

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.

Ideal soil and water conditions poise PyinOoLwin for growth as a city of flowers

High-quality flower species from other regions should be trialled in PyinOoLwin Township to assess their ability to bloom and flourish under local conditions.

ACTING President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung and the commander of Central Command, inspected the maintenance of the National Kandawgyi Garden in PyinOoLwin yesterday morning.

At the briefing hall, the Senior General heard reports on the accomplishment of his guidance on his inspection tour on 3 October 2025, preparations to hold the 18th flower festival of the garden on a grand scale, growing of flowers, and plans to stage the music shows.

In giving guidance, the Senior General said that PyinOoLwin city should become a "City of Flowers", and efforts must be made to successfully develop



Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing is pictured during his inspection tours around the National Kandawgyi Garden in PyinOoLwin yesterday.

both local flower varieties and foreign flower species so they can be distributed to other regions. In addition, since flowers can also be exported to foreign countries, flower cultivation within the PyinOoLwin area must be encouraged. The region's favourable soil and water conditions should be effectively utilized to develop features befitting a City of Flowers. To further advance flower cultivation and production in PyinOoLwin, systematic efforts must continue with the involvement of skilled experts. Relevant research teams are required to preserve local flower varieties and work to improve their colours, scents and overall quality. At the same time, high-quality flower species from other regions should be tested to

SEE PAGE 3

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.

အပြစ်မရှိစွာ အတိတ်ကို သိမှတ်စေရန်၊ အတိတ်ကို ဖျက်ဆီးပစ်ရန်၊ လူငယ်များနှင့် လက်ချင်းဆက်ကြပါစို့။

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UNITED AGAINST CORRUPTION

“Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow's Integrity”

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Heads of Service Organizations confirmed

THE National Defence and Security Council has confirmed the appointment of the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against each of their names after the one-year probationary period.

| Name | Appointment |
|----------------------|---|
| (1) U Zaw Hein | Director-General Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office |
| (2) Dr Than Than Win | Rector University of Monywa Department of Higher Education Ministry of Education |

Depression News, No 19, 2025

Issued at 4 pm MST on 2 December 2025

Depression Condition

According to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, the Depression over the southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining the West-central Bay, north Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and South Andhra Pradesh coasts (India) has moved south-southwestwards and it is centred at about 765 nautical miles West of Coco Island (Myanmar), 65 nautical miles north-northeast of Puducherry (India) and 20 nautical miles southeast of Chennai (India).

It does not intend to move towards Myanmar coasts at the present stage and therefore the Depression is coded as yellow stage.

Position of Depression, centre pressure and wind

The Depression is located at Latitude 12.8 degree north and Longitude 80.4 degree East, centre pressure of Depression is 1004 hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is 35 miles per hour at 3:30 pm MST today.

Next 24 hours forecast

It is likely to move slowly southwestwards towards the North Tamil Nadu-Puducherry coasts, India and weaken gradually into a Well-Marked low-pressure area. — DMH

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

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

SSPC Chair & Defence Services C-in-C Senior General Min Aung Hlaing reviews construction of War Veterans' Housing in PyinOoLwin

CHAIRMAN of the State Security and Peace Commission and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Htein Win, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Aung and officials, inspected progress in the construction of the war veteran housing in PyinOoLwin yesterday morning.

Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Zaw Hein reported to the Senior General on extended construction of war veteran housing in relevant financial years, settlement of war veterans and families, and work progress.

In his response to the reports, the Senior General gave guidance that it is necessary to systematically settle war veterans and their families in the completed housing. He stressed that it is necessary to supervise the construction of housing to be completed on time, meeting the standards. The housing estates must be facilitated with areas where people can take physical exercise to help their health. The construction of high-rise buildings must be calculated systematically to have resilience against natural disasters.

The Senior General and the party visited the war veteran housing compound. He cordially greeted the war veterans and their families and asked about their requirements.



State Security and Peace Commission Chairman and Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing warmly greets the war veterans and their families in the war veteran housing compound.

A total of 10 four-storey two-unit housing for other ranks, 10 six-storey four-unit housing for other ranks, three six-storey four-unit junior officer housing, and one six-storey four-unit senior officer housing have been built at the war veteran housing in PyinOoLwin. Plans are

underway to build housing for senior officers, junior officers and other ranks.

The Senior General also inspected functions of the railway station in PyinOoLwin, where Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Mya Tun Oo and officials reported on keep-

ing the station clean and pleasant, and removal of illegal residents and vendors from the station yard.

The Senior General gave guidance to carry out systematic management for the station and viewed around the station. — MNA/TTA

Ideal soil and water conditions poise PyinOoLwin ...

FROM PAGE 1

ensure they can successfully bloom and flourish locally. Not only in garden spaces, but also along the city's roads and within residential wards, trees and flowering plants should be cultivated to enhance the city's visual appeal. The Senior General stressed the need to increase

the forest coverage area in the southern part of PyinOoLwin.

The Senior General looked into the garden by car and inspected the arrangement for the muddy pavement, cultivation of trees and flower plants in the garden, and progress of the research plantations. The Senior General gave guidance

to officials that, as many people will be using the muddy walkway, durable and high-quality types of trees should be selected for planting and properly arranged to ensure strength and neatness. It is also necessary to systematically research local flower varieties to extend their plant lifespan and blooming period,

and to continue working to improve their blooming quality.

The Senior General inspected the circular road of the Kandawgyi Lake and fencing, and gave guidance to grow flower plants along the pavement, prioritizing the beautification and ensuring the safety of walkers.

In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, the pavement with seven feet in width was upgraded to a 12-foot-wide and 1,900-foot-long pavement with a fence. Hence, the people taking a leisurely walk along the circular road of the lake can enjoy safe walking. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

MoFA Union Minister attends Laos' 50th anniversary & 70-year bilateral ties event

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe attended a reception marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and Laos yesterday at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Yangon.

Ambassador Mr Bounphieng Chanthavong of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to Myanmar, his spouse, and other officials first warmly welcomed Union Minister U Than Swe and the guests attending the reception.

The ceremony then began with the playing of the national anthems of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The ambassador delivered a welcoming speech, and Union



Union Minister U Than Swe, the Laos's Ambassador and dignitaries pose for the documentary group photo at yesterday's event in Yangon.

Minister U Than Swe delivered a congratulatory speech.

The Union minister and the

ambassador cut a cake commemorating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's

Democratic Republic and the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between

Myanmar and Laos, and they posed for a group documentary photo with the guests attending the reception. Afterwards, the ambassador hosted a dinner for the attendees.

The reception was attended by State Security and Peace Commission Member and Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy, Air) General Kyaw Swa Lin and his wife, Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyaw Hoe, Union Minister for Commerce U Chit Swe, Union Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw Sein, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, the commander of the Yangon Command and his wife, the Yangon mayor, ambassadors from foreign embassies in Yangon, chargés d'affaires, UN resident representatives, and other invitees. — MNA/TH

MIFER Union Minister receives Russian Delegation of Fund RC-Investments



Union Minister Dr Wah Wah Maung holds talks with the delegation of the Fund RC-Investments from the Russian Federation.

DR Wah Wah Maung, Union Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations received the delegation led by Mr Sergey Shatirov, the Hon-

orary Consul of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Krasnogorsk with a Consular Zone including the Moscow Region, Supervisory Board Member of

the Roscongress Foundation and Coordinator of the Projects in Southeast Asia of the Fund RC-Investments at Office 1, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

Both sides cordially discussed and exchanged views on the progress of the current investment projects implemented by the Fund RC-Investments in Myanmar, and the work plan for further cooperation, including investment in the hotel and tourism sector.

The meeting was also attended by officials from the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, and a delegation of Fund RC-Investments from the Russian Federation. -- MIFER

Five-day basic mechanical training course scheduled

THE mechanical technical basic training programme, lectured by trainers from JUKI Company, has been planned to open, according to the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA).

The duration is from 16 to 20 December, and the location is the Myanmar Garment Human Resource Development Centre (MGHRDC).

It is suitable for mechan-

ics from garment factories, and the course will cover single needle machine, double needle machine, overlock 4-thread machine and control box system. The timetable is from 9 am to 4 pm, and the fee is K100,000.

More details can be requested at phone numbers 09 795405583 and 09 450723262, and the MGMA office located on Lower Mingaladon Road in Insein Township. — MT/ZS



A trainee at the mechanic technical basic training.

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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

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)



MoFA Union Minister receives Bangladeshi Ambassador

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe received Dr Md Monwar Hossain, Ambassador of Bangladesh, at the Pan Wah Guesthouse in Yangon on 2 December 2025.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on matters about the further advancement of bilateral relations and cooperation in areas of common interest. — MNA



Bangladeshi Ambassador Dr Md Monwar Hossain calls on Union Minister U Than Swe yesterday.

Myanmar delegation attends Seminar on AI Exchange with Myanmar

THE Myanmar delegation, led by the Deputy Minister for Science and Technology, who is also Chairman of the Innovation and Digital Promotion Working Committee, attended the first day of the Seminar on AI Exchange with Myanmar at Baise College in Baise, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China, yesterday.

At the seminar, the deputy minister and vice-permanent principal openly discussed establishment of future shared sustainable community through thick and thin strengthening the tradition of the Shwe Myo Pauk Phaw relations between China and Myanmar, accelerating China-Myanmar cooperation projects including the Belt and Road Initiative as this year marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of China-Myanmar diplomatic ties and coop-

eration in technological development and human resource development in sectors such as AI, EV, and Smart Agriculture. The two sides exchanged commemorative gifts.

During the “Theories and Practical Implementation of China’s Path to Modernization” talk show, Mr Yang Cong, vice-chairman of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Regional Committee on the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, discussed the historical background and key characteristics, such as inclusive development for all citizens, balanced physical and mental development, environmentally harmonious development, peaceful cooperation, and fundamental requirements of this approach. He explained that China’s GDP had increased by an annual average of 5.5 per cent from 2021 to 2024, leading to



Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya is pictured while attending the Seminar on AI Exchange with Myanmar in China yesterday.

China ranking tenth in the Global Innovation Index in 2025. He also highlighted achievements in social security, poverty alleviation, transitions toward green energy such as EVs and renew-

able energy, improvements in ecosystem and environmental quality, significant advances in domestic scientific innovation capability, and continuous improvements in citizens’ quality

of life. The Myanmar delegates asked questions regarding areas they wished to learn more about.

At noon, the deputy minister and party visited the college library and attended another dialogue.

At the event, Mr Zhao Zhigang, Deputy Secretary-General of the People’s Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China and Director-General of the China-ASEAN Information Harbour, discussed AI-related innovation, AI development in Guangxi, AI cooperation measures with Myanmar, establishment of national level AI model for Laos and Vietnam, as well as Indonesia, Malaysia, Cambodia, digitalization and AI-related measures.

The deputy minister also discussed measures to promote digitalization and AI technology. — MNA/KTZH

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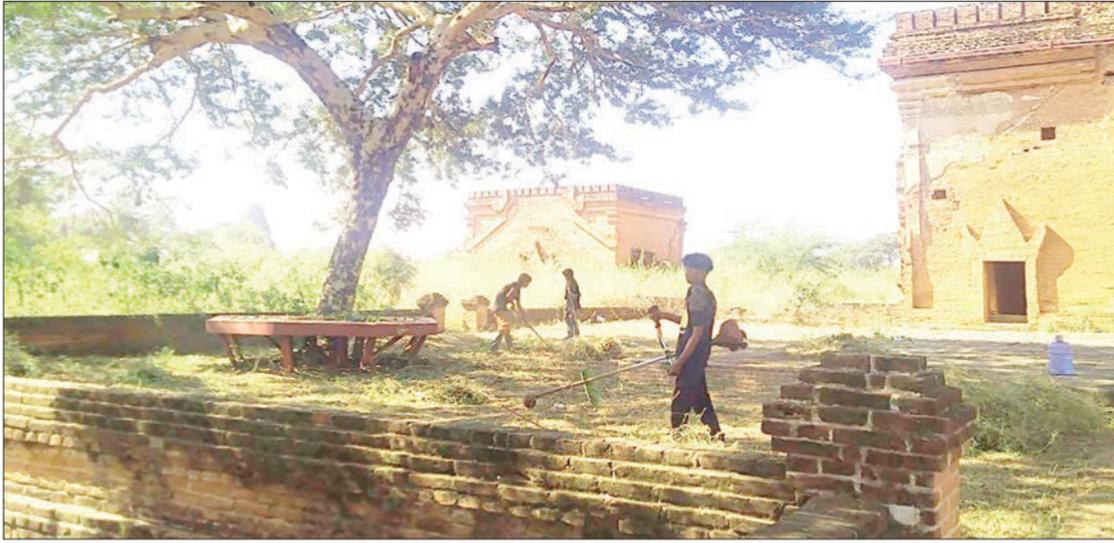
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NATIONAL

Vegetation cleared, and grouting work carried out on ancient Bagan pagodas



This image shows the Bagan Heritage Trust carrying out the chemical removal of vegetation on the ancient pagodas and grouting work.

THE Bagan Heritage Trust announced that the work involving the use of chemical solutions to kill trees growing on ancient pagodas, including the Myinkaba Gubyauk-nge, and subsequent grouting was carried out.

The Trust, in collaboration with the Department of Archaeology and National Museum, carried out the removal of trees, including banyan and various weeds, on Thitssawady, Shinpin Thantshin, Shwenanyindaw Okteik group, Nar Taung Tat, and Myinkaba Gubyauk-nge pagodas.

After the trees were killed,

the areas were sealed with mortar through grouting. The chairman and members of the Bagan Heritage Trust, as well as senior officials and experts from the department, participated in it. The Myinkaba Gubyauk-nge is a highly valuable pagoda, and murals and a sandstone carving depicting the Parinirvana of the Buddha were discovered in this pagoda, which are now displayed in the museum.

In November, the Trust, with the supervision of experts from the department, also carried out the chemical removal of trees in Bagan. — MT/ZN

MoRAC Deputy Minister leads delegation to ACHA meetings & cultural heritage visits in Chongqing

THE delegation led by Deputy Minister Daw Nu Mra Zan of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, which attended the second General Assembly and the third Council Meeting of the Alliance for Cultural Heritage in Asia, along with related exhibitions and programmes held in Chongqing, People's Republic of China, from 26 to 29 November, returned to Yangon by air on 29 November.

The meetings were held to enhance cooperation in the preservation and protection of cultural heritage and to strengthen friendship and mutual understanding among member countries.

During the trip, the deputy minister and her delegation arrived in Chongqing on 25 November and, at 10 am on 26 November, attended a meeting with Deputy Director-General Mr Xie Bing, representing China's National Cultural Heritage Administration and Executive Secretary-General of the Alliance for Cultural Heritage Conservation in Asia (ACHA), together with other responsible ACHA officials.

In the afternoon, the delegation visited the China Three Gorges Museum, where they viewed a special exhibition on the rock carvings of the Dazu



Deputy Minister Daw Nu Mra Zan speaks at the ACHA second General Assembly in China on 27 November 2025.

Rock Carvings World Heritage Site in Chongqing, as well as galleries displaying ancient artefacts unearthed during the construction of the Three Gorges (the area where the three rivers, including the Yangtze and the Yellow Rivers, converge). In the evening, the delegation joined representatives from other countries at a welcome dinner hosted by ACHA officials.

On the morning of 27 November, the second General Assembly of the Alliance for Cultural Heritage in Asia (ACHA) was held at Liangjiang Hall, Chongqing Yuelai Inter-

national Conference Centre in Chongqing. The meeting was chaired by Vice Minister Rao Quan of the Culture and Tourism of China, Administrator of the National Cultural Heritage Administration. Officials and representatives from 26 invited member countries attended, including the Deputy Minister of Myanmar and her delegation.

During the assembly, ACHA officials delivered opening remarks, followed by country-specific presentations. Representing Myanmar, the Deputy Minister reported on the preservation of Myanmar's cultur-

al heritage, as well as international cooperation efforts. She highlighted the memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed with the People's Republic of China to restore and protect the Thatbyinnyu Temple, and noted activities conducted under the Lancang-Mekong collaboration programme. These included art and painting seminars, marionette shows, and workshops on film and cinematography organised by the National University of Arts and Culture (Yangon/Mandalay) with financial support from China. The Deputy Minister also presented on the

documentation and recommendations made by Chinese experts regarding damage to Mandalay Palace, Inwa Museum, and various pagodas and stupas in the Mandalay and Inwa areas following the major Mandalay earthquake. Additionally, she made suggestions for establishing a network across Asia to support the preservation of cultural heritage throughout the continent.

The third Council Meeting of the Alliance for Cultural Heritage in Asia (ACHA) was held at 3 pm in Joy Hall, Chongqing Yuelai International Conference Centre. The meeting was presided over by ACHA Secretary-General Mr Kong Vireak and attended by officials from ACHA member countries, including the deputy minister of Myanmar and her delegation.

In the evening of 27 November, the ACHA delegates toured the Yangtze River on a pleasure cruise and enjoyed cultural performances, including a drone show showcasing Chinese heritage and traditional Chinese dance and art performances.

On 28 November, the delegation visited the Cultural Heritage sites in Dazu District in Chongqing, which feature the World Heritage-listed Dazu Rock Carvings. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

Both residents and authorities responsible for region's development

- ❖ Both the residents and those in leadership positions have responsibilities for the development of a region.
- ❖ Therefore, within the areas where they serve, they must do their utmost to implement development activities at the district and township levels.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting with departmental officials in Aunglan on 20 August 2025 to talk about regional development measures)

Mine blast wrecks Bagan-Kyaukpadaung railway



Images reveal the damage in the aftermath of the mine blast and ongoing repair work in action.

DURING the inspection on the Bagan-Kyaukpadaung railway route in Mandalay Region yesterday, the authorities found that the railway track between milepost 381/15-16 was destroyed due to the mine blast by terrorists.

Therefore, the route between Sude and Taung Zin railway stations was temporarily suspended. Regional officials and security forces members proceeded to the site promptly for inspection. The MR staff repaired the damage to reopen the railway section as quickly

as possible, and the railway section was reopened on the same afternoon.

Since February 2021, terrorist groups have been perpetrating 83 mining attacks and explosions within railway areas and stations, 179 blasts on railway bridges, and 16 instances of blazing stations and employee housing. Their terrorist acts aimed at destabilizing the rule of law and endangering the safety of travellers drew widespread condemnation from the public. — MNA/KTZH

Buildings linked to online scam hub razed, area sealed off

THE government continues to conduct joint operations in the Shwe Kokko area and the KK Park area, where suspects commit telecom fraud and online gambling activities. The combined teams comprising security personnel and administrative bodies are involved in these operations, which include entering the areas, dismantling and removing illegal buildings, and taking further action in accordance with the law.

In wiping off telecom fraud and online gambling activities, buildings used in carrying out online gambling and fraud are being demolished in three sections in the Myawady-Maethawtalay (KK Park) area. Yesterday, the authorities destroyed one sports stadium, one two-storey KTV, two two-storey buildings, one four-storey building, totalling five buildings in the Section 3 area, and 140 buildings out of 425 buildings in Section 3 have been destroyed, and a total of 288 buildings out of 635 illegal buildings have so far been demolished in the KK Park area.

The inspections began on 18 November at the buildings within the Shwe Kokko area that had been used for online scam operations. To date, a total of 169 illegal



Photos disclose the ongoing demolition measures in the KK Park area.

buildings have been found, and measures to seal and confiscate those buildings to prevent further use began yesterday, with 20 buildings, totalling 161 buildings

already sealed and confiscated. To date, the authorities have detained 1,954 undocumented foreign entrants and seized 3,310 computers, 21,870 mobile phones,

102 Starlink satellite receivers and 22 Routers used in telecom fraud and online gambling activities. Authorities systematically destroyed the seized materials

and continue the operation to expose the offences. Yesterday, the authorities deported 298 Chinese nationals, 37 Kenyans, 36 Ethiopians, 18 Ugandans, 16 Filipinos, two Ghanaians, while two from Zimbabwe, one from Rwanda, one from Togo and one from Benin, totalling 411 individuals, through the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II.

From 30 January to 2 December 2025, a total of 12,945 foreign nationals who had entered Myanmar illegally were detained. Of these, 10,601 individuals were screened to be expelled and were systematically repatriated to their respective countries through Thailand in accordance with legal procedures. The remaining 2,344 foreign nationals are now ready to be transferred to their respective countries, and they are being properly held and cared for during this process.

The government considers the eradication of telecom fraud and online gambling crimes as a national responsibility and, to ensure that such activities can no longer operate within Myanmar, will continue its efforts in coordination not only with domestic forces but also with the governments of neighbouring countries. — MNA/KTZH

OPINION

ARTICLE

Lend a helping hand to people with disabilities

THE United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy provides the foundation for sustainable and transformative progress on disability inclusion through all pillars of the work of the United Nations. Through the Strategy, the United Nations system reaffirms that the complete realization of the human rights of all persons with disabilities is an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in line with the theme of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2025: Fostering disability inclusive societies for advancing social progress.

Myanmar also ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on 7 December 2011, and the government has been working to ensure that persons with disabilities can participate fully in society and benefit from its development. The government implements measures that allow persons with disabilities greater access to their fundamental right to education. So, many private special education schools/departments have been approved for establishment for children with disabilities.

Discrimination and marginalization of persons with physical, mental, or intellectual disabilities significantly affect their access to education as well as their ability to find employment. In reality, by providing training tailored to each individual's needs and allowing them to work in jobs that match their skills and competencies, persons with disabilities can become productive contributors to society.

provide disability support allowances.

Since the beginning of the 21st century, efforts have been made worldwide to understand issues of disability and the rights of persons with disabilities from new perspectives and with fresh approaches. In this context, countries around the world have worked to protect and promote fundamental rights for persons with disabilities, including "full participation and equal opportunities".

Discrimination and marginalization of persons with physical, mental, or intellectual disabilities significantly affect their access to education as well as their ability to find employment. In reality, by providing training tailored to each individual's needs and allowing them to work in jobs that match their skills and competencies, persons with disabilities can become productive contributors to society.

For persons with disabilities, removing barriers to create suitable work and accessible social environments enables them to exercise their human rights and achieve long-term inclusion. By supporting their lives with care and assistance and ensuring their equal participation within society, discrimination can be reduced, allowing progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this way, persons with disabilities who have abilities can access full participation and equal opportunities, contributing meaningfully to inclusive and sustainable development.

Why Adolescents Marry Young

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

THESE days, many adolescents are found to marry young here and there. Hence, the question 'Why do they marry immaturity?' becomes an absolutely interesting one. While we were children, some of our friends used to get married just before their marriage age, but there were few young marriages at that time, if compared to today. So, why on earth are there more adolescent marriages nowadays than before? To be candid, there may be several potential reasons for this case. These possible reasons can certainly include parenting styles, environmental influence, schooling, peer pressure, misuse of social media, and personal development.

As we may all know, there are four parenting styles at home, namely authoritative, authoritarian, indulgent, and neglectful. In my personal experience, the last three parenting styles mostly lead to young marriages. Most adolescents do not like to be controlled

by their teachers, friends, neighbours, acquaintances and even parents, simply because during this age, they tend to want more freedom about everything, such as their clothing and relationships, than is needed. Thus, when authoritarian parents overly dominate their adolescent children, they like to break themselves loose from their parents, and then this may lead to a young marriage of adolescents. Similarly, due to indulgent parents and neglectful parents, their adolescents often get married as a result of parents' pampering and ignorance about what their children are doing.

It is greatly difficult for adolescents to stay away from their environmental influence, especially in an environment where young marriages happen so often. Of course, young adolescents still imitate others as regards behaviours and manners like their daily lifestyles, clothes, senses and speaking patterns. That is why they will rarely burden themselves

with a young marriage, mainly after they have seen their former elders marry young. This is only human nature. It would be even worse for them if young loving couples were leading a better life with good health and wealth. Such an environmental influence will very easily drive adolescents crazy to get married too early.

In fact, adolescents are merely school-aged children. Whenever possible, they should pay attention to school studies only. Despite this, adolescents must surely meet their physical development stages in one way or another owing to growth hormone changes, particularly during the very early middle school life and the very early high school life. Within those spaces of time, adolescents are given to becoming interested in others, especially opposite-sex roommates. It is commonly known that adolescents' heart is inclined to pound very quickly during these periods of time, even though they find a little unimportant leaf itself is fluttering. Also, middle school-aged children as well as high school-aged ones are considered the

most difficult to handle for not only parents but also teachers. At that time, some adolescents would like to have a bash at a young marriage out of curiosity, or, less probably, their sexual desire.

In the same way, peer pressure usually exerts the biggest effect on young marriages, I should think. As the saying goes, since human beings are a social animal, adolescents must never avoid facing their friends. Here, we have to be aware that primary students at home; secondary students by their teachers at middle schools; and high school students by their nearly by peers. Really and truly, peer influence is so strong among young adolescents that their future success or failure can depend upon it to a greater or lesser degree. Consequently, if teenage friends had a happy marriage, as luck would have it, adolescents can envy their friends having such a relationship and then follow a rite of passage sooner or later after them.

After all, a young marriage is gradually rising from the misuse of social media, Facebook and TikTok

in particular. Also, in the age of BeeTalk, too many undesirable marriages had occurred badly. Actually, adolescents should only pursue their education flat out. It cannot be said for sure that a young marriage is never right or always wrong. Nevertheless, in the main, young marriages go wrong. This is because most adolescents have not yet developed any emotional maturity or emotional control to the full. And many adolescent marriages end in divorce, too. Just because of immature life experience, adolescent husbands and wives encounter life sufferings to the death. Quite frankly, the university is the best place to look for our life partners for the simple reason that university life will give us a great chance of knowing each other to a certain extent over the course of four or five academic years. To think it candidly, a young marriage puts first to the heart, as usual, not the brain. Despite this, a happy marriage is required by both the heart and the brain. Therefore, I want to suggest here that all adolescents had better give up a young marriage as much as they can.

"Sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants; electric light the most efficient policeman." - Louis D Brandeis, US Supreme Court Justice.

This quote immediately sets the tone, emphasizing transparency as a force that purifies and accountability as a safeguard for integrity.

Global & Local Definitions: Setting the Stage

In the discourse of personal development and national progress, two words stand as pillars: accountability and transparency. Globally, Oxford defines accountability as the responsibility to explain one's actions, while Merriam-Webster emphasizes the willingness to accept responsibility. Locally, in the English-Myanmar lexicon, accountability is expressed as "တာဝန်ခံမှု", a term deeply resonant with the cultural expectation of responsibility.

Transparency, likewise, is understood worldwide as clarity and openness; Oxford highlights its

I Say What I See: Accountability & Transparency as Pillars of Personal Development, Societal Enhancement, and National Growth

This essay explores how accountability and transparency, when practised at the personal level, expand into societal trust and ultimately serve as the foundation for a nation's sustainable growth.

By @Editor

role in making processes understandable, and Merriam-Webster underscores its necessity in governance. In Myanmar, the word ညာဉ်ပာဏ်တရားစီရင်စွဲခြင်းကြောင့် conveys the essence of openness, a quality that allows truth to be seen without obstruction.

Together, these concepts form the foundation not only for individual growth but also for societal trust, which ultimately fuels the advancement of nations.

Body Section: Practising Accountability and Transparency in Real Life

Accountability and transparency are not merely theoretical constructs; they are values that must be practised in everyday life and organizational leadership. My own experience as the head of an organization in Bangkok, Thailand, offers a concrete example. Though our resources were modest, provided by an affiliated

federation, we maintained proper bookkeeping for every expense and expenditure. To ensure credibility, we even engaged an internationally recognized CPA firm to conduct annual audits. This discipline, though applied to a relatively small group, reflected a genuine commitment to the welfare of seafarers in accordance with our constitution. Such practices demonstrate that accountability and transparency

can thrive even in limited circumstances, provided there is a will to uphold them.

This example underscores a crucial truth: accountability and transparency are scalable. Whether in a small organization or a national institution, the principles remain the same - responsibility must be documented, and openness must be ensured. When individuals and groups embrace these values, they create

trust among stakeholders, foster credibility, and set a standard for others to follow. In personal development, this translates into being honest with oneself, owning one's decisions, and being willing to explain them. In organizational or societal contexts, it means creating systems that prevent misuse of resources and encourage ethical conduct. Thus, the micro-level discipline of a small group can mirror the macro-level

Air pollution may reduce health benefits of exercise: Study

Health benefits of exercise significantly weakened when yearly average PM2.5 levels were 25 microgrammes per cubic metre (mg/m³) or higher.



A NEW study led by researchers at University College London (UCL) shows that chronic exposure to toxic air can significantly diminish the health benefits of regular physical activity.

The study analysed data from more than 1.5 million adults tracked for more than a decade in countries including the UK, Chinese Taipei, China, Denmark and the United States.

The team found that the protective effect of regular exercise on people's risk of dying over a specific period - from any cause and from cancer and heart disease specifically - appeared to be reduced, but not eliminated, for those who lived in high pol-

Exercise remains beneficial everywhere, but improving air quality would greatly enhance the associated health gains. ILLUSTRATION: VECTEEZY

lution areas. The researchers looked at levels of fine particulate matter - tiny particles known as PM2.5s with a diameter of less than 2.5

micrometres across. These particles are so small they can get stuck in the lungs and enter the bloodstream. SOURCE: ANI

requirements of a nation.

Ultimately, the practice of accountability and transparency at the personal and organizational levels contributes to societal enhancement and national growth. A nation's strength lies not only in its economic or political power but in the integrity of its citizens and institutions. When individuals cultivate accountability in their personal lives, they become responsible professionals, leaders, and citizens. When organizations, even small ones, demonstrate transparency, they set benchmarks for governance and public trust. Together, these values form a ripple effect; personal discipline nurtures societal trust, and societal trust fuels national progress. In this way, accountability and transparency emerge as essential pillars, bridging the journey from individual development to collective advancement.

Conclusion: From Personal Discipline to National Growth

In the spirit of my essay se-

ries, *I Say What I See*, it becomes evident that accountability and transparency are not distant ideals but practical virtues that begin with the individual. When practised consistently, they shape organizations, strengthen communities, and ultimately enhance the nation. The discipline of keeping records, the openness of audits, and the honesty of self-reflection all contribute to a culture where trust is built and progress is sustained. Nations grow not only through policies and infrastructure but through the integrity of their people. Thus, accountability and transparency stand as essential pillars, guiding personal development, fostering societal enhancement, and paving the way for genuine national growth.

"When individuals embrace accountability and societies uphold transparency, nations do not merely grow - they flourish." - @Editor, *I Say What I See: Words that Grow Nations.*

NATIONAL

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Statement 16/ 2025

1. According to the World Bank's report, it is learned that 16 per cent of the world's population are persons with disabilities. Although individuals with disabilities are those experiencing one or more kinds of impairments, such as visual, hearing, physical, mental, or intellectual deficiencies. It has been found that in some sectors, they are capable of performing even beyond average. To protect, assist, and promote persons with disabilities, the United Nations General Assembly, through Resolution 47/3 on 14 October 1992, designated 3 December of every year as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Today marks the 33rd anniversary of this designation.
2. To promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with an impairment, and ensure respect for their inherent human dignity, the United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2006. Myanmar became a signatory to this Convention as a member state in 2011.
3. The Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (2008) stipulates that the State shall care for persons with disabilities. In accordance with the Constitution, and with the objectives of being able to provide greater care for persons with disabilities and to more effectively implement the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Law was also promulgated in 2015.
4. Regarding the assurance of equality in the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, they enjoy inherent rights, the right to life, citizenship, liberty, justice, security, equality, and dignity. In addition, it must be ensured that persons with disabilities are taken to ensure there is no discrimination or degradation in society on the grounds of disability. It is also observed that the State is emphasizing efforts to enable people with disabilities to access their rights in all sectors.
5. The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission has been conducting awareness-raising talks and incorporating discussions on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals with disabilities into training sessions. Furthermore, the Commission is publishing materials, including a Braille version of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and a translated version of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). In addition, the Commission has conducted inspection visits at prisons, detention centres, lock-ups, and training schools for persons with disabilities to monitor whether the basic human rights of persons with an impairment are being upheld, and has sent recommendations to the relevant departments based on its findings. The Commission is also collaborating with relevant Ministries and organizations, including the Myanmar Federation of Persons with Disabilities, on matters pertaining to the rights of persons with disabilities.
6. On this International Day of Persons with Disabilities, are emphatically urge all stakeholders to collaborate in ensuring persons with disabilities can be accessible and in fostering disability inclusive societies across all sectors, in line with the theme set by the United Nations for this year: "Fostering disability inclusive societies for advancing social progress".

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
3 December 2025

500 Labutta locals receive healthcare from Tatmadaw mobile medical team



An undergoing operation as part of healthcare services provided in Labutta.

TO provide healthcare services to local residents living along the Ayeyawady River, the Tatmadaw's riverine mobile medical team — comprising the Tatmadaw floating hospital vessel Shwe Puzun, the river vessel Saku, accompanying specialists, doctors, and nurses — continued its medical outreach yesterday.

The team, which set up its base at the monastery in Betut Village, Labutta Township, provided healthcare services to 564 residents from the village and nearby communities.

According to the team, medical care was provided to 241 patients with general illnesses, 32 surgical patients,

40 obstetric/gynaecological patients, 29 paediatric patients, 96 orthopaedic patients, 35 ENT patients, 45 ophthalmology patients, and 46 dental and oral patients — totalling 564 individuals who received the necessary treatment.

Among them, nine patients underwent general surgery, five patients received eye surgery, 19 patients had tooth extraction or fillings, 19 patients received X-rays, 24 patients were examined using ultrasound, 14 patients underwent ECG heart tests, and 49 patients received laboratory tests as part of diagnostic and treatment services.

In addition, students from the Youth Development Charity Home, which is located at the monastery, were given a health awareness talk on dental and oral hygiene. — MNA/MKKS

28th Aung Bar Lay online lottery jackpot doubles to K200 million

AUNG Bar Lay online lottery announced that the jackpot prize money has been doubled to K200 million for the 28th edition.

Since there was no winner for the K100 million jackpot prize in the 27th draw, the jackpot prize money for the upcoming 28th draw has been increased to K200 million.

The 5-digit Aung Bar Lay online lottery is drawn twice a month, on the first and 16th of every month, giving players a great chance to be a winner twice a month. By purchasing just three tickets using their preferred payment method via the Aung Bar Lay Application, USSD, SMS, WebView, or Mobile Payment Applications, players can also get a chance to spin the wheel and win prizes such as an iPhone 17 Pro Max (256GB), an air cooler, a fan, and millions of loyalty points.

These online lottery tickets can be easily purchased just by opening the Aung Bar Lay App. People can select and purchase the tickets they prefer at a rate of K1,000 per ticket. Players can also dial *117# and use their Mytel phone balance to purchase and try their luck. — MT/ZN



This image shows an announcement raising the jackpot prize money to K200 million.

NATIONAL

Myanmar film Thabin The Mya Hninsi: The Beginning wins outstanding film award at Lancang-Mekong Festival

THE film Thabin The Mya Hninsi: The Beginning won the Outstanding Film Award at the Lancang-Mekong International Film Festival held in China. The film was directed by Min Set Thit, who was also responsible for the script and screenplay.

The Beginning was written and directed by Ko Set and Ingyin Han, with the script by Ingyin Han, while director Ko Set oversaw production under Sein Htay Film Production.

Thabin The Mya Hninsi: The Beginning was selected to represent Myanmar at the Lancang-Mekong International Film Festival, which was held in Yunnan, China, from 27 November to 1 December. The film won the Outstanding Film Award at the festival's Best Film Award ceremony, according to director Min Set Thit.

The film stars Htoo Myat,



Director Min Set Thit and actress May Mi Ko Ko, who represented Myanmar at the "The LANCANG - MEKONG" International Film Festival, won the Outstanding Film Award for "Thabin The Mya Hninsi: The Beginning"

Henry San, May Mi Ko Ko, Cindy Myat, Min Ar Kar, Gu Gu, Yun Tha Da Han, Than Sin Phyo Paing, and many others. The film was released in cinemas nationwide in September 2024. — ASH/MKKS

Goethe-Institut Myanmar to hold Christmas Bazaar focused on inclusion and disability rights



This image is a public notice announcing the upcoming Goethe-Institut Myanmar Christmas Bazaar.

ACCORDING to the Goethe-Institut Myanmar, the annual Goethe-Institut Myanmar Christmas Bazaar will be held on 7 December 2025.

It is also reported that this year's Goethe-Institut Myanmar Christmas Bazaar will place special emphasis on community engagement and inclusion.

For this year's event, the Goethe-Institut Myanmar will proudly collaborate with disability communities and will work mainly with organisations striving to promote and improve the rights of persons with disabilities.

Visitors to the Goethe-Institut Myanmar Christmas Bazaar will be able to view and purchase eco-friendly products.

In addition, the public is invited to explore and buy items showcased by partner organisations for persons with disabilities, including handicrafts, cookies, and souvenirs.

The Goethe-Institut Myanmar Christmas Bazaar will take place at the Goethe-Institut Myanmar, located at the corner of Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and Natmauk Road in Bahan Township, Yangon, from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm on Sunday, 7 December. — ASH/KZL

YBS 85 route extended to ease commuter travel

THE bus route of YBS 85 has been extended, making commuting more convenient.

Previously, the bus line ran from Tuu Chaung to Thakayta roundabout, and now the final destination has been extended to Yadana Hninsi Housing.

"It is convenient. Previously, we had to rely on YBS 83 alone for going to Yadana Hninsi from Hlinethaya. Now, we have another option that

we can take, YBS 85, which runs with many units and has overnight-stayed buses at the start point and final destination," said a bus passenger.

The bus route of YBS 85 starts from Hlinethaya (Tuu Chaung) and ends at Yadana Hninsi Housing in Thakayta, including stops- Dagon Aye-ay Highway Bus Terminal, Bayintnaung junction, new Thirimingala Market, Sinmalite, Kyimyindine Strand Road,

Bagaya Road, Myaynigone, Shwegondine, Tarmwe roundabout, Tarmwe Market, Yuzana Plaza, Mingalar Market, Warso, Dawbon shipyard, Minnanda Road, No 1 Market, Kyauktine, Ayeyawon Road, Thakayta roundabout, Kwayma and Yadana Road.

YBS 85 is operated by Trans Link, which also runs YBS lines 27, 76, 81, 85, 120 and 132. — MT/ZS



A YBS 85 bus operating in Yangon.

Screenings underway for 2025 Myanmar Motion Pictures Academy Award nominees

ACCORDING to director Zaw Myint Oo, Chair of the Selection Committee for the Myanmar Motion Pictures Academy Awards, screenings to choose the nominees for the 2025 Academy Awards have already begun, with committee members now watching the films eligible for the 2025 awards.

Nearly 70 films were screened in cinemas during 2025 and are eligible for consideration in the Myanmar Motion Pictures Academy Awards. The selection team began viewing these films on 28 November, watching two films per day as part of the assessment process.

"We started watching the eligible films on Friday, 28 November, and we are now in the viewing phase. We are watch-



Images display Myanmar films screened in cinemas in 2025.

ing two films per day. The Academy Selection Board has been officially formed, and we will carry out the process carefully. For now, all Academy Award winners are watching the eligible films," said Director Zaw Myint Oo.

The films screened in cin-

emas in 2025 include romance, drama, action, thriller, horror, comedy, and educational genres.

The 2025 Myanmar Motion Pictures Academy Awards ceremony is planned to be held in Nay Pyi Taw in early 2026. — ASH/MKKS

NATIONAL BUSINESS

KBZMS General Insurance, InterRisk Asia (Thailand) host Seminar on Earthquake Risk Management & Business Continuity in Myanmar

KBZMS General Insurance and InterRisk Asia (Thailand) jointly hosted the Earthquake Risk Management & Business Continuity in Myanmar Seminar on 1 December 2025 at the Chatrium Hotel in Yangon.

This seminar is a collaborative dialogue between private and public sectors with a view to promoting earthquake risk management and business continuity.

Domestic and international business institutions and the Japan business group members discussed Myanmar-Japan collaborations on earthquake risk assessment.

ActionAid International's Country Director, FIN Myanmar's chair, Myanmar-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce Vice President Mr Shihab Uddin

Ahamad made a more dynamic and insightful panel discussion titled "Collaborating for Continuity: Lessons from the Mandalay Earthquake".

KBZMS CEO U Lu Mon Aung delivered that families and businesses require comprehensive earthquake risk assessment and ongoing awareness programmes to identify hazards, plan responses and preparedness and mitigate losses. He highlighted the insistence on strengthening public and private sector collaboration on earthquake preparedness.

Daw Chaw Kalayar, chair of Myanmar Green Building Society and founder of STATEMENT Architecture + Design, also gave a remark that earthquake preparedness plans need to reach every household in ru-



The Seminar on the Earthquake Risk Management & Business Continuity in Myanmar in progress in Yangon.

ral areas. Local developers need to be trained on building earthquake-resistant structures. Undertaking safety guidelines

in rural building, seismic risk and general awareness accessible to everyone and providing financial assistance and loans

for safety measures are also addressed.

Similarly, Mr Lafir Mohammad, Head of Partnership and Program of ActionAid International, urged investment for business continuity, financial assistance and emergency service to effectuate the development in the private sector.

Representatives of InterRisk Asia (Thailand) brought insights and different perspectives on earthquake risk assessment and preparedness measures.

Deputy Director-General U Thant Zin of the Financial Regulatory Department also emphasized preparedness measures, procedures and sectoral collaborations. He also stressed that it is time to invest in quake resistance. — ASH/KK

CBM sells US\$1.28M to edible oil importers



The facade view of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) office building in Yangon.

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$1.28 million, purchased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies on 1 December.

CBM made an injection of over \$21 million, 2.4 million yuan and 1.5 million baht in November.

CBM sold over \$2.2 million to edible oil-importing companies again on 28 November after sales of \$1.3 million on 27 November.

Furthermore, CBM injected \$2.3 million purchased from CMP companies into the edible oil import sector on 26 November.

CBM announced on 25 November that it would sell \$28 million to fuel oil-importing companies. CBM also sold \$1.46 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$545,000 to fuel oil-importing companies on that day.

CBM sold \$761,460, purchased from CMP companies,

to edible oil-importing companies on 24 November, in addition to the injection of 415,800 yuan into the market.

CBM sold over \$583,600 to edible oil-importing companies on 20 November.

CBM injected over \$2.48 million, 5.75 million yuan and 4.98 million baht in October, along with sales of over \$54 million purchased from CMP companies.

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

YCDC seeks bids for affordable housing project in 3 townships

TENDER Acceptance and Evaluation Committee of the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) called for qualified developers to implement an affordable housing project in three townships (Dagon Myothit South, Dagon Seikkan and Dagon Myothit East) in the area of YCDC, with a public-private partnership.

The construction of 36 six-storey buildings (four rooms) and 20 shop houses on plots of land in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, ten six-storey buildings (four rooms) in Dagon Myo-

thit Township (Seikkan), and 45 six-storey buildings (four rooms) and a commercial area on 2.73 acres of land in Dagon Myothit (East) Township.

The tender form will be sold between 4 and 18 December 2025. Tenders are required to be submitted to the Engineering Department in Kyauktada Township by 31 December. The tender opening date will be notified in advance. Individuals can enquire about details of the bid and rules and regulations through the department by dialling 09 880015811. — NN/KK



The Yangon City Hall in downtown Yangon.

Samsung unveils first 'special edition' triple-folding phone

SAMSUNG launched its first triple-folding phone on Tuesday, a special-edition product with an eye-watering price tag placing it out of the reach of the average consumer.

The Galaxy Z TriFold will go on sale on 12 December and costs more than twice as much as the new iPhone 17 at \$2,443.

Super thin, it unfolds to a 10-inch (25.4 centimetre) display, offering "increased possibilities for creating and working", the South Korean tech giant said.

The triple fold func-

tion is not world-first -- China's Huawei beat Samsung to the punch last year with a phone at a similarly exorbitant price.

Growth has been patchy in the competitive smartphone market, pushing makers to find new, eye-catching ways to differentiate their products.

Offered solely in a black design, Samsung's new device comes in at 309 grams (10.9 ounces) and at its thinnest point measures less than 0.2 inches. — AFP



A visitor holds a Samsung Galaxy Z TriFold smartphone during a launch event at a Samsung store in Seoul on 2 December 2025. PHOTO: AFP

Russia's manufacturing PMI slightly up in November: report

RUSSIA'S manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose to 48.3 points in November, up from 48 points in October, an analytics and financial information agency said Monday.

S&P Global said in a report that the PMI, a key indicator of economic health, signals expansion in business activity when it exceeds 50 and contraction when it falls below that threshold.

The latest PMI data marked the slowest pace of contraction in the past

three months, the report said. Despite a continued decline in new sales, the rate of contraction eased from October and was the mildest in the current six-month downward streak, it said, adding that the production downturn was frequently attributed to weak demand conditions.

According to S&P Global, Russia's production has fallen sharply since April 2022, with companies linking the drop to lower new orders and supply chain delays. — Xinhua

Tokyo stocks end flat on bargain-hunting, rate hike concerns

TOKYO stocks ended flat Tuesday as bargain-hunting following the previous day's plunge was offset by selling on concerns about higher borrowing costs amid speculation that the Bank of Japan may raise interest rates this month.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average closed up 0.17 point from Monday at 49,303.45. The broader Topix index finished 2.73 points, or 0.08 per cent, higher at 3,341.06.

On the top-tier Prime Market, the main gainers were bank and nonferrous metal issues, while mining and electric power and gas shares were notable decliners. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Jap-



A financial monitor in Tokyo shows the 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average ending over 1,000 points higher than the previous day's close on 20 November 2025. PHOTO: KYODO

anese government bond briefly rose to 1.880 per cent, its highest level since

June 2008, after BOJ Governor Kazuo Ueda on Monday signalled the possibili-

ty of an interest rate hike at the bank's upcoming policy meeting. — Kyodo

Major Canadian steelmaker to lay off around 1,000 workers amid US tariff pressure

ALGOMA Steel, one of Canada's largest steel producers, on Monday said it will lay off approximately 1,000 workers due to severe financial pressure from "unprecedented" US tariffs, local media reported.

The company, based

in Ontario province's Sault Ste Marie, is one of the country's top integrated steel producers and a major regional employer with a workforce of around 2,700 people, with the layoffs representing more than a third of its staff.

According to the report, the company said the 50 per cent tariffs imposed by the United States have "fundamentally altered the competitive landscape" and sharply limited its access to the US market. The layoffs are scheduled

to take effect on 23 March 2026. In September, Algoma Steel received 500 million Canadian dollars (around US\$360 million) in federal and provincial loan assistance to help it cope with the US tariffs. — Xinhua

New all-cargo air route links China's Jiangsu with Malaysia

A new all-cargo air route linking Nanjing in east China's Jiangsu Province and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, commenced operations on Sunday, marking an expansion of Nanjing's global freight network.

Operated by Malaysia's Raya Airways, a B767-200 freighter carrying over 38 tonnes of goods depart from Nanjing Lukou International Airport for Kuala Lumpur on an over five-hour flight.

Outbound flights primarily transport textiles, electronic components and cross-border e-commerce goods. Inbound flights are set to carry fresh Southeast Asian produce like mud crabs and chilled fish.

Nanjing Lukou International Airport currently operates seven international all-cargo routes, including services to Amsterdam, Mexico City and Seoul. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V FSL KELANG VOY.NO. (0QM7MS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V FSL KELANG VOY.NO. (0QM7MS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **3-12-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD



This photo taken on 3 July 2025 shows welcome banners for the BRICS Summit on a street in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

First People's BRICS Summit opens in Brazil to strengthen Global South cooperation

THE first People's BRICS Summit opened here on Monday, aiming to expand the participation of member countries' civil societies in global governance and strengthen cooperation across the Global South.

The meeting, as part of the BRICS Civil Council's agenda, brings together BRICS social movements to discuss economic cooperation, multilateralism, global geopolitics, governance challenges and ways to reduce

emerging economies' dependence on the US dollar.

Created in 2024 at the Kazan Summit in Russia, the BRICS Civil Council seeks to establish a permanent dialogue between civil society and bloc governments.

Organizers said the council marks "a milestone" in expanding the role of organized social groups, including grassroots movements, students, teachers and NGOs in BRICS

discussions.

The summit is the last major BRICS event under Brazil's presidency before India assumes leadership next year.

Dilma Rousseff, former Brazilian president and president of the New Development Bank, said in a video message that the summit gives BRICS populations "a permanent channel of dialogue" with the bloc's decision-making bodies. — Xinhua

Smartphone ownership at younger age linked to poorer health outcomes: study

OWNING a smartphone at a younger age is associated with poorer health outcomes, according to a new study published Monday.

The research, published in the journal *Pediatrics*, analyzed data from more than 10,000 12-year-olds participating in the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development Study.

The study found that, at age 12, smartphone ownership was associated with higher risks of depression, obesity and insufficient sleep compared with not owning a smartphone.

The findings provide "critical and timely insights" that should inform caregivers about adolescent smartphone use and support the development of public policies aimed at protecting youth, the study said. — Xinhua

IAEA conference on nuclear emergency preparedness, response kicks off in Saudi Arabia

THE International Conference on Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies kicked off here on Monday, focusing on enhancing emergency preparedness and response.

Organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in cooperation with Saudi Arabia's Nuclear and Radiological Regulatory Commission (NRRC), the four-day event gathers more than 450 participants from over 100 countries and four international organizations, according to an IAEA statement.

Experts, emergency responders, regulators and technical specialists will share experiences, present new research and discuss practical measures to strengthen global nuclear and radiological emergency preparedness and response.

"Nuclear energy depends on trust, and this trust is earned through robust, science-based emergency preparedness and response. Nuclear safety, security and emergency preparedness must come first, and must be credible and transparent," Rafael Grossi, IAEA director general, said in a video message. — Xinhua

Race to get aid to Asia flood survivors as toll tops 1,200

GOVERNMENTS and aid groups in Indonesia and Sri Lanka worked Tuesday to rush aid to hundreds of thousands stranded by deadly flooding that has killed over 1,200 people in four countries.

Torrential monsoon season deluges paired with two separate tropical cyclones last week dumped heavy rain across Sri Lanka and parts of Indonesia's Sumatra, southern Thailand and northern Malaysia.

Climate change is producing more intense rain events because a warmer atmosphere holds more moisture, and warmer oceans can turbocharge storms.

AFP analysis of US weather data showed several flood-hit regions across Asia experienced their highest November rainfall totals since 2012. The floodwaters have now largely receded, but the devastation means hundreds of thousands of people are living in shelters and struggling to secure

clean water and food.

In Indonesia's Aceh, one of the worst-affected regions, people told AFP that anyone who could afford to was stockpiling.

"Road access is mostly cut off in flood-affected areas," 29-year-old Erna Mardhiah said as she joined a long queue at a petrol station in Banda Aceh.

"People are worried about running out of fuel," she added from the line she had been waiting in for two hours. — AFP



A woman distributes tea to residents at a relief camp inside a school after they were evacuated following rapid floods in Wellampitiya, on the outskirts of Colombo, on 1 December 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

Myanmar Women's Football Team sets sights on SEA Games glory

THE Myanmar Women's National Football Team departed from Yangon International Airport yesterday morning for Chonburi, Thailand, to compete in the XXXIII South-East Asian Games. Supporters warmly greeted the team at the airport, offering encouragement and best wishes ahead of their departure.

At the SEA Games, Myanmar will face the Philippines on 5 December, Malaysia on 8 December, and Vietnam on 11 December.

The players expressed strong determination to compete with a mindset that accepts neither defeat nor surrender, aiming to bring honour to the nation by securing medals. They also shared messages of gratitude for the fans who have supported them throughout their preparations for the tournament.

Head Coach Uki Tetsuro (Japan) said, "As a team, we will fight with full strength until the final whistle in every match. We have prepared a solid defensive organization and quick transitions into attack. Our delegation consists of eleven coaching and management staff and twenty-three players, making a total of thirty-four.

For squad selection, we initially called up a large group of players and chose the final team through fair competition. Before announcing the final list, the coaches held several discussions and carefully reviewed every choice.

In terms of preparation, we returned from Japan and competed in the ASEAN tournament. After that event, we continued training to build our readiness for the SEA Games. The women's football competition has two groups, and we are



The Myanmar Women's National Football Team is seen before departing for Thailand to compete in the XXXIII South-East Asian Games. **PHOTO: ZWE MARN**

placed in a group with Vietnam, Malaysia, and the Philippines. We analyzed our opponents and prepared accordingly. They will also come well-prepared, so none of the matches will be easy. That is why we will approach every game with proper planning and full commitment.

Myanmar fans have high expectations for the team, and I promise we will not back down in any match. We will give everything until the final minute. I sincerely appreciate the constant warmth and encouragement from our supporters. In a major tournament like this, your support gives the team real strength, and we look forward to hearing your cheers again."

Forward Win Theingi Tun (Jersey No 7) added, "At the SEA Games, our team will focus on every opponent and give our all in each match. The teams we face are all closely matched, so we must stay concentrated and work hard in every game.

We will compete with full effort, discipline, and unity to advance from the group. We are not underestimating any team.

I also want to thank our devoted fans who always support us with such dedication and love. I sincerely appreciate the growing interest in the women's national team from fans across the country. On match days, whether you cheer from Thailand or from home on television, I warmly invite you to give us your full support. We will feel it throughout the SEA Games.

We will compete with everything we have and try our best to achieve the results our fans hope for."

Forward San Thaw Thaw (Jersey No 8) said, "We have prepared thoroughly with our coaches for the competition. We will perform to the best of our ability. I sincerely thank all the fans who have been supporting the Myanmar women's team. Football is a team sport, so support

should be shared among the entire team rather than focused on one individual. That collective support strengthens our chance of success. For our beloved fans in Myanmar, we are fully focused on securing a complete victory."

Fans Thae Su Mon, Aye Thi Kyaw, and Ni Bo Bo Kyaw shared their excitement, "Fans arrived at the airport by 4 a.m. to cheer for the Myanmar women's football team. We respect the players' dedication, knowing that even though they are women, they give their all on the field.

Since this is the Southeast Asian Games and not a domestic tournament, fans are prepared to welcome the team back with full honours if they win medals. The team receives support for all players, especially May Htet Lu and Zun Yu Ya Oo. Some fans even wish they could cheer for them all the way in Thailand. Meeting the team in person is exciting and joyful, and they will continue to welcome them warmly upon their return.

Fans also pray for the team's success, hoping they bring national pride and gold medals while remaining free from injuries. We deeply love the Myanmar women's football team and refrain from criticizing them lightly. Everyone should understand that nothing comes easily – the team already knows the weight of representing their country. Minor mistakes are forgiven, and fans plan to cheer even more when the team returns with trophies.

The team's dedication is admirable and serves as a role model: the harder they work, the greater the results, inspiring the entire nation." — Thitsa (MNA) / KZL

Amateur Open 2025 tees off in Mandalay



Myanmar Golf Federation Vice-President and Upper Myanmar Golf Association Sub-committee Chairman U Tin Ko Ko tees off to open the tournament.

UNDER the guidance of the Myanmar Golf Federation, the Upper Myanmar Golf Association Sub-Committee opened the Amateur Open 2025 tournament with its first-day matches and an opening cer-

emony on the morning of 2 December at the Shwe Mann Taung Golf Course in Mandalay. Officials from the Myanmar Golf Federation, the Upper Myanmar Golf Association Sub-Committee, and the Shwe Mann Taung Golf Course, as well as competing golfers and guests, attended the event.

At the opening ceremony, Myanmar Golf Federation President U Ko Ko Aye and officials struck ceremonial tee shots and launched the tournament, followed by the first-day 18-hole competition.

A total of 288 golfers are competing, including 208 men and 80 women in the amateur category. The tournament will run for three days from 2 to 4 December. — Chit Ko Ko/KZL

Myanmar U20 Men's Team heads to Thailand for SEA Games

THE Myanmar U20 men's futsal team has selected 16 players to compete in the XXX-III Southeast Asian Games and will travel to Thailand ahead of the tournament.

The squad will later be reduced to a final list of 14 players before the Games, which will take place from 15 to 19 December. The competition will follow a round-robin format, with Myanmar facing Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Malaysia, and medals will be awarded based on total points.

Myanmar will depart for Thailand on 8 December and will play warm-up matches before the tournament. The team will face Indonesia on 15 December, Thailand on 16 December, Malaysia on 17 December, and Vietnam on 19 December in the group

stage.

The team management includes Team Manager U Nain Thaug Htaik, Head Coach Pattarapi Khun (Thailand), Tactical Adviser U Htay Myint, Assistant Coach U Zaw Ye Maung, Fitness Coach Ta Wan (Thailand), and Goalkeeping Coach So Kan Thi Ka (Thailand).

The players are: goalkeepers Mine Soe Myat Htwe (MIU), Kyaw Zin Myo Oo (YRG), and Myo Ko Ko Oo (MIU); and out-field players Myo Myint Soe, Ko Ko Lwin, Nain Lin Htun Kyaw (YRG), Min Khant, Thet Htun, Min Khant Thu, Set Wai Yan, Sai Pyone Aung, Htoo Wai Yan, Htun Aung Kyaw (MIU), Aung Kyaw Phyoo, Nyein Min Soe (YCDC Dream Team), and Htun Htun Win (Pyae Sone FC). — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

First People's BRICS Summit opens in Brazil to strengthen Global South cooperation
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S Korean president proposes restoring communication channels with DPRK

SOUTH Korean President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday proposed restoring communication channels with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), according to multiple local media.

Lee made the remarks at the inauguration ceremony of the 22nd Peaceful Unification Advisory Council, which advises the president on unification issues.

The president, who serves as the chairman of the council, stressed that he will pursue a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula while ending the state of war on the peninsula. The peninsula technically remains in a state of war as the 1950-53 Korean War ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. — Xinhua

Vietnam targets AI-powered government by 2030

VIETNAM aims to build a comprehensive digital government infrastructure by 2030, one that will be powered by big data platforms and artificial intelligence (AI), the Vietnam News Agency reported Tuesday. The target is set out in a new decision regarding the national digital government development programme.

According to the report, AI is designated as a core tool for public governance, public service delivery, and policy decision-making support, aimed at enhancing administrative efficiency. The basic operations of state agencies will be conducted through unified digital platforms that ensure connectivity between different levels of government and sectors while ensuring cybersecurity. — Xinhua

Russia voices gratitude to India for its steadfast friendship – Kremlin



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin pose for photos before a meeting on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin, China. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

SPUTNIK has held a special online briefing with Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov for Indian journalists on Tuesday ahead of Russian President Vladimir Putin's official visit to India.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov expressed Russia's appreciation for India's consistently positive approach to bilateral relations.

Russia is concerned about expanding bilateral ties with India without outside interference, the official said.

"What concerns us is the way ... [we] continue and enlarge the volume of our

bilateral business with India not letting anyone interfere in that, and this will be definitely discussed," he noted.

Russia is also ready to build relations with India across all areas, he said.

On India's Stance Towards Ukraine Settlement

Russia values India's openness to Moscow's perspective on the Ukraine conflict, he said, adding that its stance helps build mutual understanding.

Peskov emphasized that Moscow welcomes and appreciates India's con-

structive role on the Ukraine conflict settlement.

He added that Russia equally values India's readiness to help resolve the conflict and reaffirmed Moscow's commitment for continued cooperation with India in pursuit of a diplomatic resolution to the conflict in Ukraine.

On Vladimir Putin's Visit to India

An important package of documents is expected to be signed during Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to India, Peskov stated. — SPUTNIK



Pope Leo XIV arrives in the popemobile for a mass at the waterfront in Beirut on 2 December 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

Pope says Middle East needs 'new approaches' to reject violence

POPE Leo XIV told a crowd in Lebanon on Tuesday that the Middle East needed new approaches to rejecting violence and overcoming divisions, while urging Christians in the region to "have courage".

He made the appeal on his third day in the country at the

end of his first trip abroad as pontiff, after arriving on Sunday from Türkiye.

Pope Leo said he wanted "to come as a pilgrim of hope to the Middle East, imploring God for the gift of peace for this beloved land, marked by instability, wars and suffering". "The Middle East

needs new approaches in order to reject the mindset of revenge and violence, to overcome political, social and religious divisions, and to open new chapters in the name of reconciliation and peace," he said at the conclusion of a mass in Beirut attended by some 150,000 people. — AFP