

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.

Civil servants urged to broaden knowledge amid shifting political landscape

ACTING President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo and the Mandalay Region Chief Minister, inspected the Civil Service Academy (Upper Myanmar), the Police Officer Training Depot (Zeebingyi) and the Central Firefighting Training School (PyinOoLwin) in Zeebingyi of PyinOoLwin Township in Mandalay Region yesterday morning.

At the meeting hall of the Civil Service Academy (Upper Myanmar), Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board U Soe Min Oo reported to the Senior General on the brief history of the academy, its missions and visions, plans set to give training to trainees within one training year, training civil service personnel and teachers, conducting courses from 1999 to 2025, organizational setups of the academy, repairing the lecture halls damaged by the Mandalay earthquake, progress of agriculture and livestock activities, training sections, reviewing the lessons and syllabuses, and more training for service personnel to have rank promotion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General said that **the Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) was established and opened to ensure that government employees share the same political understanding and that office work rules and regulations are carried out in an orderly and consistent manner.**

It has been stipulated that rank promotions for employees will only be granted after attending the designated training courses. The academies are being established and operated to provide instruction and training, en-

Training programme seeks to boost civil servants' discipline, efficiency and teamwork.



Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks around the exhibits at yesterday's event in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Region.

sure that all government employees across ministries follow a standardized system.

The basic military training aims to enable civil service personnel to have obedience to orders, carry out tasks in a systematic manner and be familiar with teamwork activities. Likewise, the academy gives training to the personnel to systematically understand office work, rules and regulations of all ministries.

SEE PAGE 4

Salient points from the speeches delivered by the Senior General on his inspection tour of training schools

- 1. Rank promotions for employees will only be granted after attending the designated training courses.
- 2. Since Myanmar is following a democratic system, the police are solely responsible for ensuring internal security and upholding the rule of law.
- 3. Police members not only have to know the police laws but also to have a thorough understanding of all laws, including the Constitution.
- 4. Police members are responsible for enforcing the rule of law and maintaining discipline, which requires direct interaction and engagement with the public.

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.

MPC opens election reporting course for fifth batch of trainees

THE election reporting course (Batch 5), organized by the Myanmar Press Council, was opened yesterday morning at the Shwe U Daung Hall of News and Periodicals Enterprise on Theinbyu Road in Botahtaung Township, Yangon.

First, Dr Tin Tun Oo, Chair of the Myanmar Press Council, delivered the opening remarks, followed by introductory remarks from U Khin Maung Kyaw Din, Vice-Chair (2) and head of the Media Development Committee. Course instructor U Sein Toe (San Lin) then explained the agenda and teaching plan for the election reporting course.

A total of 80 trainees are attending the course, which will

run from 10 am to 3 pm on 1-3 December. The subjects to be taught include elections and the media, election-related English, election day reporting, online news writing, election-related and print media law, election news reporting, collection and compilation of election information, and reporting on election results. These subjects will be Lectured by U Myat Soe (Hlaing), U Khin Maung Aye (KMA), U Khin Maung Kyaw Din (MPC), U Aung Zaw Myo (Ministry of Information), U Tin Maung Oo (Gyobingauk Tin Maung Oo), Dr Zaw Than (Sankei Shimbun — Japan), and U Yan Kyaw (Myanmar affairs analyst). — MNA/MKKS



The electoral reporting training in action yesterday in Yangon.

Inter-School Band Competition held in Yangon



The Inter-School Band Contest for the 2025-2026 AC underway in Yangon yesterday. PHOTO: KO LWIN

THE Inter-School Band Competition for the 2025-2026 academic year was organized at the National Indoor Stadium I in Yangon yesterday.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein made an opening speech and comforted the members of bands.

The chief minister presented cash to an official of the Yangon Region Education Office to hold the competition, and it commenced.

“The Inter-School Band Competition was restarted in the 2022-2023 academic year

and only 11 teams participated in it. This year, the number has increased to 24 teams. To ensure that all schools can participate, each team consists of 62 members. Depending on the event, the teams are categorized into Level A and Level B, resulting in three teams in Level A and 11 teams in Level B. We will present prizes to recognize the efforts, hard work and unity of the students, and also the best performance award for mace holders,” said Dr Cho Cho Myat Aung, educational officer of the region.

A total of 24 schools from 14 districts are participating in the Inter-School Band Competition. Eight teams will compete each day until 3 December. On the afternoon of that day, awards will be presented to the winning teams.

The competitions were organized with the help of the regional government before the COVID-19 period, and were suspended during the outbreak of COVID-19. They were resumed starting from the 2022-2023 academic year to date. — Ottha/KTZH

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)

Civil servants must broaden their understanding of political developments

Lessons should be learned from the past historical events of the country so as to build a modern, developed, stable, and peaceful nation in the future.



Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing addresses the meeting at Zeebingyi in PyinOoLwin, Mandalay Region.

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing highlighted that while political leadership within the government may change, civil servants continue to carry out their duties according to their responsibilities.

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said so at the meeting with instructor officers and trainees from the Civil Service Academy (Upper Myanmar), the Police Officer Training Depot (Zeebingyi) and the Central Firefighting Training School (PyinOoLwin) in Zeebingyi of PyinOoLwin Township in Mandalay Region at the Yadana Hall of the Civil Service Academy (Upper Myanmar) yesterday afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General underlined that training schools are designed to cultivate competent civil servants, with the under-

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the meeting with trainees

- 1. Even if policies differ depending on the ruling party or government, the functions of offices and departments remain unchanged.
- 2. As chosen civil servants, they should not live ordinarily but strive to be competent, high-quality civil servants and work diligently to improve their own lives.
- 3. The trainees to learn from the historical experiences of the country to build a modern, developed, stable, and peaceful nation in the future.
- 4. Producing goods is necessary to have the exports needed for trade, and obtaining these exports ensures the foreign currency required by the State, which in turn reduces trade deficits.

standing that good civil servants lead to a good nation.

The Senior General stressed that while political leadership within the government may change, civil servants continue to carry out their duties according to their responsibilities. Even if policies differ depending on the ruling party or government, the functions of offices and departments remain unchanged.

He pointed out that all the

trainees applied for and were selected as civil servants, and thus have earned the privilege of serving as government employees. As chosen civil servants, they should not live ordinarily but strive to be competent, high-quality civil servants and work diligently to improve their own lives.

He urged the trainees to learn from the historical experiences of the country to build a modern, developed, stable, and

peaceful nation in the future.

The Senior General underscored that civil servants must have a broad and thorough understanding of political changes.

He recounted that from 2021 until the present, during their tenure, political armed conflicts, political blockades, natural disasters, and various difficulties and challenges were overcome through the collective strength of loyal civil servants and respon-

sible citizens. In a democratic country, he emphasized that elections are extremely important. When casting their votes, trainees should choose those who can act in the best interests of the country and regions, uphold Our Three Main National Causes, and work in harmony with Tatmadaw, which is the most stable and enduring institution of the State.

Regarding the economy, the Senior General explained that there were persistent trade deficits, which were covered by funds obtained from non-trade sources. Only by supporting domestic production could goods be generated, and exports increased. Producing goods is necessary to have the exports needed for trade, and obtaining these exports ensures the foreign currency required by the State, which in turn reduces trade deficits.

SEE PAGE 4

NATIONAL

Civil servants urged to broaden ...

FROM PAGE 1

A good government employee leads to a good nation. Primarily, it is necessary to train and develop employees so that they have strong discipline, remain free from party politics, and possess a genuine love and dedication for the country.

Training courses have been inserted on law subjects for all civil service personnel to thoroughly understand the laws, as they are all adults.

The Senior General gave guidance to systematically carry out livestock breeding to sufficiently provide eggs and meat to trainees, service personnel and their families.

The Senior General inspected the academy, the earthquake-affected Nilar Hall and Mahawthada Hall and gave necessary guidance to officials.

After overseeing the female trainee

hostels of Khatta Hall, the Senior General had lunch together with trainees from the basic education teacher special refresher course No 82 at the mess hall and cordially greeted them.

At the Police Officer Training Depot (Zeebingyi), Commission Member Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung reported to the Senior General on the brief history of training depots for police officers and other rank police members and that of the Central Firefighting Training School while the commandant of the Police Officer Training Depot (Zeebingyi) and the principal of the Central Firefighting Training School (PyinOoLwin) clarified matters related to their training schools, functions of training courses, appointment of staff for the schools, progress of agriculture and livestock activities, welfare for staff, and practical courses.

In his response to the reports, the Senior General noted that police members not only have to know the police laws but also have a thorough understanding of all laws, including the Constitution. Therefore, it is essential to provide education on legal knowledge.

Police members are responsible for enforcing the rule of law and maintaining discipline, which requires direct interaction and engagement with the public. Since Myanmar is following a democratic system, the police are solely responsible for ensuring internal security and upholding the rule of law. It is necessary to continuously train and develop capable police personnel.

It is necessary to provide training and practice to police members so as to ensure they acquire good practices.

It is necessary to provide training and practice, starting from the Sub-In-

spector Police course to ensure administrative coordination and fairness.

The Senior General viewed round equipment and insignia used by the police force in the colonial era, badges, current police equipment, rank badges and insignia, uniforms, arms of the police force, documentary photos, and commemorative materials sent by foreign countries, displayed at the training depot museum and gave necessary instructions.

The Senior General also inspected the library of the depot and instructed officials to arrange reading practice for the trainees and add more fiction and non-fiction books to the library.

After viewing the Central Firefighting Training School (PyinOoLwin), the Senior General cordially greeted families at the staff housing and attended to their needs. — MNA/TTA

Civil servants must broaden their understanding ...

FROM PAGE 3

He remarked that if essential consumer goods can be produced domestically to meet local demand, it will reduce the use of foreign currency spent on imports. Thus, producing sufficient domestic foodstuff instead of importing them will significantly lower foreign currency expenditures.

He added that the purpose of taking the time to explain in detail like this is to help understand the political changes and the economic situations that have occurred in the country.

The Senior General noted that trainees have spent time, money, and effort to attend these courses, so it is necessary to genuinely learn and master the knowledge during their training. After completing the training, when the time comes to fulfill your responsibilities in building the future of the nation, trainees should take lessons from past events and apply them in the best possible way.

After the meeting, the Senior General and party cordially greeted the trainees.

Also present at the meeting were Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, Union ministers, the Mandalay Region Chief Minister, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of Central Command, rectors and principals of the Civil Service Academy, the Police Officer Training Depot, and the Central Firefighting Training School and officials. — MNA/TTA

MoFA Union Minister receives UNFPA Representative



The Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to Myanmar calls on Union Minister U Than Swe yesterday.

U Than Swe, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, received the Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to Myanmar at the Min-

istry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on matters about the UNFPA's work plans

and its activities in Myanmar.

Also, present at the meeting were respective officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. — MNA

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NATIONAL

General Aung San Declares Firm Stand Against Election Disruption

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

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



MoEP UM inspects 500 kV Sapakywe (Toungoo) substation project

UNION Minister for Electric Power U Nyan Tun inspected the 500kV Sapakywe (Toungoo) substation construction site in Toungoo Township of Bago Region yesterday.

The Union minister heard the reports presented by the relevant officials regarding 500KV Kankaung (Meiktila) substation and 500KV Sapakywe (Toungoo) substation, and he made instructions to make quick repairs on the Shunt Reactor Bushing that was destroyed by the Mandalay

earthquake, ensure the occupational safety, security and timely completion.

He also inspected the control building and installation of transformers, Shunt Reactor and Hybrid Gas Insulated Switch-gear (HGIS) in Switch Yard.

The 500 kV Sapakywe (Toungoo) substation project has completed 81.07 per cent, and efforts are being made to complete the whole project as quickly as possible. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister U Nyan Tun and officials are pictured during their inspection tours in the construction site of the Sapakyew (Toungoo) substation.

Early childhood care and development (basic) training course concludes in Hpa-an

THE graduation ceremony for the early childhood care and development (basic) training course for children aged three to five years was organized at No 1 Preschool in Hpa-an township yesterday.

Kayin State Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo remarked at the event and presented K3.2 million for the trainees and a prize to the first prize winner.

The relevant officials also presented awards to the second and third prize winners, and the State Social Affairs Minister gave certificates to the trainees.

The chief minister and party observed the teaching aids and gave K300,000 for the general expenses of the No 2 preschool.



The concluding event of the early childhood care and development training in progress yesterday.

The chief minister also attended the meeting with the Kayin State government and township-level departmental staff at Zweekabin Hall of Hpa-an, and he urged the relevant responsible persons to carry out the duties as a national task to ensure that every citizen can cast their vote properly.

The State ministers and state-level departmental officials presented the completed work plans, ongoing work plans and electoral measures. — Saw Myo Min Thein (IPRD)/KTZH



Myanmar reports no new COVID-19 cases

THE Ministry of Health tested 43 samples from 8 pm on 23 November 2025 to 8 pm on 30 November 2025, and no new cases were found. Therefore, 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

MSWRR Union Minister meets UNFPA representative

DR Soe Win, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Re-settlement, met yesterday afternoon with Mr Jaime Nadal Roig, the Resident Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Myanmar, at the Ministry’s reception hall.

During the meeting, they discussed the UNFPA’s provision of Dignity Kits for earthquake-affected areas, the support provided by UNFPA to violence-affected women at the One-Stop Women Support Centres (OSWSCs), and the facilitation of entry visas for UNFPA international staff. They also exchanged views openly on extending and signing the work



plan for joint activities between the Department of Social Welfare and UNFPA, focusing on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The meeting was attended by the Director-General of the Department of Social Welfare, the Deputy Permanent Secretary, relevant departmental officers, and representatives from the UNFPA office. — MNA/MKKS

The UNFPA Resident Representative calls on Union Minister Dr Soe Win yesterday.

Deputy Information Minister inspects Basic Education High School for industrial, agricultural, and livestock breeding in Chauk

DEPUTY Minister for Information U Ye Tint visited the Basic Education High School for industrial, agricultural, and livestock breeding in Gway-cho Village of Chauk Township yesterday, and inspected the learning sections of students.

During the meeting with the education officials, teachers, students and their parents, the Deputy Minister highlighted the need for students to prioritize learning during their youth, try hard to be perfect youths with five essential skills, learn the subjects carefully, and added that if they are able to join the universities according to their respective subjects, they will become young professionals bringing dignity to the region and country.

He also urged the parents and teachers to train the young people properly, encourage them to read, carry out to development the libraries,

cooperate to be able to hold the forthcoming election successfully and arrange for every eligible voter to cast a vote exposing the insurgents, and cast a vote for the ones who will really bring benefits to the region and the country.

He presented the books donated by the Ministry of Information and the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs for the libraries. At noon, he proceeded to the IPRD office in Kyaukpadaung Township, and inspected the preparation for the library development and reading habit raising campaign, and made proper instructions. — IPRD/KTZH



Deputy Minister U Ye Tint is pictured during his inspection tour in Chauk yesterday.

Myanmar marks 2025 World AIDS Day



This 2025 World AIDS day pay underway yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw, attended by Deputy Minister Dr Aye Tun.

THE Ministry of Health organized a ceremony to mark 2025 World AIDS Day in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Deputy Minister Prof Dr Aye Tun stated that the preventive medication is being provided for key populations at high risk of HIV infection, and that community-based HIV screening services and rapid testing for HIV are also being carried out to ensure better access for key populations with high HIV prevalence. He added that in line with this year’s World AIDS Day theme, “Overcoming disruption, transforming the AIDS response,” efforts must be made to ensure equal access to HIV prevention and treatment services for everyone, cooperate with the partner organizations and people, including target groups and HIV patients to resolve the challenges and strengthen the HIV/AIDS preventive measures

than before.

He presented awards to the winners of the essay, painting and poster competitions and observed the displayed booths together with the attendees.

The Deputy Minister received a delegation led by Senior Fund Portfolio Manager Ms Qi Cui of The Global Fund, Geneva, Switzerland.

During the meeting, they discussed the collaborative activities to be carried out in 2026 between the ministry and The Global Fund regarding tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and malaria prevention and treatment programmes, measures of the ministry to ensure the continuous supply of ART medicines, TB medicines, malaria treatment drugs and ongoing work plans.

Also present at the meeting were relevant officials of the ministry and representatives of The Global Fund. — MNA/KTZH

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

United strength of people can manage appropriate protection against natural disasters

- ❖ Natural disasters cannot be completely prevented, but appropriate protection can be provided through people’s preparedness, diligence, and efforts.
- ❖ Planting trees and conserving forests will create shade and shelter, as well as a greener and more vibrant environment.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the national-level second tree-growing ceremony 2025 with public activity in Minbu Township, Minbu District of Magway Region, for greening 13 arid zone districts on 19 August 2025)

Authorities seize online scammers, gamblers, buildings and industrial materials in Taunghteik Village near Dokhtawady confluence

AS part of its national responsibility, the government has been actively combatting telecom fraud and online gambling, which pose threats internationally. Efforts are being made to ensure these activities cannot take root within Myanmar by coordinating not only with domestic forces but also with the governments of neighbouring countries. On 30 November and 1 December, 28 foreign nationals involved in on-line scam and gambling activities were arrested along with related equipment and residential buildings used for these online scam and gambling activities near Taunghteik village, Kyaukme Township of Shan State (North).

Security forces serving security duties in Kyaukme Township raided suspicious buildings near the Dokhtawady River, south of Taunghteik Village of Kyaukme Township on 30 November and found the site used for operating telecom fraud and online gambling activities. No participants in the aforesaid activities were found but the security forces confiscated six 60 feet by 30 feet hostels, five 60 feet by 30



The location map, arrestees and seized scam-related items.

feet work offices, six 60 feet by 30 feet food warehouses, one 60 feet by 30 feet work office under construction, one 60 feet by 30 feet hostel under construction, one 80 feet by 15 feet general purpose building, one 80 feet by 10 feet long latrine, one 30 feet by 10 feet four-room hostel, one four-room two-storey building

including the ration warehouse, one large generator, five 15 feet high wooden tower, one 20 feet by 10 feet hostel, one 700 feet by 400 feet fenced land plot, 30 all-in-one desktops, 10 Starlink satellite receivers, one air-cooler, two Xiaomi Wifi devices, one sound box, three power stations, one money-counting machine, three

card-cutting machines, computer accessories, and other electrical devices.

Subsequently, while carrying out a regional security operation again near Taunghteik village, the security forces also arrested 10 Chinese nationals operating online fraud and gambling activities to the

north of that area. Yesterday, they apprehended another 10 Chinese nationals to the north of Taunghteik village and eight more Chinese nationals near Ponwoe village to the north of Taunghteik village.

Myanmar will continue to broadly suppress online fraud and gambling activities within the country. The government is actively cooperating with neighbouring countries, regional states, and international organizations to identify, arrest, and take strong action against those involved in these operations and the individuals orchestrating them behind the scenes. Consequently, the seized equipment, residential buildings, and sites used for online fraud and gambling have been burned and destroyed. Those apprehended, along with others involved, will be systematically investigated and prosecuted according to the law. Foreign nationals will be handled with humanitarian consideration and in the spirit of international goodwill, and will be repatriated to their respective countries. — MNA/TTA

Online scam hub buildings demolished, sealed off in Kayin State

THE government continues to conduct joint operations in the Shwe Kokko area and the KK Park area, where suspects commit telecom fraud and on-line 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 ac-

cordance 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 a one-storey building, four two-storey buildings, two four-storey buildings, totalling seven buildings in the Section 3 area, and 135

buildings out of 425 buildings in Section 3 have been destroyed, and a total of 283 buildings out of 635 illegal buildings have so far been demolished in the KK Park area.

Similarly, the operation has been conducted in the Shwe Kokko area since 18 November, and the authorities searched 61 buildings, and no individuals involved in online fraud or on-line gambling were found, but

gambling-related materials were seized.

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 140 illegal buildings has been found, and measures to seal and confiscate those buildings to prevent further use began yesterday, with 13 buildings, totalling 132 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.

SEE PAGE 10

Overcome disruption while transforming the AIDS response

ALTHOUGH a complete cure for AIDS has not yet been discovered, powerful medications now exist that allow patients to manage their condition effectively. With careful monitoring and adherence to treatment, people living with HIV can maintain good health and live long, fulfilling lives. Despite this medical progress, many patients continue to face a life of suffering dominated by worry and anxiety. They fear social rejection, the impact of the disease on their lifespan, and the physical and mental challenges associated with AIDS. These concerns are often compounded by worry that their loved ones or community members may face stigma due to their association with the patient.

The theme of World AIDS Day 2025 – Overcoming disruption, transforming the AIDS response – underscores the importance of addressing these challenges. Observed on 1 December 2025, the day offers an opportunity to highlight the impact of funding cuts while recognizing the resilience of countries and communities working to safeguard past gains and drive the global HIV response forward. So, let's give a helping hand to AIDS patients to unite with society.

making HIV services increasingly inaccessible. This combination of funding cuts and legal barriers is intensifying the crisis and undermining efforts to provide essential care and prevention.

Despite these challenges, significant work remains to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of ending AIDS by 2030. AIDS is far from over, and today's environment demands a transformative approach to mitigate risks and accelerate progress. Countries worldwide must make radical shifts in HIV programming and financing. The global HIV response cannot rely solely on domestic resources; the international community must collaborate to bridge financing gaps, remove legal and social barriers, and empower communities to lead interventions.

The theme of World AIDS Day 2025 — Overcoming disruption, transforming the AIDS response — underscores the importance of addressing these challenges. Observed on 1 December 2025, the day offers an opportunity to highlight the impact of funding cuts while recognizing the resilience of countries and communities working to safeguard past gains and drive the global HIV response forward. So, let's give a helping hand to AIDS patients to unite with society.

Misconceptions about transmission contribute to additional fear, but with proper health knowledge, individuals can safely interact with HIV-positive persons without risk of infection. When patients and those around them understand the realities of HIV and follow recommended precautions, the risk of transmission is effectively eliminated. Moreover, a supportive community that treats patients as equals, rather than isolating them, can significantly boost the morale and mental well-being of those living with the disease.

In 2025, however, the global AIDS response faces a historic funding crisis threatening decades of progress. HIV prevention services are severely disrupted, and community-led programmes — essential for reaching marginalized populations — are being deprioritized. At the same time, the rise of punitive laws criminalizing same-sex relationships, gender identity, and drug use is

STARTING with the Global Development Initiative (GDI), which was briefly mentioned in the Governance of China IV book by President Xi around 2021, the other initiatives have come out successively, namely the Global Security Initiative (GSI) and Global Civilisation Initiative (GCI).

In the GDI proposal, President Xi mentioned being committed to

1. development as a priority.
2. a people-centred approach.
3. benefits for all.
4. innovation driven development.
5. harmony between humanity and nature.
6. results oriented actions.

It focuses on promoting international cooperation on development. The famous BRI (Belt and Road Initiative) is an essential part of that.

The second initiative proposed during 2022 was the Global Security Initiative or GSI. China promises to stay committed to

1. the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security.
2. respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries.
3. abiding by the purposes and princi-

ples of the UN Charter.

4. taking the legitimate security concerns of all countries seriously.
5. peacefully resolving differences and disputes between countries through dialogue and consultation.
6. maintaining security in both traditional and non-traditional domains.

CSI emphasis is on encouraging dialogue and consultation over international discord.

The third one, Global Civilisation Initiative (GCI), is aimed at increasing understanding and friendship among peoples and jointly advancing the development and progress of human civilisation. Secondly, the three Global Initiatives (GDI, GSI and GCI) are there to uphold equality and inclusiveness. GCI is for promoting exchanges and mutual learning among civilisations.

The last of the gang of four, the Global Governance Initiative (GGI), came out in 2025 to promote the building of a more just

and equitable global governance system and work together for a community with a shared future for humanity. On the surface, it seems the four seem to be all but one, from the bird's eye view. China wants the world to work together and develop, especially the Global South.

The core concepts of GGI are

1. Adhere to sovereign equality
2. Abide by International law
3. Practice multilateralism
4. Advocate for a people-centred approach
5. Focus on taking real actions.

To further explain, Concept I of GGI highlighted that sovereign equality is the premise of global governance. The unequal situation in which a few countries, such as the US, monopolize global governance can no longer continue. Illegal retention of Myanmar sovereign funds in the US would be one such

example - the US taking the ideological upper hand in their governance.

Concept II said international law is the fundamental safeguard for global governance. Such laws should be jointly formulated, maintained, and implemented by all countries, and they shall apply to all without any exceptions.

The concept of multilateralism is a basic pathway for global governance. It needs coordination and cooperation rather than unilateralism and bullying.

The people-centred approach is also somewhat covered under the previous three initiatives. At its core, global governance is about turning people's longing for a better life into reality and building a world in which all can enjoy affluence and contentment.

The last concept encourages us to all avoid NATO (No Action Talk Only) approaches, reminding us that the key lies in action and the ultimate result of us is in results.

As usual rhetoric, China promises to continue to stand on the right side of history, the side of human progress, the side of multilateralism, advocating unity and cooperation, rather than division and confrontation. Over the past 80 years, the UN has been at the core of the international order, underpinned by international law and basic norms of international relations. The current international landscape is such that the UN itself and multilateralism are being challenged, and the deficit and global governance continues to grow. First, the current governance structure seriously under-represents the developing or poorer countries (aka) the Global South. Second, the UN is in decline as its principles have not been effectively observed. Unilateral sanctions were taken against the resolutions of the UN Security Council. Last, there is an urgent need for greater effectiveness. UN Sustainable Development Goals and Climate Actions have been largely ignored, and world

issues such as climate change and the digital divide are becoming more critical.

As one astronaut observed from space, no one can see the national boundaries, different countries and races. All he can see is one round blue ball covered with clouds. The morale of this story is that we should not think of ourselves as belonging to a distinct race, country, or civilization, per se. Instead, we all belong to this world of global civilisation.

These GGI concepts seem ideal in this current global environment where poorer or smaller country such as Myanmar do not have their sovereignty and dignity respected, and their domestic affairs are constantly being interfered with in the context of geopolitical leverage, where we are not given the right to independently choose our own social system and development path. We like some countries from the Global South are experiencing discriminatory and exclusionary arrangements on the global stage. Finally, talk is cheap. GGI ended by the inclusion of action and results orientation in global governance to effectively tackle major issues facing our human civilisation.

The timing could not have been more perfect!



A Nation Blessed with Abundant Natural and Gemstone Wealth

By Min Min Zan



Gem traders carefully examine gemstones and jade during the 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium.

for its remarkable translucence, vibrant green colouration, and high economic value.

Myanmar's mineral and gemstone resources are distributed widely across the country. These natural blessings not only enrich the nation but also support thousands of livelihoods. The extraction of gem resources plays an important role in local economies, particularly in northern regions where jade and ruby mining are concentrated. Over the years, gemstones discovered within Myanmar's soil have become a national heritage — treasures that the country protects, regulates, and showcases to the world. These gems are not merely natural wonders; they are symbols of national wealth, cultural pride, and international prestige. Consequently, Myanmar is often regarded as one of the world's principal owners of high-value gemstones, and its gem trade has consistently drawn global attention.

To celebrate and promote its precious resources, Myanmar has long organized national gemstone emporiums. These large-scale events serve as platforms for showcasing the country's finest gems and connecting local producers with global buyers. The emporiums also play a significant role in generating foreign income, strengthening Myanmar's

economy, and helping the gemstone sector develop sustainably.

In order to regulate and manage the trade of legally extracted gemstones, the Government of Myanmar has allowed officially mined gem products to be showcased and sold at government-organized gem emporiums. The first official Myanmar Gems Emporium was held in 1964. Since then, the event has become an annual tradition, attracting thousands of local and international traders, experts, and investors. This year marks the 60th Anniversary of Myanmar Gems Emporium – a significant milestone that highlights six decades of tradition, trade, and national pride.

The 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium is being held from 17 to 26 November at the Nay Pyi Taw Gem Museum Hall. This grand exhibition features an impressive and diverse display of high-quality gemstones. According to official figures, the event includes 5,064 lots of raw jade, 21 lots of cut jade, 13 lots of raw gems, 147 lots of finished gemstone jewellery, and 489 lots of pearls. These items will be auctioned both to local buyers and international traders under a competitive, transparent bidding system.

The emporium also allows the use of major international currencies such as the US dollar, euro, Chinese yuan, and Thai baht, along with foreign currencies recognized by the Central Bank of Myanmar. This policy ensures that foreign merchants can participate easily, strengthening international trade relations and increasing Myanmar's foreign exchange earnings.

SEE PAGE 11

NATIONAL

Online scam hub buildings demolished, sealed off in Kayin State

FROM PAGE 7

Yesterday, the authorities deported 131 Chinese nationals and 30 Pakistanis, totalling 161 individuals, through the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II.

From 30 January to 1 December 2025, a total of 12,945 foreign nationals who had entered Myanmar illegally were detained. Of these, 10,190 individuals were screened to be expelled and were systematically repatriated to their respective countries through Thailand in accordance with legal procedures. The remaining 2,755 foreign nationals are now ready



Images show the one-storey flat before and after the demolition in the KK Park area.

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

Psychotropic drugs worth over K470 million seized in three townships in Shan State

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Police Force, psychotropic drugs worth K249.9 million were seized in Tangyan Township, and psychotropic drugs worth K224 million were seized in Loilem and Lashio.

The first incident occurred at 11:10 am on 28 November, when a joint team comprising members of members of the Anti-Drug Police Force intercepted and searched a Honda Odyssey driven by Sai Nyi Nyi Oo (aka) Sai Shwe Aung, aged 36, a resident of Tachilek, near Namhuloika Village in Tangyan Township. The search uncovered 13.5 kilogrammes of ketamine (valued locally at K 175.5 million), 0.17 litre of “Happy Water” liquid (valued locally at K 51 million), and 2,600 Erimin-5 tablets (valued locally at K23.4 million). Action has been taken against Sai Nyi Nyi Oo (aka) Sai Shwe Aung under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

In addition, at 8 am on 28 November, a joint team comprising members of the Anti-Drug Police Force, acting on information received,



An arrestee is seen together with confiscated drugs and a vehicle.

intercepted and searched a Toyota Hilux on the Loilem-Taunggyi Road in Ward 2, Loilem. The vehicle was driven by Thet Htun Aung (a) Yan Gyi Aung, aged 36, a resident of Pubbathiri Township, and accompanied by Nyein Chan Aung (a) Naw Seng, aged 36, and Than Naing Oo (a) Aryon Oo, aged 43, both from Hpa-an. The search uncovered two kilogrammes of “Happy Water” (valued locally at K220 million).

Follow-up investigations led to a raid at 11 am that same day on the home of Naw San (a) Ah Bon, aged 42, a drug distributor residing in Ward 5, Lashio. He was found together with Aik Htun, aged 32, also a resident of the same ward. A search of a Mark-X vehicle in the compound led to the seizure of an additional 0.08 kilogramme of “Happy Water” (valued locally at K4 million).

As a result, legal action has been taken under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law against five individuals — Thet Htun Aung (a) Yan Gyi Aung, Nyein Chan Aung (a) Naw Seng, Than Naing Oo (a) Aryon Oo, Naw San (a) Ah Bon, and Aik Htun. — MNA/MKKS

Illegal goods worth over K375M seized in Taninthayi, Bago and Yangon Regions

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts are being made to prevent and take effective legal action against illegal trade.

Under the management of the Taninthayi Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force, a joint team conducted inspections, and on 29 November, in Kawthoung and Myeik townships, four unlicensed motorcycles (estimated value K 13.2 million) were seized under the Import and Export Law. Additionally, near Wetkyun in Bokpyin Township, four unlicensed fishing boats (estimated value K 12.8 million) were seized under the Myanmar Marine Fisheries Law. In Dawei Township, 1.58 tonnes of illegal timber (estimated value K 156,000) were confiscated under the Forest Law. The total estimated value of items seized was K 26.156 million, and legal action is being taken accordingly.

Similarly, under the management of the Bago Region Illegal Trade Eradication Task Force, a joint team conducted inspections, and on 27 November, at Bago Railway Station, electrical goods without proper documentation (estimated value K38 million) were seized from the luggage of six passengers, and action was taken under the Import and Export Law.

Furthermore, under the management of the Customs Department, a joint team carried out inspections, and on 28 November, at Asia World Port, two types of commercial goods without proper documentation were seized from one container, with a total estimated value of K 310.9 million and action is being taken in accordance with customs procedures.

In total, from 27 to 29 November 2025, 11 cases were recorded with an estimated total value of over K 375 million. — MNA/MKKS



Confiscated illegal items.

NATIONAL/ARTICLE

Deep Depression News,
No 16, 2025

Issued at 4 pm MST on 1 December 2025

Deep Depression Condition

According to the observations at 15:30 hrs MST today, the Deep Depression over the Southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining Westcentral Bay of Bengal, North Tamil Nadu-Puducherry coasts and South Andhra Pradesh coasts almost stationary and it is centred at about 750 nautical miles west-southwest of Coco Island(Myanmar), 75 nautical miles northeast of Puducherry (India) and 20 nautical miles southeast of Chennai(India).

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

Position of Deep Depression, centre pressure and wind

The Deep Depression is located at Latitude 12.9 degree North and Longitude 80.6 degree East, centre pressure of Deep Depression is 1002 hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is 40 miles per hour at 15:30 hrs MST today.

Next 24 hours forecast

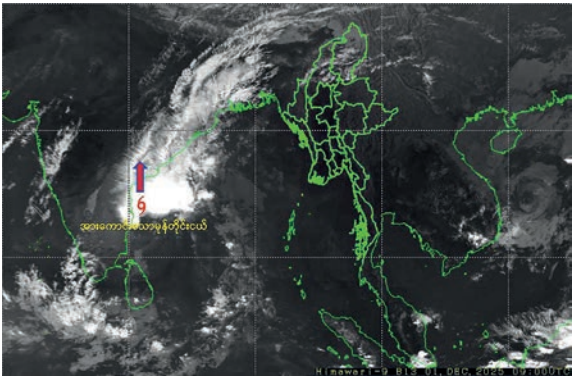
It is likely to move nearly northwards parallel to North Tamil Nadu-Puducherry coasts and South Andhra Pradesh coasts(India) and gradually weaken into a Depression during next 12 hours.

General Caution

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

Advisory

People should be aware of the Deep Depression and domestic aviation, near-shore and offshore fishing vessels, and ships off and along the Myanmar coasts and offshore are also advised to take precautions. — DMH



Yangon’s LNG-fuelled power
plants begin test runs with supply
from Thilawa Port



Test operations underway using LNG supplied from the LNG vessel at Thilawa Port in Thanlyin Township.

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Electric power, the power plants in Thanlyin and Thakayta townships of Yangon Region have begun test operations using liquefied natural gas (LNG) supplied from an LNG vessel docked at Thilawa Port in Thanlyin Township.

The Floating Storage Unit (FSU) for liquefied natural gas at Thilawa Port in Thanlyin Township sends LNG via

pipeline to a regasification plant, which then supplies gas to the 200-megawatt power plant in Thanlyin Township and the 400-megawatt power plant in Thakayta Township, both of which are now undergoing test operations.

The vessel CNTIC V Power Energy, which delivered the LNG to be distributed to LNG-fired power plants, berthed at Thilawa Port in Thanlyin Township on 15 No-

vember. This LNG carrier, owned by Hong Kong-based VPower Group, had previously berthed at a temporary jetty at Thilawa Port in June 2020 to enable the generation of electricity using LNG, and at that time was connected to the 400-megawatt power plant in Thakayta Township and the 350-megawatt power plant in Thanlyin Township to carry out electricity distribution. — ASH/KNN

Gold Market Rate as of 1 December 2025

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

A Nation Blessed with Abundant Natural and Gemstone Wealth

FROM PAGE 9

Beyondjade and gemstones, pearls were auctioned separately from 18 to 19 November. Raw gemstones and the remaining gem lots will be sold from 20 to 26 November. The auctions are organized into three groups – A, B, and C – dividing the items to ensure smooth and systematic bidding. These arrangements are designed to promote fairness, transparency, and efficiency, attracting traders from across

the world and showcasing Myanmar’s readiness to participate in global gem markets.

The Myanma Gems Emporium, now in its 60th year, stands as a national symbol of the country’s natural heritage. It reflects not only the richness of Myanmar’s land but also the pride of its people. The event strengthens the country’s economy, promotes responsible gemstone trade, and enhances Myanmar’s global standing in the gem industry. It is an occasion for local artisans,

miners, traders, and government sectors to come together to honour and promote the natural wonders of Myanmar’s soil.

Myanmar’s reputation in producing some of the world’s finest gemstones continues to grow. With the country’s commitment to responsible mining and international cooperation, the gemstone industry holds great promise for future generations. As the 60th Gems Emporium celebrates six decades of tradition, it also marks the beginning of a

new chapter in Myanmar’s gem trade – one filled with opportunities for growth, innovation, and global recognition.

In conclusion, Myanmar’s gemstone wealth remains an invaluable national treasure that continues to uplift the country’s economy through responsible extraction, trade, and international collaboration. The 60th Myanma Gems Emporium stands as a major milestone, showcasing decades of tradition and reinforcing Myanmar’s

position in the global gemstone market. As the industry evolves, transparency, sustainability, and modernization will be essential for long-term growth. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that international investors explore Myanmar’s gem sector, as the country offers rich natural resources, promising market opportunities, and the potential for mutually beneficial partnerships that can support both national development and global trade.

ECONOMY
WORLD

Intl tourists to Cambodia's Angkor down 3.47% in first 11 months of 2025

CAMBODIA'S famed Angkor Archaeological Park attracted a total of 867,195 international visitors in the first 11 months of 2025, a year-on-year drop of 3.47 per cent, said a press release on Monday.

The UNESCO-listed world heritage site made US\$40.48 million in revenue from ticket sales during the January-November period this year, also down 3.41 per cent, said the press release from the state-owned Angkor Enterprise.

In November this year, the park received 101,677 foreign tourists, generating \$4.9 million, down 18 per cent and 17 per cent, respectively, compared to the same month last year, it added.



Tourists visit the Angkor Wat temple in Siem Reap province on 15 March 2025. PHOTO: AFP

Situated in northwest Siem Reap province, the park is home to 91 ancient temples, which were built from the ninth to the 13th centuries.

Thourn Sinan, chairman of the Pacific Asia Travel Association Cambodia chapter, said that considering the current geopolitical climate and various crisis issues impacting global travel, a rise in tourist arrivals to the Angkor complex this year was unlikely.

"Unless there are initiatives such as free visas or special incentive packages for destination management companies or travellers, arrivals might remain relatively flat," he told Xinhua. — Xinhua

China's high-quality growth creates new opportunities for Portuguese-speaking countries, says chamber head

CHINA'S transition toward high-quality development not only reflects its internal economic upgrading but also creates "a new platform of global cooperation," offering shared opportunities for Portuguese-speaking countries, a business leader has said.

In a recent interview with Xinhua, Bernardo Mencia, secretary-general of the Portugal-China Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said China's stable economic growth in the third quarter shows that the world's second-largest economy "is consolidating its transformation while navigating successfully through a complex global environment."

"A stable China means a stable trading environment for us all. It is a reliable partner and a major engine for global growth," he said.

"China is clearly moving from quantity to quality, from being the 'world's factory' to becoming an innovation-driven, sustainable and consumption-based economy," he said,



Visitors learn about a manned aircraft during the China International Digital Economy Expo 2025 in Shijiazhuang, north China's Hebei Province, 17 October 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA

adding that the shift "means more sophisticated cooperation, better technology transfers and more predictable trade."

Mencia said Portugal sees China's transformation "not as a threat, but as a door open to mutually advantageous cooperation."

"Portugal, with its diplomatic tradition, global reach and strategic location, can benefit from this transformation if it acts proactively and with foresight," he said.

According to Mencia, China's focus on high-quality development has yielded visible results in renewable energy, new-energy vehicles, advanced manufacturing and digital services.

"China's ability to innovate and make green technology affordable is changing the rules of the game," enabling developing countries to decarbonize their economies, he said. — Xinhua

NEWS In BRIEF

Wholesale vegetable prices jump in Sri Lanka after adverse weather

WHOLESALE prices of vegetables at Sri Lanka's Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre have risen sharply on Monday following recent adverse weather in the country.

The official wholesale price list displayed at the centre for 1 December at 8 am local time showed a wide range of elevated prices across key vegetables.

One kg of carrots is now being sold between 700 rupees (about US\$2.27) and 1,000 rupees at the wholesale market. Beans and leeks are quoted at 500 to 800 rupees per kg, marking a steep increase compared with normal trading levels at the country's main wholesale hub for up-country produce.

For other vegetables, cabbage is marked at 100 to 180 rupees per kg and cauliflower at 350 to 400 rupees, both notably elevated from before. — Xinhua

S Korea's online shopping rises in October

SOUTH Korea's online shopping rose in single digits in October owing to surging demand for cars in cyberspace, statistical office data showed Monday.

Shopping in cyberspace grew 4.9 per cent from a year earlier to 22.71 trillion won (US\$15.4 billion) in October, according to the Ministry of Data and Statistics.

The growth was attributable to soaring online purchase of models from the US carmaker Tesla. The online sale of cars and car accessories jumped 38.6 per cent in the cited month.

Transaction of food delivery service and agricultural, livestock and fishery products in cyberspace mounted in double digits, while online demand for food and beverage, travel and transport service, and clothing added in single figures. — Xinhua

Japan companies' pretax profits rise 19% in Jul-Sep amid AI demand

PRETAX profits at Japanese companies in the July-September period rose 19.7 per cent from a year earlier to 27.54 trillion yen (\$177 billion), marking a fourth straight quarterly increase, driven by strong demand in the field of artificial intelligence, the Finance Ministry said Monday.

Although pretax profits in the transport equipment sector tumbled 14.0 per cent due to higher US tariffs, among manufacturers as a whole they climbed 23.4 per cent to 10 trillion yen on robust demand for AI data centres and semiconductor-making equipment.

Nonmanufacturers reported a 17.6 per cent increase in pretax profits



Vehicles sit lined up on a lot near the docks next to a container ship at the Port of Nagoya, in Tokai, Aichi prefecture, suburban Nagoya on 2 June 2025. PHOTO: AFP

to 17.54 trillion yen, boosted by increased customer numbers and average spending at restaurants and accommodation fa-

cilities.

In the nonmanufacturing sector, construction companies saw a 48.6 per cent surge in pretax prof-

its on large-scale projects and rising construction costs, the ministry said.

In the third quarter of 2025, capital spending by

all nonfinancial sectors for purposes such as building factories and purchasing equipment grew 2.9 per cent to 13.81 trillion yen, rising for the third consecutive quarter.

Among the sectors that boosted investment, information and communication service providers expanded AI-related capacity and steel companies advanced decarbonization efforts, the ministry said.

Takafumi Fujita, an economist at the Meiji Yasuda Research Institute, said Japanese companies managed to withstand the negative impact of US trade policy in the July-September period.

The Japanese and US governments agreed

in July to lower vehicle duties to 15 per cent from 27.5 per cent imposed earlier by President Donald Trump, with the new rate taking effect in mid-September.

"It is encouraging that we saw solid results in growth areas," Fujita said, pointing to robust performances in sectors such as AI and semiconductors.

Sales grew 0.5 per cent to 379.04 trillion, up for the 18th straight quarter.

The latest figures will be used to revise Japan's gross domestic product data for the July-September period showing the economy shrank an annualized real 1.8 per cent, marking the first contraction in six quarters. — Kyodo

Australia's beef output to hit record as exports surge: report

AUSTRALIA'S 2025 beef production is set to break new ground with record volumes, supported by strong export demand from the United States and China, an industry report said Monday.

The RaboResearch division of Rabobank, an agribusiness finan-

cial service provider, estimates that 2025 Australian beef production will be approximately 2.9 million metric tonnes, up 11 per cent from 2024, setting a new record.

Beef exports have also increased, up 15 per cent for the first 10 months of 2025 to 1.3

million metric tonnes shipped weight, according to Rabobank's Q4 2025 Global Beef Quarterly.

The United States remains the largest market, accounting for 29 per cent of Australian beef exports, said the report's lead author, Rab-

oResearch senior animal proteins analyst Angus Gidley-Baird.

Volumes to China have climbed 44 per cent for the first 10 months of 2025, boosted by a 58 per cent jump in grainfed beef exports to China, Gidley-Baird said. — Xinhua

US auto sales drop amid high tariffs, inflation, fewer jobs

HIGH auto tariffs, persistent inflation and a tighter job market have forced more Americans to rethink their purchases, reported The Wall Street Journal on Sunday.

"Car buyers are downsizing, buying used vehicles, taking on longer car loans and holding out for deals," said the report.

At the same time, the US electric vehicle (EV) market has experienced a sharp downturn — accelerated by the expiration of the federal 7,500-US-dollar EV tax credit in September, which has wiped out hundreds of thousands of potential sales and further weighed on the industry, it said. — Xinhua

High-end yellowtail hits record-tying 4 mln yen in quake-hit central Japan

PREMIUM yellowtail "Kirameki" fetched a record-tying four million yen (\$25,700) for a single fish on Monday during the first auction of the season in Ishikawa Prefecture, nearly two years after a strong quake ravaged the central Japan area.

The 14.5-kilogramme winter delicacy, meeting the Kirameki brand's strict certification stand-

ard of at least 14 kg, was auctioned off at a fish market in Kanazawa to a local supermarket operator.

"I want to support the disaster-hit area by delivering good food and energizing Noto," Munehiro Yamaguchi, president of Dontaku Co.

The yellowtail, which was caught and delivered from Noto, will be sold as sushi after being dis-

played at one of the supermarkets.

The Kirameki certification system started in 2022, when another yellowtail under the brand also fetched four million yen.

Local market officials allow yellowtail to be sold under the Kirameki brand only if they are caught in Ishikawa using designated nets between

December and January and satisfy certain criteria in weight, shape and appearance.

The Noto Peninsula and nearby areas were ravaged by a magnitude-7.6 earthquake on New Year's Day in 2024 that killed hundreds of people and wreaked havoc on a region known for traditional crafts and tourism. — Kyodo

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V XO LUCKY VOY.NO. (X2524E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V XO LUCKY VOY.NO. (X2524E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-12-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S TI2 LOGISTICS PTE LTD

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Pope prays for peace in Lebanon and the region

POPE Leo XIV prayed for peace in Lebanon and the region on Monday on day two of his trip to the multi-confessional country, with joyful Lebanese welcoming the pontiff at two famous pilgrimage sites.

Thousands of people cheered, ululated and threw rice in celebration as the pope travelled in the popemobile to a monastery in Annaya in the mountains north of Beirut which hosts the tomb of Saint Charbel, AFP photographers said.

Pope Leo arrived from Türkiye on Sunday on his inaugural visit abroad as pontiff and brought a message of hope, particularly to young people in Lebanon whose faith in their crisis-hit country has dwindled.

"For the world, we ask for peace. We especially implore it for Lebanon and for the entire



Pope Leo XIV addresses the crowd during a meeting with bishops, priests consecrated persons and personal workers at the shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon in Harissa, northeast of the capital Beirut, on 1 December 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

Levant," the pope said from deep inside the candle-lit stone monastery.

Saint Charbel, who was canonized in 1977, enjoys broad popularity in Lebanon beyond the Christian community, with depictions of the white-bearded saint found in homes, vehicles and workplaces.

The pontiff then visited Harissa, also north of Beirut,

where a giant statue of Our Lady of Lebanon overlooks the Mediterranean from a plunging hilltop.

The shrine is visited by Lebanese of all faiths, and Pope Leo called it "a symbol of unity for the entire Lebanese people".

The crowd at the site's towering modern basilica erupted into cheers and applause as the pontiff entered, shaking hands with people including priests and nuns, some of whom kissed his hand.

Prayer "gives us the strength to continue to hope and work, even when surrounded by the sound of weapons and when the very necessities of daily life become a challenge", the pontiff told the packed gathering of bishops, other religious figures and pastoral workers, after hearing testimonies from participants. — AFP

Sri Lanka warns of rising infectious disease risks as floodwaters recede



People with their belongings wade through a flooded street after heavy rainfall in Wellampitiya on the outskirts of Colombo on 30 November 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

SRI Lankan authorities on Monday urged the public to be vigilant about the higher risk of infectious and vector-borne diseases as floodwaters receded in several districts following days of adverse weather.

Jayatissa Munasinghe, assistant secretary of the National Disaster Relief Services Centre, said stagnant water and mud pose increased health hazards, adding that the Ministry of Health has already

begun implementing preventive measures.

Each divisional secretariat has been allocated 50 million rupees (about US\$162,528) to provide immediate assistance to affected families, Munasinghe said, noting that relief funds have been increased and can now be released without administrative delays.

In addition to previously released funds for dry rations, authorities have approved the distribution of packaged dry food items where needed, he said.

According to the latest data issued by the Disaster Management Centre, 355 Sri Lankans have died and 366 persons remain missing due to the adverse weather conditions affecting the country. — Xinhua

Iran, Saudi Arabia discuss ties, urge regional cooperation for peace

SENIOR diplomats from Iran and Saudi Arabia on Sunday discussed bilateral ties and stressed the need for regional cooperation to safeguard peace in light of the Israeli offensive in the region.

During their meeting in Tehran, Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi and Saudi Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Saud bin Mohammed Al-Sati reviewed ways to advance bilateral ties and cooperation in areas of mutual interest, according to a statement from the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

Araghchi condemned what he called Israel's ongoing "genocide and crimes" in the occupied Palestinian territories and its "aggressions" against Lebanon

and Syria, calling them the biggest threat to peace and stability in West Asia and beyond.

He urged for more effective cooperation and coordination among the regional and Muslim states to curb Israel's "war-mongering and law-breaking" in West Asia.

The Saudi diplomat, for his part, underlined his country's position on the need for enhanced regional cooperation to safeguard peace and stability.

Iran and Saudi Arabia restored diplomatic relations in April, 2023, ending a seven-year freeze. Riyadh had severed ties with Tehran in 2016 after Iranian protesters attacked Saudi diplomatic missions following the kingdom's execution of a Shiite cleric. — Xinhua

DR Congo says latest Ebola outbreak is over

HEALTH authorities in the Democratic Republic of Congo on Monday declared an end to the latest outbreak of Ebola, which has caused at least 34 deaths since August.

The virus, which is often fatal despite recent advances in vaccines and treatment, has caused 15,000 deaths in Africa in the last 50 years.

The deadliest outbreak in DR Congo between 2018 and 2020 killed nearly 2,300 people out of 3,500 infected.

The head of the National

Institute of Public Health (INSP), Dieudonne Mwamba Kazadi, said the outbreak had "effectively ended", before an official ceremony in Kinshasa.

Kazadi said there had been at least 34 fatalities from 53 confirmed cases. A further 11 deaths appear to have been caused by the virus, taking the likely total deaths to 45, he added.

DR Congo has had 16 Ebola outbreaks since the virus was first identified in 1976, when the vast central African country was known as Zaire. — AFP

SPORTS

23 finalists selected for Myanmar national women’s football team

THE Myanmar national women’s football team has been formed with 23 finalists to take part in the XXXIII SEA Games to be hosted by Thailand.

The Myanmar team headed by U Kyi Lwin together with Head Coach Japanese Yuki Tetsuro and assistant coaches Daw Thet Thet Win, Daw San San Thein and Daw Thuza Htwe and goalkeeping coach U Sein Aye, goalkeeper Myo Mya Mya Nyein (Thitsa Arman), Zu Latt Nadi (ISPE), and Ei Sanda Zaw (Ayeyawady), defenders Zun Yuya Oo (Ayeyawady), Phyu Phway (Yangon United), Yu Yu Naing (Yangon United),

Lin Lei Oo (ISPE), Than Than Nwe (ISPE), Hnin Pwint Aye (ISPE), and May Thet Mon Myint (Thitsa Arman), midfielders Lin Myintmo (ISPE), Phyu Phyu Win (Ayeyawady), Naw Htet Htet Wai (Ayeyawady), Khin Mo Mo Tun (Thitsa Arman), Win Win (Thitsa Arman), Shwe Yi Tun (ISPE), Khin Marlar Tun (ISPE), Yupa Khaing (Shan United), and Yun Wady Hlaing (Yangon United), and forwards Win Theingi Tun (Sabah FC-Malaysia), San Thaw Thaw (Ayeyawady) Myat Noe Khin (Thitsa Arman) and May Htet Lu (SFVFC-the USA). — Ko Nyi Lay/TTA



This image depicts players of the Myanmar national women’s football squad. PHOTO: MFF

Myanmar canoe and kayak team departs for Thailand to compete in 33rd SEA Games



The Myanmar canoe and kayak contingent is seen before leaving for Thailand yesterday. PHOTO: ZWE MARN

MYANMAR’S canoe and kayak athletes will represent the country at the 33rd Southeast Asian Games, which will be held in Thailand from 9 to 20 December 2025. The team’s managers, coaches and athletes departed for Thailand by air yesterday.

“Our athletes are highly motivated to achieve good results. By travelling ahead of schedule, we will be able to begin training in Thailand from 3 December, which will help us become familiar with the competition environment. Since we will be competing in canoe and kayak events, the boats we will use have already arrived in Thailand in advance by container,” said

U Thet Lwin Win, canoe/kayak coach of the Myanmar Rowing and Canoeing Federation.

Myanmar’s contingent includes three coaches and 17 athletes. The team will compete from 10 to 12 December in events according to category: four races in the 500-metre events on 10 December; three races in the 200-metre events on 11 December; and three 200-metre races on 12 December, according to the federation.

“Our team continued intensive training after the Cambodia SEA Games. During these training camps, we selected not only former elite athletes but also new talent from

state and regional competitions. We will compete with full effort, especially against our main rivals — the host nation, Indonesia and Vietnam. Athletes from Myanmar, Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam and other countries will also take part,” coach U Thet Lwin Win explained.

The Myanmar Rowing and Canoeing Federation has already earned numerous medals for the country and aims to secure many more at the upcoming 33rd Southeast Asian Games.

“Out of the 10 events, the men’s canoe category includes five races: men’s single 500m, men’s double 200m, men’s four-man 200

metres, women’s double 200 metres, and women’s double 500 metres. The kayak category includes two races: men’s double 200 metres and men’s four-man 200 metres. Mixed events include five races: mixed double 200 metres, mixed double 500m, and mixed four-man 500 metres, making a total of ten events in which Myanmar will compete. Sporting competitions are a symbol of national pride, patriotism and unity. Since our team has consistently won medals in the past, I believe we will once again return with medals and honour for our country at the 33rd Games,” U Thet Lwin Win said. — Thitsa (MNA)/MKKS

Ten-man Chelsea frustrates Arsenal, Man Utd beats Crystal Palace

PREMIER League leader Arsenal was held to a 1-1 draw by 10-man Chelsea at Stamford Bridge on Sunday.

Moises Caicedo was sent off in the 38th minute for a studs-up challenge on Mikel Merino, but Chelsea went ahead 10 minutes later when Trevoh Chalobah glanced in Reece James’ corner. Arsenal levelled after the break as Merino powered in a header from Bukayo Saka’s cross, and Chelsea held on for the final half-hour in a bad-tempered match.

Manchester United came from behind to win 2-1 at Crystal Palace, ending a five-year wait for a league victory at Selhurst Park. Jean-Philippe Mateta put Palace ahead with a twice-taken first-half penalty, before Joshua Zirkzee equalized and Mason Mount struck the winner. Liverpool won 2-0 at West Ham as coach Arne Slot left Mohamed Salah on the bench for the first time in a league match under his tenure. Alexander Isak broke the deadlock in the 60th minute, and Cody Gakpo sealed the points in stoppage time after Lucas Paqueta was sent off in the 84th. — Xinhua



Eberechi Eze (R) of Arsenal vies with Moises Caicedo of Chelsea during the English Premier League match between Arsenal FC and Chelsea FC in London, Britain, on 30 November 2025. PHOTO: XINHUA



Asia floods death toll tops 1,100 as troops aid survivors

THE toll in deadly flooding and landslides across parts of Asia climbed past 1,100 on Monday as hardest-hit Sri Lanka and Indonesia deployed military personnel to help survivors.

Separate weather systems brought torrential, extended rainfall to the entire island of Sri Lanka and large parts of Indonesia's Sumatra, southern Thailand and northern Malaysia last week.

Much of the region is currently in its monsoon season but climate change is producing more extreme rain events and turbocharging storms.

The relentless rains left residents clinging to rooftops awaiting rescue by boat or helicopter, and cut entire villages off from assistance.

Arriving in North Sumatra on Monday, Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto said "the worst has passed, hopefully".

The government's "priority now is how to immediately send the necessary aid", with particular focus on several cut-off areas, he added.

Prabowo is under increasing pressure to declare a national emergency in response to flooding and landslides that have killed at least 593 people, with nearly 470 still missing.

Unlike his Sri Lankan counterpart, Prabowo has also avoided publicly calling for international assistance.

The toll is the deadliest in a natural disaster in Indonesia since a massive 2018 earthquake and subsequent tsunami killed more than 2,000 people in Sulawesi.

The government has sent three warships carrying aid and two hospital ships to some of the worst-hit areas, where many roads remain impassable.

In North Aceh, 28-year-old Misbahul Munir described walking through water that reached his neck to get back to his parents.

"Everything in the house was destroyed because it



Displaced residents rest in a shelter following flash floods and landslides in Pandan in Central Tapanuli, Indonesia's North Sumatra province on 30 November 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

was submerged," he told AFP.

"I have only the clothes I am wearing," he said in tears.

"In other places, there were a lot of people who died. We are grateful that we are healthy."

In Sri Lanka, the government called for international aid and used military helicopters to reach people stranded by flooding and landslides triggered by Cyclone Ditwah.

At least 355 people have been killed, Sri Lankan officials said on Monday, with another 366 still missing.

Floodwaters in the capital Colombo peaked overnight.

Now that the rain has stopped, there were hopes that waters would begin receding. Some shops and offices have reopened.

The floodwaters came as a surprise to some around Colombo. — AFP

Russian-US contacts to take place in Moscow on 2 Dec – Kremlin

EARLIER, US President Donald Trump said that his special envoy Steve Witkoff planned to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin in the coming days.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's meeting with US special envoy Steve Witkoff is scheduled for the afternoon of 2 December, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

"No, in the afternoon," Peskov told reporters when asked whether Putin and Witkoff were planning a meeting in the first half of the day on Tuesday.

The Kremlin will also show footage of the start of the meeting, the official said, adding that a statement to the media following the meeting is not excluded.

Speaking about the future US policy toward Russia, Peskov noted that it is too early to make any forecasts.

Commenting on the Ukraine peace process, Peskov said that Russia is interested in the success of the settlement and will not conduct any discussions through the media.

"We have already said that for the process to be success-



Russian President Vladimir Putin and US Special Envoy for the Middle East Steve Witkoff shake hands before a meeting at the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia, on 6 August 2025. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

ful — and we are interested in success — we do not intend to conduct these [discussions] in the megaphone mode. We do not intend to conduct any discussions through the media," Peskov said.

Practice will tell whether Andriy Yermak's dismissal from the post of the head of Volodymyr Zelensky's office would impact the Ukraine negotiations, Peskov stressed. — SPUTNIK

Experts work on UN climate report amid US pushback

SOME 600 experts began to work Monday on the next major UN climate report, as the international consensus on global warming is challenged by US President Donald Trump, who deems the science a "hoax".

French Ecological Transition Minister Monique Barbut, whose country is hosting the five-day meeting in a Paris suburb, told the scientists their "extremely precious" work is crucial as multilateralism has weakened.

"There is also something that should concern us all: The rise of climate-related disinformation on our social media, in our newspapers and even at the heart of our policy political institutions," Barbut said.

"Too many people deny the results of your work," she told the experts from more than 100 countries gathered in a skyscraper in Saint-Denis. — AFP