September and Afghanistan on 24 September. Afghanistan and the Maldives will also meet on 20 September. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



This photo captures the Myanmar men’s futsal team during a training session. PHOTO: MFF

MNL U21 League: Falcon, Dagon Port secure wins on second day of Marches 20



Shan United versus ISPE in action. PHOTO: MNL

THE Myanmar National League (MNL) U21 League continued with the second day of matches 20 on 15 September, with Falcon and Dagon Port winning and a draw match of Shan United and ISPE.

At the Yangon United Sports Complex, Shan United drew 1-1 with Institute of Sports and Physical Education FC.

The result of this match proved costly for both teams. Defending champion Shan United have now fallen five points behind league leaders Dagon Star, having played a match more, while second-placed

ISPE will also have to fight hard for the championship title. The defending champion missed the chance to overtake ISPE as an equalizer from Saw Aung Myo Oo at 79 minutes, and denied them victory after scoring a goal for Shan United by Khun Myint Swe at 35 minutes.

At Thanlyin Thihadipa Ground, Falcon FC (aka) Myanmar National U19 edged past Yangon United FC with a narrow 1-0 win thanks to a 68th-minute goal from Sai Myat Min.

At the Bahan artificial turf football ground, Dagon Port team

claimed a 2-1 win over Rakhine United. Goals came from Thein Than Soe from Dagon Port at 19 and 47 minutes, while Naing Lin Htut pulled one back for Rakhine United in 41 minutes.

The third day of matches 20 will take place today at Thanlyin Thihadipa Ground, between Hanthawady United and Ayeyawady United. At the Bahan Artificial Turf ground, Maha United will face Yadanabon FC. And the Junior Lion team and Dagon Star United will compete at YUSC. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

China’s 16-year-old Peng smashes world record to win gold at ISSF World Cup in Ningbo

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD Peng Xinlu stunned the shooting world on Sunday by breaking both the world and junior records to win the women’s 10-metre air rifle title at the ISSF World Cup in Ningbo.

Peng fired 255.3 points in the final, surpassing the previous world mark of 254.8 set by compatriot Wang Zifei at the Lima World Cup in April.

It was the teenager’s second medal in Ningbo, her first World Cup appearance. Earlier in the week, she paired with Olympic champion Sheng Lihao to win silver in the mixed team event after setting a new qualification world record of 636.9. “I’ll try to improve in the future, hoping

to get even better results,” Peng said after her victory, also thanking the home crowd for their support.

Norway’s Jeanette Hegg took silver with 252.6, while India’s Meghana Sajjanar claimed bronze on 230.0. Duestad, who had earlier beaten Peng and Sheng to win mixed team gold with Jon-Hermann Hegg, praised the young Chinese prodigy. “It was a great final and she was shooting amazing. I was behind her in qualification and had no chance (in the final). She was really, really good,” the 26-year-old said. — Xinhua

Peng celebrates after winning the final. PHOTO: ISSF



Mbappe not anxious over Champions League wait: Alonso

REAL Madrid coach Xabi Alonso said Monday superstar striker Kylian Mbappe feels no anxiety to win the Champions League for the first time as Los Blancos prepare to face Marseille.

Mbappe, 26, left Paris Saint-Germain last summer to join record 15-time winners Madrid, only to see his former club go on to lift the trophy for the first time in their history.

“He’s not anxious, we all feel this is a project that’s just starting,” Alonso told a news conference ahead of Tuesday’s opening match at the Santiago Bernabeu.

“One of the objectives is to win the Champions League hopefully sooner rather than later; Kylian is part of the path to getting there, but I don’t think he’s anxious.

“Today we spoke about what the Champions League means, but we were

not talking about May (and the final), we were talking about the near future.”

Mbappe faced his former club PSG for the first time at the Club World Cup this summer, with Madrid thrashed 4-0 in the semifinals.

However the striker was not fully fit at the tournament in the United States because of a stomach bug and has hit the ground running with four goals in four La Liga games this season.

“Gastroenteritis meant it was Kylian ‘lite’ at the Club World Cup,” said Alonso.

“Without doubt (he’s a leader), for his personality, experience, the influence he has on the others, he’s one of them.” Real Madrid have won six of the last 12 Champions Leagues but Alonso said he did not feel extra pressure because of the club’s rich history in the competition. — AFP



Rising oceans to threaten 1.5 million Australians by 2050: report

RISING oceans and flooding caused by climate change will threaten the homes and livelihoods of more than a million Australians by 2050, while deaths from heat-related illness will soar, a landmark report warned Monday ahead of Canberra's release of emission reduction targets this week.

The long-awaited national climate risk assessment found that rising temperatures will have "cascading, compounding, concurrent" impacts on life in Australia, home to more than 27 million people.

"We are living climate change now. It's no longer a forecast, a projection or prediction -- it is a live reality, and it's too late to avoid any impacts," Climate Minister Chris Bowen said.

The report, prepared independently for the government, found that 1.5 million people living in coastal areas will be at

risk of sea level rise and coastal flooding by 2050.

By 2090, about three million people will be at risk from rising oceans.

Sea level rises pose a significant threat to homes, livelihoods, and cultural connections -- particularly in locations such as the Torres Strait Islands, the report said.

Scattered through the warm waters off Australia's northernmost tip, the sparsely populated islands are threatened by seas rising much faster than the global average.

Joanne Hill, community engagement coordinator at Edith Cowan University and an Indigenous woman, said in response to the report "we cannot delay this emergency response anymore".

"Our coastal and island communities, particularly the Torres Strait Islands, are at immediate risk of losing their



(FILES) A file photo taken on 9 March 2025 shows a general view of erosion at Miami Beach after the sand was washed away during Tropical Cyclone Alfred on the Gold Coast. **PHOTO: AFP**

homes, their cultural practices and traditions if we do not do anything now," Hill said.

Monday's report comes as Australia is set to release its next round of emissions reduction tar-

gets in the coming week, a key obligation under the landmark Paris climate agreement. — AFP

Japan aims to scale energy-producing artificial photosynthesis by 2040



Environment Minister Keiichiro Asao speaks at a news conference in Tokyo on 2 September 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**

JAPAN has drawn up a plan to scale up artificial photosynthesis technology by 2040, aiming to convert carbon dioxide into fuel, as part of its decarbonization efforts.

While the government works to minimize CO2 emissions to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, it hopes to also use CO2 as a "resource," along with water and sunlight, to produce energy through the next-generation technology that mimics natural photosynthesis.

Artificial photosynthesis involves two key processes -- splitting water and CO2 using electricity and inducing chemical reactions with light -- though the technology remains unproven at scale.

Under the road map compiled in early September, the Environment Ministry plans to further develop the technology over the next five years, with the process of splitting water and CO2 expected to be realized by 2030. — Kyodo

S Korea issues quarantine alert over reported African swine fever case

SOUTH KOREA issued a quarantine alert over the reported case of the African swine fever (ASF), the interior ministry said Monday.

The ASF case was confirmed on Sunday night at a pig farm in Yeoncheon county, Gyeonggi province, according to the Ministry of the Interior and Safety.

It marked the fifth case this year, with the previous one reported in July. The quarantine authorities issued a red alert across the country, giving a 48-hour standstill order for pig farms and relevant facilities in Yeoncheon and surrounding areas until 8:00 pm local time (1100 GMT) on Tuesday. The authorities sent a quarantine team to strengthen disinfection around and control access to the Yeoncheon pig farm while culling the affected pigs. — Xinhua

First 3 ministers of Nepal's interim govt sworn in

NEPALI President Ram Chandra Poudel on Monday administered the oath of office to the first three ministers of the newly-formed interim government.

The televised ceremony took place at the Office of the President in Kathmandu. Ramesh Prasad Khanal, former finance secretary, was sworn in as minister for finance, while Kulman Ghising, former managing director of the Nepal Electricity Authority, shall be in charge of the Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation, Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport as well as Ministry of Urban Development.

Om Prakash Aryal, a lawyer who previously served as a legal advisor to the Kathmandu mayor, shall head the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

Sushila Karki, a former chief justice, was named as the prime minister of the interim government on Friday evening after KP Sharma Oli stepped down as prime minister on 9 September over deadly protests in Kathmandu and other parts of the country. A fresh general election in Nepal has been set for 5 March 2026. — Xinhua