

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.

Preparations in full swing to showcase Kachin traditional costumes at global exhibitions

Myanmar is home to many ethnic groups with diverse traditional attires such as those of the Kachin and Lisu, and our association is committed to showcasing and preserving the traditional costumes of all ethnic peoples of Myanmar, regardless of their ethnicity or religion.

ACCORDING to the Myanmar Arts and Culture Development Association, preparations are now underway to showcase traditional Kachin ethnic costumes at upcoming international costume exhibitions.

The association stated that, in previous years, Myanmar’s traditional ethnic costumes had been displayed at international cultural shows, earning positive recognition and praise from participants and observers from various countries.

“One thing I’ve noticed from my experience is that whenever we attend such events, scholars and experts from other countries admire Myanmar’s costumes. They are amazed by them. Vietnam has its own traditional attire. However, we in Myanmar have many ethnic groups. We have traditional Kachin attire. We have Lisu attire. These are part of our heritage. Our association aims to highlight the traditional costumes of all Myanmar’s ethnic peoples, regardless of their ethnicity or religion,” said an official from the Myanmar Arts and Culture Development Association. — ASH/KNN



This photo captures Kachin ethnic youths wearing traditional costumes.

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.

Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) delivers campaign speech

THE electoral speech of the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) is featured on page 10 of today’s issue of The Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper.

Typhoon “KALMAEGI” News, No 1, 2025

Issued at 4 pm MST on 5 November 2025

Typhoon “KALMAEGI” Condition

According to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, the Typhoon “KALMAEGI” over the South China Sea has moved west-northwestwards and persists.

Next 36 hours forecast

It is forecast likely to continue to move west-northwestwards and may cross the Vietnam coast on night of 6 November 2025.

General Caution

Due to the remnant of cloud from Typhoon “KALMAEGI”, rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan states with regionally and isolated heavy falls in some region during 8 November 2025 to 10 November 2025. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon,Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 7-9 feet the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon,Taninthayi Coasts.

Advisory

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

Taunggyi Tazaungdine Festival continues peacefully



These photos show that hot-air balloons with fireworks and revellers are seen during the Taunggyi Tazaungdine hot-air balloon festival in Taunggyi, Shan State, yesterday.

THE Taunggyi Tazaungdine Festival in Taunggyi, Shan State (South), has been celebrated as a competition since 1312 ME (1950 AD). During the hot-air balloon festival, competitions are traditionally held in two categories: daytime balloons and nighttime balloons.

The balloons released in the daytime are especially the toys (two or four legs), and the nighttime balloons are Nyameegyi (balloons with fireworks) and Seinnapan (decorated with candles). Visitors across the nation come and enjoy the festival happily and peacefully.

This year, the Taunggyi Tazaungdine hot air balloon festival was started on 29 October in Awayya ground, and the contestants, companies and other participants from the vicinity areas of Taunggyi participated in the event with dance, and there are about 250,000 people daily during

the festival days.
A total of 25 22-foot-high Nyameegyi, 18 25-foot-high Nyameegyi, 37 18-foot-high Seinnapan, totalling 80 balloons, whereas 193 two-legged balloons, 93 four-legged balloons, 75 balloon groups, totalling 361, will be launched during the festival. The daytime schedule is from noon to 4 pm, and the nighttime schedule is from 6:30 pm to the end of the festival.
The festival also features music concerts, traditional dance performances, the Kathina festival, the Matho robe weaving event and the lighting festival.
Although the Taunggyi Tazaungdine festival was scheduled from 29 October to 5 November, the festival period was extended to further three days until 8 November due to the current weather conditions. — MNA/KTZH

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)

President's Office Ministry 2 Union Minister receives Head of UNOCHA Myanmar

UNION Minister for the Ministry 2 of the President's Office U Ko Ko Hlaing received Mr Justin Brady, Head of Office for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), yesterday at the parlour of the Office of the National Defence and Security Council in Nay Pyi Taw.

Both sides cordially exchanged views on the UNO-

CHA's humanitarian assistance activities, cooperation between international humanitarian organizations and local organizations, post-disaster recovery efforts, free and fair general election and post-election political landscape in Myanmar.

Officials from the Ministry 2 of the President's Office were present at the meeting. — MNA



Union Minister U Ko Ko Hlaing receives Mr Justin Brady, Head of Office for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

MIFER Union Minister receives WFP A-P Regional Director and UNOPS Regional Director

UNION Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Dr Wah Wah Maung separately received Mr Samir Sudhir Wanmali, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific of the World Food Programme (WFP), and Mr Sanjay Mathur, Asian Regional Director for the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), at the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

They frankly discussed matters related to ongoing humanitarian assistance, the work plan that will be implemented in 2026, preparing for the strategic work programme (2027-2029) and future cooperation activities between Myanmar and WFP.



Union Minister Dr Wah Wah Maung meets Mr Samir Sudhir Wanmali, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific of the World Food Programme (WFP), in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

Continuously, the Union Minister received Mr Sanjay Mathur, Asian Regional Director for UNOPS, and they exchanged views on the ongoing cooperation programmes in Myanmar, the plans between Myanmar and UNOPS and the rehabilitation process that was

affected by the earthquake.

The meetings were also attended by the director-general and senior officials from the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, the representatives from the WFP and UNOPS Offices. — MIFER

MoH Union Minister receives UNOPS Regional Director

UNION Minister for Health Dr Thet Khaing Win met Mr Sanjay Mathur, Director of the Asian Regional Office of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) based in Bangkok, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They discussed the ongoing healthcare services between the ministry and UNOPS, healthcare activities being conducted in collaboration with the Global Fund

and Access to Health Fund, the efforts to ensure no shortage of medicines for tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and malaria prevention and treatment and further co-operation.

Also present at the meeting were directors-general and relevant officials of the Ministry of Health, and the resident representative and officials of UNOPS in Yangon. — MNA/KTZH



Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win and Director of the Asian Regional Office of UNOPS Mr Sanjay Mathur discuss healthcare activities and further cooperation in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

NATIONAL

MoFA Union Minister receives Head of UNOCHA Myanmar

U Than Swe, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, received Mr Justin Brady, Head of Office of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) in Myanmar, yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

They exchanged views on matters related to the facilitation for the provision of humanitarian assistance to the needy people

and ways and means for cooperation between the Government of Myanmar and United Nations agencies in the field of humanitarian assistance. — MNA

Union Minister U Than Swe receives Head of UNOCHA in Myanmar Mr Justin Brady in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.



Novosibirsk Governor meets Yangon Region Chief Minister, UMFCCI officials, visits Shwedagon



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein and Novosibirsk Governor Mr Andrey Aleksandrovich Travnikov discuss regional development activities and investments in Yangon yesterday.

A delegation led by Mr Andrey Aleksandrovich Travnikov, Governor of Novosibirsk of the Russian Federation, currently in Myanmar, arrived in Yangon by Tatmadaw special flight yesterday.

The governor met Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein at the meeting hall of the Yangon Region government office to discuss the regional

development activities and investments, and exchanged gifts.

He also met the president, general secretary and executive members of UMFCCI at its office, and discussed business-related matters and further investment.

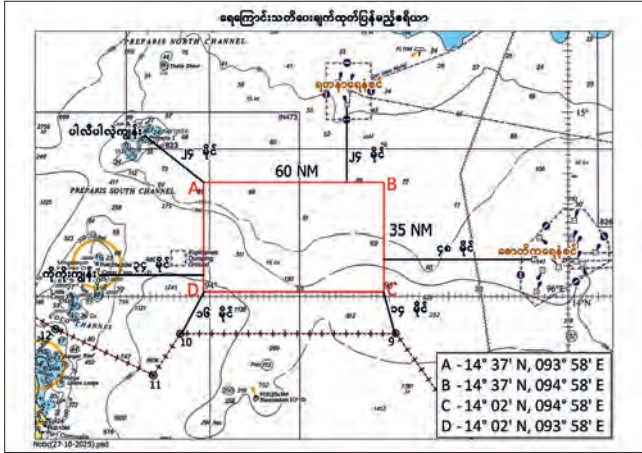
The Russian delegation visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and observed the religious

edifices of the pagoda.

At noon, the Russian delegation left Yangon for Russia by flight, and the relevant officials saw them off at Yangon International Airport. Before their departure, the Yangon Region chief minister presented a travel photo album to the Governor of Novosibirsk. — Zwe Htet Ko (IPRD)/KTZH

Maritime and Aerial Warnings Issued

1. The naval maritime exercises will be conducted within Myanmar's territorial waters from 7 to 8 November 2025, involving surface and aerial fire drills. The designated area for naval exercise is defined by the coordinates – Point A: Latitude 14°37'N and Longitude 93°58'E, Point B: Latitude 14°37'N and Longitude 94°58'E, Point C: Latitude 14°02'N and Longitude 94°58'E and Point D: Latitude 14°02'N and Longitude 93°58'E, and maritime and aerial warnings have been announced.
2. Therefore, during the period of exercise, to ensure safety, the large and small ships, cargo ships, motorboats, fishing boats, and mechanized rafts are strictly prohibited from entering, anchoring, fishing, or deploying fishing equipment within a five-mile radius of the designated area. Moreover, the aircraft and helicopters are also prohibited from flying below an altitude of 15,000 feet over the area during this period. — MNA/KTZH



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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION
(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING
(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

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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)



Victory ceremony honours returning Tatmadaw troops in Mongpong



Photos show victorious Tatmadaw members being warmly welcomed by the Eastern Central Command commander, officers and family members in their local military base in Mongpong in Shan State.

TATMADAW members who fought bravely on the frontlines and achieved successive victories were warmly welcomed on their victorious return. A ceremony to welcome and honour them took place on 4 November at their local military base in Mongpong. Commander of the Eastern Central Command Maj-Gen Soe Myat Htut, along with officers and other ranks, family members, departmental officials, local ethnic people, and teachers, attended the event. During the welcome, the Commander and other attendees presented the victorious returning soldiers with sprigs of Aungthabye (Eugenia leaves) and placed garlands upon them. Traditional drumming, singing and dancing were also added to the welcome. — MNA/KZL

Paluzawa Bridge on Kalay–Mawlaik Road repaired after PDF arson attack

PDF terrorists and their confederates, under the pretext of working for regional development, have in reality been committing lawless acts of destruction aimed at undermining national stability and peace and disrupting the flow of goods and transport in local areas. Their acts include planting landmines, detonating explosives, and setting fire to roads and bridges used by the public. In one such incident, on 30 October, PDF terrorists set fire to and destroyed the Paluzawa Bridge, a reinforced concrete bridge measuring 300 feet in length and 18 feet in width, lo-

cated on the Kalay–Mawlaik road connecting Kalay and Mawlaik townships in Sagaing Region. As a result, about 10 feet of the southern deck of the bridge was burnt and damaged, causing serious difficulties for public transport and travel. To ensure smooth transportation for the public, security personnel stationed in the area immediately undertook repairs on the bridge deck that had been damaged by the arson attack. The repair works were completed on 31 October, allowing pedestrians and vehicles to resume normal travel along the Kalay–Mawlaik road. — MNA/KZL



This image shows the Paluzawa Bridge on the Kalay-Mawlaik Road destroyed by PDF arson attack.

NATIONAL

8th China International Import Expo opens in Shanghai

THE opening ceremony of the eighth China International Import Expo (CIIE), being held from 5 to 10 November, took place at the National Exhibition and Convention Centre (NECC) in Shanghai, China, yesterday.

This year, CIIE features 10 world's top industrial electrical companies, including four major grain traders. The event CIIE will include one main forum, 33 sub-forums and the eighth Hongqiao International Economic Forum.

This year's event features 4,100 overseas exhibitors from 155 countries, regions and international organizations, with the total exhibition area of 430,000 square metres, setting a new record in scale.

During the opening ceremony, Chinese Premier Li Qiang added that new opportunities had been further created and cooperation in global trade will be enhanced.



People visit the booth of GE HealthCare at the eighth China International Import Expo (CIIE) in east China's Shanghai, 5 November 2025. PHOTO: KHIN YADANA

The booths of Bayer, Siemens and Nestle, which are top in robotic technology, AI, renewable energy, new medicines, household commodities and cosmetics, can be seen at the event, and the number of booths from African regions increased by 80 per cent

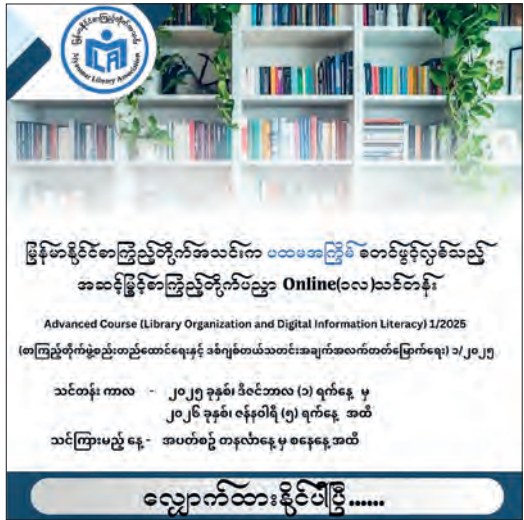
compared with the previous year. Moreover, there were also booths of Myanmar showcasing handicrafts, foodstuffs such as

coffee and honey, and agricultural produce.

The booths featured the galleries of relevant countries, medicine and medical supplies, automobiles and high-tech vehicles, food and agricultural products, and import and export products of different countries. The event debuted 461 new products, technologies, and services, highlighting frontier industries such as the low-altitude economy and humanoid robotics.

This year's expo is the first important economic event that China hosts after the fourth plenary session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. According to the data released on 1 October, the Shanghai Customs supervised a total of 4,000 batches of imported CIIE exhibits, with a value of over eight billion yuan. The expo is scheduled to run until 10 November. — Khin Yadana/KTZH

Myanmar Library Association to launch first advanced course on library management & digital literacy



This photo features the notice for the first online Advanced Course on Library Organization and Digital Information Literacy 1/2025.

THE Myanmar Library Association will hold its first Advanced Course on Library Organization and Digital Information Literacy (1/2025) online from 1 December 2025 to 5 January 2026, to promote library establishment and develop digital information literacy, according to the association.

Those who have completed the Intermediate Course offered by the association, or who have at least one year of experience in a relevant library and are currently serving in a leadership role, are eligible to attend the advanced course.

This advanced online course will be conducted via the Zoom Meeting application from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, Monday to Saturday, for one month, with additional sessions from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm as needed. — ASH/TH

Myanmar continues repatriation of foreigners linked to online crimes, illegal entry

ACCORDING to reports, the Government is systematically investigating and identifying foreign nationals who have been residing illegally in border areas and involved in criminal activities such as online gambling and online fraud, and is repatriating them to their respective countries in accordance with the law and established procedures.

During these ongoing operations, 18 foreign nationals, including 15 Filipinos, two Ethiopians, and one Chinese citizen, who had illegally entered Myanmar through border routes via neighbouring countries, including Thailand, and were found to be engaged in online gambling and scamming activities in the Myawady-Maethawtalay (KK Park) area of Kayin State, were recently apprehended.

Myawady District Administration and Management Committee Chairman and District Administrator U Kaung San Lin, together with responsible officials, inspected the ongoing documentation process to record personal details and rele-

vant data of the detainees, and coordinated necessary arrangements to ensure their prompt repatriation through cooperation with departmental teams.

Between 30 January and 5 November 2025, a total of 10,762 foreign nationals who had entered Myanmar illegally were identified and detained. Among them, 9,403 were repatriated in accordance with legal procedures via Thailand to their respective countries, while the remaining 1,359 are now ready for transfer and are being well cared for.

The government continues to actively cooperate with neighbouring and regional countries, as well as international organizations, to effectively uncover, arrest, and take firm action against those involved in online scam centres and the foreign organizers operating behind them. At the same time, Myanmar authorities are coordinating the timely repatriation of foreigners in distress or victims of human trafficking to their home countries. — MNA/KZL

Rocom's 'Lay Patkar' to hit pay-TV after cinema run

THE Myanmar feature film 'Lay Patkar' is set to be broadcast on the subscription-based television channel CANAL+ Zat Lenn at 7:30 pm on 8 November, according to sources.

The film's original story and screenplay were written by De De Htet Aung, and it is a romantic comedy directed by Academy Ko Zaw (Ayon Oo) for

the Bo Bo Film Production.

"The actors and I have different characters, so I have prepared and filmed it carefully. Ko Zaw Win Naing and Sin Ma have also presented different perspectives. They have also created a model where Htet Aung Shain hates the real women. It is a romantic comedy. It was released in October 2023. The

film, which has received praise from fans, will be re-aired as a television series," said director Academy Ko Zaw (Ayon Oo).

The film stars Academy Myint Myat, Htet Aung Shine, May Myint Mo, Wai Lar Yi, Elena, Khin Hlaing, Sin Ma, Kyin Hwet, Chit Lu Lu, Thwet Lett, Myo Myo Khaing, and others. — ASH/MKKS

Reconstruction entails building a nation to have a secure and resilient future

- ❖ If the products are the same, the price should be lower; if the prices are the same, the quality should be better.
- ❖ Only then will sales in the market increase.
- ❖ It is necessary to produce to sell large quantities of high-quality products.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by State Administration Council Chairman, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the opening ceremony of the Forum on Rebuilding Myanmar: Post-Earthquake Economic Recovery held on 30 May 2025)

SITE to open four-month training in mid-Dec

SCHOOL of Industrial Training and Education (SITE) will open certificate training in mid-December 2025, including Certificate of Training in Woodworking Technology, Certificate of Training in Basic Industrial Technologies, and Advanced Certificate of Training in Industrial Automation.

Wood Working Technology Training will share knowledge about materials, tools & machines and the Technical Drawing Workshop. Basic Industrial Technologies Training will teach fundamental skills required to manage, operate and maintain electrical and Electronics, Pneumatic and Hydraulics, Machinery and Plant Equipment, Microcontroller Basics, while the Advanced Certificate of Training in Industrial Automation will cover Programmable Logic Controller, Process Control and Process Automation, Factory Automation and Industrial IoT Technology.

Those who have passed the matriculation examination, ITC training, GTHS (BT, MT) and AGTI (Civil) are eligible to attend Woodworking Technology Training. Those who have passed the matriculation examination, ITC training and AGTI (EC, EP, Mech, IE) and those who have completed GTHS (ECT, ET, IT, MT, AMT) are entitled to apply for Basic Industrial Technologies Training.

Those who passed the Basic Industrial Technologies of SITE, AGTI (EC, EP, Mech, IE) and those who hold BTEch/BE (EC, EP, Mech, MC) degrees are qualified to apply for the Advanced Certificate of Training in Industrial Automation.

The trainees must be healthy enough to do an internship at factories and companies for practical training. The application form is available at www.site.edu.mm or from 9 am to 4 pm at SITE located at 123, Natmauk Street, Bocho Ward 2, Bahan Township, Yangon. Application must be submitted by 5 December, along with three photos taken within six months, a copy of the relevant certificate, a citizenship scrutiny card (ward administrator's verification and police clearance certificate for those who do not have one). Individuals can enquire about details through the contact number 09 268237552. — NN/KK

Yangon Port handles 609 container vessels in ten months



A container vessel is seen berthing alongside the Yangon Port.

A total of 609 container vessels arrived at the Yangon Port in the past ten months of 2025, the Myanmar Port Authority announced.

A total of 62 container vessels in January 2025, 53 in February, 58 in March, 62 in April, 65 in May, 62 in June, 60 each

in July and August, 59 in September and 68 in October.

This month, 60 container vessels are scheduled to call at the Yangon Port.

Yangon Port handled 633 container vessels in 2024 and 629 in 2023. Thanks to the draft extension, the international

ocean liners can access the inner port for now, according to the Myanmar Port Authority's statement on 22 June 2022.

After the new navigation channel (Kings Bank Channel) accessing the inner Yangon River was found, the draft extension work was accelerated. After that, the port can now handle larger ships. The container vessel MV SITC Zhaoming (185.99-metre LOA, 35.25-metre Beam, 29,232 GRT and 2,698 TEUs) of Hong Kong-based SITC Shipping Line docked at Asia World Port Terminal for the first time on 22 June, which is the largest ship that AWPT Port has handled.

As of May 2021, the number of ships arriving at terminals in Yangon has increased again. Three new container vessels by Maersk Line Myanmar (SeaLand Maersk) started to run to fulfil the seaborne trade requirements in 2021. Earlier, the larger ships had draft problems, preventing sailing on the Yangon River. With the draft being extended up to 10 meters, the larger ocean liners can enter the Thilawa Port. — NN/KK

Agri Dept discusses 2025-26 sugarcane purchase plan

THE Agriculture Department hosted a work coordination meeting with sugar mills to buy sugarcane in the 2025-2026 sugarcane season on 24 October at the meeting hall at Office No 43 in Nay Pyi Taw.

Director-General of the Agriculture Department, chair and executives of Myanmar Sugar and Cane Related Products Association, sugar mill operators and officials of the Sugarcane Research Farm discussed matters related to probability of 29 sugar processing factories to buy all sugarcanes, on-time delivery of sugarcane to factories, implementing contract farming between companies and sugarcane growers, maintenance of sugar mills, maximize energy efficiency, installing new advanced equipment to boost sugar productivity and quality.

The Agriculture Department coordinate matters regarding distributing good sugarcane varieties, providing technical assistance, raising awareness of right time to harvest sugarcane for peak sweetness and post-harvest management to mitigate waste, harvesting sugarcane after measurement with Hand-held Refractometer for sugar concentration and



A farmer is seen working on the sugarcane plantation.

Brix content, systematic sugarcane crushing, together with traders and growers.

There are a total of 29 sugar processing factories in Myanmar with crushing capacity of 5.37 million tonnes of sugarcane, sugar production of 543,663 tonnes and 261,895 tonnes of syrup in the 2024-2025 financial year. — NN/KK

Public aspirations: To hold general elections successfully

THE Union Election Commission has announced that 100 townships from regions and states where Phase 2 of the multiparty democratic general elections will be held for the respective Hluttaws on 11 January 2026. Hence, a total of 202 townships from phase 1 and phase 2 of the election process will be completed in early 2026.

The commission designated 102 townships to be included in Phase 1 of the multiparty democratic general elections for the respective Hluttaws, to be held on 28 December 2025. The Union Election Commission, announced that in the multiparty democratic general elections to commence on 28 December 2025, elections

The multiparty democratic general elections will be held phase by phase to pave the way for the Union to reach the path of democracy. As such, all people have to cooperate with the government to hold the phases of the election successfully in order to elect a new Hluttaw and a new government.

success of the electoral process and wishing to destroy the electoral process, are making attempts to threaten and disturb the efforts to hold the elections. After the upcoming election, the new chapter in Myanmar’s history will be one in which terrorists and destructive groups are destined to end their lives as perpetrators of historical wrongdoing.

Upon completion of the elections in phases, the political trend of the State will be stronger; and it will contribute a great deal to the internal peace process with the participation of all stakeholders at the table. Elected representatives from different levels of Hluttaw, Tatmadaw, political groups, relevant ethnic armed organizations and those from the various arenas will have greater chances to talk about the peace-making process for the sake of the nation and the nationals.

The multiparty democratic general elections will be held phase by phase to pave the way for the Union to reach the path of democracy. As such, all people have to cooperate with the government to hold the phases of the election successfully in order to elect a new Hluttaw and a new government.

will be held in 274 constituencies for the Pyithu Hluttaw, 75 constituencies under the First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) system and 26 constituencies under the Proportional Representation (PR) system for the Amyotha Hluttaw, 266 constituencies under the FPTP system, 42 constituencies under the PR system, and 29 ethnic affairs constituencies for the Region or State Hluttaws.

Currently, people aspire to the future democratic process. They all wish to join hands with the representatives elected in the elections and newly-formed legislative bodies to carry out development undertakings for the Union. At the same time, they wish to avoid the bitter impacts of political confrontation, conflicts, riots, unrest, terrorist acts and destructive acts which never bring benefit to the Union.

However, destructionists aboveground and underground, not wishing to see the

Act Early to Overcome the Danger of Depression

DU E to the rapid changes and stresses of modern life, mental health problems are on the rise in Myanmar. What was previously called “being down” or “low spirits” has now evolved into the more profound condition of Depression, a health issue that threatens everyone. This article will detail what Depression is, its symptoms, causes, treatment, and, most importantly, prevention methods.

What is Depression?

Depression is a severe mental health disorder that affects the mind and body. It is more intense than ordinary sadness or low spirits and can hinder a person from carrying out normal daily activities. Symptoms persist for at least two weeks and impact mood, thoughts, and physical functions.

The key point to understand is that Depression is not a sign of mental weakness or a personality flaw. It is a treatable medical illness related to an imbalance of chemical substances (Neurotransmitters) in the brain and changes in the brain’s growth and connectivity patterns.

Global and Myanmar Prevalence

• Global Situation:

- * According to the World Health Organization (WHO), approximately 332 million people, including about 5 per cent of adults worldwide, suffer from depression, making it one of the leading causes of disability.
- * More than 700,000 people commit suicide annually due to depression.
- * Depression is about 1.5 times more common in women than in men. Globally, over 10 per cent of pregnant women and women who have recently given birth suffer from depression.

• Myanmar Situation:

Depression has become a significant health burden in Myanmar. The number of people suffering from depression has significantly increased due to social and economic instability, the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, conflict and quakes.

- * According to Myanmar’s 2016

GSHS Survey, mental health problems exist among students aged 13–17.

- * **Feelings of Harm:** Approximately 10.5 per cent of surveyed students reported having attempted to harm or kill themselves in the past 12 months.
- * **Loneliness:** Approximately 11.3 per cent of students reported feeling lonely or secluded in the past 12 months.
- * **Anxiety:** Approximately 6.6 per cent of students reported having their normal sleep disrupted at night due to worry or anxiety in the past 12 months.
- * These data indicate alarming mental health conditions among adolescents in Myanmar.
- * However, due to limited mental health treatment services and the existence of stigma surrounding mental illness in the community, very few people seek treatment.

How to Recognize Depression

The symptoms of depression manifest as psychological, physical, and behavioural changes.

Psychological Symptoms:

- * Feeling sad, hopeless, or low-spirited on a daily basis.
- * Loss of interest in previously enjoyable activities.
- * Feelings of guilt or worthlessness.
- * Increased worry and anxiety.
- * Difficulty concentrating or making decisions.
- * Thoughts of self-harm or suicide (A very critical symptom).

Physical Symptoms:

- * Feeling low on energy, easy fatigue.
- * Changes in sleep patterns (insomnia or excessive sleeping).
- * Changes in appetite (loss of appetite, weight loss, or over-eating, weight gain).
- * Physical pain such as headaches or body aches.
- * Decreased libido.

Behavioural Symptoms:

- * Social withdrawal or isolation.
- * Decline in work or academic performance.
- * Neglecting self-care.
- * Irritability and restlessness.

Why Does Depression Occur?

Depression is not caused by a sin-

gle factor but often arises from a combination of biological, psychological, and socio-environmental factors.

• Biological Causes:

- * **Brain Chemistry:** Imbalances in neurotransmitters such as Serotonin, Norepinephrine, and Dopamine.
- * **Hormones:** Thyroid hormone imbalances; hormonal changes during pregnancy and the postpartum period.
- * **Genetics:** A higher risk for those with a family history of depression.
- **Psychological and Socio-Environmental Causes:**
- * **Childhood Experiences:** Neglect, abuse, or parental loss in childhood.
- * **Adverse Life Events:** Traumatic experiences such as grief (loss), the loss of a loved one, financial difficulties, job loss, or marital problems.
- * **Chronic Illnesses:** Increased stress due to illnesses like cancer, heart disease, or diabetes.
- * **Medication and Substance Abuse:** Side effects of certain medications, or the use of alcohol and illicit drugs, can contribute to depression.

Types of Depression

Based on the severity and pattern of the illness, depression is primarily classified into the following types:

- * **Major Depressive Disorder (MDD):** The most severe and common type. Characterized by a full set of symptoms lasting for at least two consecutive weeks, significantly impairing daily functioning.
- * **Persistent Depressive Disorder (PDD):** A less severe or moderate form of depression that lasts for at least two years.
- * **Psychotic Depression:** Includes symptoms such as hallucinations or delusions.
- * **Depressive Episode of Bipolar Mood Disorder:** Alternating periods of mania and depression.
- * **Peripartum Depression:** Occurs during pregnancy and up to the first year after childbirth (Requires special attention for

By Dr Aung Tun

- * **Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD):** Depression that specifically occurs during the winter months with less daylight exposure.
- * **Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder:** A type of depression in children and adolescents characterized by severe irritability and frequent angry outbursts.

How is Depression Diagnosed?

Depression cannot be directly identified by physical tests (eg, blood tests). The diagnosis involves the following steps:

- * **Medical History Interview:** The doctor will ask detailed questions about your symptoms, feelings, family history, current medications, and life experiences.
- * **Psychological Assessment:** Standardized mental health questionnaires (eg, PHQ-9) may be used to assess the severity of symptoms.
- * **Physical Examination:** Blood tests, etc., may be performed to rule out other medical conditions (eg, thyroid disease, vitamin deficiency) that could cause depressive symptoms.
- * The diagnosis requires at least five symptoms, present for at least two consecutive weeks, according to the DSM-5 (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders) criteria. These symptoms must include either “sadness/depressed mood” or “loss of interest/pleasure.”

What are the Complications of Depression?

If left untreated, depression can severely affect all areas of life:

- * **Personal and Family Life:** Marital problems, family conflicts, and negative impact on children’s mental health.
- * **Work and Financial:** Reduced work capacity, job loss, and financial difficulties.
- * **Health:** Worsening of chronic diseases like heart disease and diabetes, and a weakened immune system.
- * **Social:** Breakdown of friend-

ships, social isolation.

- * **Self-Harm:** Increased suicidal ideation and acts of self-harm (leading to loss of life). It is crucial to be aware that depression is a life-threatening illness.

How Can Depression Be Treated?

Depression is a treatable illness. There are several treatment methods, and a combination approach is often needed depending on the patient’s condition.

• Psychotherapy:

- * **Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT):** Focuses on changing the thinking patterns that contribute to depression.
- * **Interpersonal Therapy (IPT):** Focuses on resolving social and relationship problems.

• Medication:

- * **Antidepressants:** Types such as SSRIs (Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors) and SNRIs (Serotonin and Norepinephrine Reuptake Inhibitors) must be taken as prescribed by a doctor. The medication may take several weeks to show effect and must only be stopped after consultation with the doctor.

• Other Therapies:

- * **Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT):** An effective treatment for severe depression; conducted safely and systematically in modern practice.
- * **Exercise:** Regular physical activity promotes the release of mood-boosting chemicals in the brain.
- * **Nutrition:** Consuming foods rich in Omega-3 fatty acids, Vitamin B, and Vitamin D.

How to Prevent Depression

Prevention is more effective than treatment. Depression can be prevented through the following methods:

- * **Improve Social Relationships:** Maintain strong connections with family and friends. Avoid loneliness.
- * **Manage Stress:** Practice yoga, meditation, and breathing exercises.



- * **Regular Physical Activity:** Engage in at least 30 minutes of exercise, such as walking, daily.
- * **Healthy Sleep Pattern:** Get 7-9 hours of sleep per night.
- * **Consume Nutritious Foods:** Eat a balanced diet of fruits, vegetables, and protein.
- * **Avoid Alcohol and Illicit Drugs:** These can worsen depression.
- * **Schedule Rest Time:** Set aside time for self-care and enjoyable activities.
- * **Don’t Hesitate to Ask for Help:** Consult a mental health professional if you have experienced traumatic events.

Act Early to Overcome the Danger of Depression

Depression is an illness that can affect anyone; it is not a cause for shame or fear. If you or someone close to you suspects they have symptoms of depression, follow the steps below to overcome this danger:

- * Immediately see nearby healthcare professionals or

- a mental health doctor. Early treatment can prevent complications and lead to a return to a happy and fulfilling life. If you are personally experiencing it:
- * Share your feelings with someone you trust. This method will benefit you.
- * Continue engaging in enjoyable activities from your routine to distract yourself.
- * Connect with friends and family members.
- * Take a short walk or engage in regular physical activity.
- * Try your best to maintain regular sleeping and eating patterns.
- * Do not use alcohol or illicit drugs. They can worsen depression.
- * If you feel suicidal, contact someone you trust and seek emergency help.

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2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) talks about its policy, stance and work procedures

Nant Khin Aye Oo, Chairperson of the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP), presented the policy, stance and work procedures of her party through radio and television on the evening of 5 November.
The full text of the presentation is as follows: -



May it be a blessed day for everyone.

I am Nant Khin Aye Oo, Chairperson of the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP). I would like to express my special thanks to all those responsible for organizing this programme, as it allows me to speak directly to the public.

First of all, as in previous years, I would like to explain the meaning of our party's name, the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP). The purpose of establishing our party was to create a platform through which our fellow Kayin people and the public can access a legitimate political pathway.

Although the party's name begins with "Kayin" because it was founded and led by Kayin nationals, we deliberately included the word "Peoples" to show our intention to involve all ethnic groups who have lived together in the same villages and shared the same lives, joys, and hardships. I want to clarify that our party is not based on narrow ethnic views.

I would like to present the policy of the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP).

The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) has established as its political policy with the aim of participating in the restoration of national reconciliation and in the transition of the Union to a system based on democracy and a federal system that is compatible with Myanmar.

Beliefs and Principles of the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) -

- We believe that only when Myanmar establishes and implements a Union system based on democracy and a federal system can mutual respect, trust, and goodwill develop among the diverse ethnic groups, leading to peace and prosperity across the country.
- We also believe that in building a modern, democratic, and federal Union, education is the best investment for the development of families, ethnic communities, and the nation as a whole. Therefore, we are convinced that it is necessary to dedicate efforts towards providing foundational education that enhances the skills and quality of every individual.
- We believe that only by establishing and implementing a system that can protect the rights of all ethnic groups and minorities within the Union of Myanmar can lasting peace be achieved.

- The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) regards all Kayin ethnic groups with affection and respect, without clinging to divisions based on lineage, religious beliefs, or regionalism, and without showing prejudice toward these differences.
- The Kayin people, as an ethnic group, are committed to preserving, promoting, and showcasing their literature, culture, and traditions as a fundamental responsibility to ensure the long-term survival of their community on this earth. We will carry out this work diligently and steadfastly.
- Guided by values such as respect for truth and loyalty, we will participate wholeheartedly and with goodwill in efforts to ensure a peaceful and prosperous future for all citizens.
- We believe that all ethnic groups in Myanmar, by valuing, preserving, and promoting their own literature, culture, and traditions, can foster the patriotic spirit. Mutual respect and appreciation among all ethnic groups are essential to building unity and solidarity.

The objectives of the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) -

1. to establish a peaceful Union for Myanmar based on democracy and a federal system;
2. to promote the improvement of people's livelihoods and economic development;
3. to ensure that all ethnic groups living alongside the Kayin communities have access to fair and equal rights; and
4. to preserve and protect the traditional culture, literature, arts, religious beliefs, and customs of each ethnic group in order to strengthen ethnic pride and identity.

Work procedures of the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) -

1. The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will consistently participate in and contribute to the peace processes being implemented by the government.
2. The KPP will cooperate in accordance with the law to eliminate acts of corruption that hinder the nation's development.
3. The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will work together under the law to ensure justice for the public in matters of politics, economy, society, and land issues.
4. The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will advocate in the Hluttaw for the development of an education system that guarantees the safety and well-being of young people within the country's education sector.
5. The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will strive to practically implement the provisions of the National Education Law (Section 42 (b)) so that the mother tongues and literature of ethnic groups are preserved and not lost.
6. The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will work to promote and implement the traditional cultures, customs, and fine arts of ethnic communities.
7. The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will strengthen

- preventive health-care systems to support and safeguard public health, rather than focusing solely on treatment.
8. The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will work to develop and advance agriculture and livestock, which are the country's key economic sectors.
 9. The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will provide knowledge and training so that young people and women can utilize the advancement of technologies to develop their human resource potential.
 10. It will present initiatives in the Hluttaw to ensure the accuracy of accounts and data, as well as to support research activities.
 11. For Kayin communities living outside Kayin State, the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will work to ensure that ethnic minorities can fully enjoy their rights, and it will document and facilitate celebrations of historically respected and valued national occasions and traditions.
 12. The Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will also collaborate with relevant organizations to protect and preserve the natural environment.

In the 2025 multiparty democratic general election, the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) will field candidates in the Ayeyawady Region. These include seven candidates for the Pyithu Hluttaw, 21 candidates for the Regional Hluttaw, and one candidate for the Kayin Ethnic Affairs Representative.

For the 2025 multiparty democratic general election, we, the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP), would like to present our messages and information to the public.

1. All eligible Kayin voters and members of the public should go and verify whether their names are included in the voter list published by the respective township or ward election subcommission offices.
2. If your name is not on the voter list, you should report it to the responsible officials at the relevant election subcommission offices and take the necessary steps to ensure that your name is included on the list of eligible voters. If you encounter any difficulties, seek assistance from the responsible members of the Kayin-based party in your area.
3. Once all preparations for voting are complete, be ready to cast your vote from 28 December 2025 until the conclusion of the election process.

Finally, for the upcoming 2025 multiparty democratic general election, we urge the Kayin people and all ethnic communities to responsibly participate by casting their votes for the Kayin Peoples Party (KPP) candidates, motivated by the sincere desire to contribute to the best interests of the nation.

Thank you all.



NATIONAL

About 200 Myanmar workers arrive in ROK under EPS programme

THE Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Seoul announced on 4 November that approximately 200 more Myanmar workers have been sent to the Republic of Korea under the Employment Permit System (EPS) through the Public Overseas Employment Agency (POEA).

The embassy stated that a total of 46 workers, including 12 new agricultural workers, nine new construction workers, 13 new service workers, and 12 re-entry workers, who were sent through POEA under the EPS system, arrived by Korean Air flight KE492 on 28 October.

Subsequently, 147 new manufacturing workers arrived at

Incheon International Airport on 29 October via Myanmar National Airlines flight UB8301.

The new Myanmar workers were welcomed by the Labour Attaché, who gave instructions on important points the workers should know and abide by, and provided necessary assistance and support.

Additionally, they were briefed that addressing foreign workers in Korea as “Hey” or “You” instead of calling them by their names is considered rude, and the newly arriving Myanmar workers will be required to wear name tags at Incheon International Airport, starting from 28 October, it stated.

— MT/ZN



Myanmar workers sent under the EPS system through the Public Overseas Employment Agency (POEA) arriving at Incheon International Airport in the Republic of Korea on 28 and 29 October.

Over 50 migrant workers on leave secure OWIC benefits



An OWIC issuing office in Mayangon Township.

UP to 50 workers on leave who would go back to work on their own have been granted Overseas Worker Identification Card (OWIC), according to the Ministry of Labour.

Fifty-three workers, both

male and female, who are going to work in Thailand, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, the UAE, Qatar, UK, and Macau, have been allowed to apply for OWIC and attend overseas job training on 4 November,

it said.

They will have to do the OWIC application on 7 November and resubmit if they are unable to do so by the schedule. Moreover, more than 40 skilled workers who would go to work abroad on their own have also been allowed to apply for OWIC on 7 November and attend the job training on 6 November. They will need to resubmit if they are unable to do so by the schedule.

Agencies will need to re-submit for permission to send, along with an Excel soft copy of the workers’ list, passport copy and a copy of OWIC, within a week from the date of departure, to dolmigration-japan@gmail.com. — MT/ZS

Myanmar golf team to compete at XXXIII SEA Games

MYANMAR’S golf team will compete in the XXXIII SEA Games to be held in Thailand, according to the Myanmar Golf Federation.

The 2025 SEA Games Thailand will take place from 9 December to 20 December in

Thailand’s Chonburi and Songkhla. The golf tournament will be held from 11 to 14 December at Siam Country Club Pattaya Rolling Hills in Chonburi.

The Myanmar national team will comprise MGF chair U Ko Ko Aye as administrator,

U Naing Naing Lin as coach, and players are Kyaw Ko Ko Chit, Kaung Htike Zaw, Min Sitt Thwe and Hein Naing Zin.

For the national team, Burmese Golf (BG) sponsored the 2025 SEA Games shirts.

— MT/ZS

Myanmar witnesses 2025’s biggest supermoon on 5 Nov

THE biggest and brightest supermoon of 2025 was visible in Myanmar on the night of 5 November, and the last supermoon event for 2025 will occur in December, according to the Myanmar Astronomy & Science Enthusiasts Society (MASES).

The night of 5 November is a full moon night when the biggest and brightest supermoon of 2025 occurred and was visible worldwide, including in Myanmar. This supermoon was the closest to the Earth among all supermoon events in 2025, making it the largest and brightest. It reached its fullest point at around 7:49 pm.

“Why is this supermoon so special? A Supermoon event occurs when a full moon aligns with the Earth at its closest point, known as ‘Perigee’. Because the lunar orbit is elliptical, the distance from the Earth changes constantly, averaging approximately 238,855 miles. On 5 November, the moon is expected to approach about 221,726 miles,” announced the MASES.

Due to this proximity, the moon’s apparent size was 14 per cent larger and 30 per cent brighter than usual, making it one of nature’s most beautiful phenomena.

In 2025, the first supermoon occurred in October, with the second on 5 November and the last on 4 December.

Soe Pyae Htat from MASES advised that, as supermoon events are simply astronomical phenomena occurring in space, they are unrelated to the good or bad fortunes of people on the earth, and it is the best time to observe the full moon if the sky has no clouds. — MT/ZN



An image of a supermoon event.

ECONOMY WORLD

US Supreme Court hears challenge to Trump tariff powers

The high court's nine justices will consider Trump's use of emergency powers to impose so-called "reciprocal" tariffs.

THE US Supreme Court will hear arguments Wednesday on whether a wide swath of Donald Trump's tariffs are lawful, in a landmark case that could uphold — or upend — the president's economic agenda.

Billions of dollars in customs revenue and a key lever in Trump's trade wars are at stake, while the conservative-dominated court once again grapples with novel tests of presidential

authority.

Trump has hyped the case as "one of the most important" in US history and warned of calamity if his tariffs are overturned.

The high court's nine justices will consider Trump's use of emergency powers to impose so-called "reciprocal" tariffs on nearly every US trade partner, as well as levies targeting Mexico, Canada and China over their alleged roles in illicit drug flows.

Opponents argue

that such broad tariffs are not permitted by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), the law cited by Trump in issuing the levies.

The court's decision, which could take months to arrive, does not concern sector-specific tariffs Trump imposed, including on steel, aluminum and automobiles.

Since returning to the White House, Trump has brought the overall average effective tariff rate to its highest since the 1930s. — AFP



US President Donald Trump's global tariffs have attracted legal challenges that are now before the Supreme Court. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

India needs advanced technologies to strengthen manufacturing ecosystem



India is aspiring to become a global manufacturing hub, and achieving this goal requires advanced technologies and a robust manufacturing ecosystem. **PHOTO: PIX FOR VISUAL PURPOSE/ ABB/INDUSTRY INDIA**

INDIA needs good technologies to build an advanced level of manufacturing ecosystem, according to Dr Ranjeet Mehta, CEO and Secretary General of PHDCCI.

Speaking to the ANI, Mehta said, "India is aspiring to become manufacturing hub of the world, so therefore, for this we definitely need good technologies, especially the kind of manufacturing ecosystem that is being built in India which is keeping in mind the vision of Viksit Bharat."

"India is one of the fastest-growing economies in the world, with immense opportuni-

ties for collaboration in manufacturing, clean energy, and digital transformation. With South Korea's advanced technology and India's growing manufacturing ecosystem, this partnership can foster sustainable and mutually beneficial growth," Mehta said.

The PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) and the Busan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), South Korea, on Tuesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in New Delhi to strengthen bilateral trade and industrial collaboration between India and South Korea. — ANI

S Korea's foreign reserves grow for 5th month in Oct

SOUTH Korea's foreign reserves grew for the fifth straight month in October due to higher return on investment and the issuance of foreign exchange stabilization fund bonds, central bank data showed Wednesday.

Foreign currency reserves advanced US\$6.80 billion from a month earlier to 428.82 billion dollars at the end of October, continuing to go up since June, according to the Bank of Korea (BOK).

The consecutive growth was attributed to the higher invest-

ment return and the sale of foreign exchange stabilization fund bonds amounting to 1.7 billion dollars.

The foreign exchange stabilization fund bonds are sold to raise necessary funds to keep foreign exchange rates stable.

The country's foreign reserves were composed of 377.96 billion dollars of securities, 25.94 billion dollars of deposits, 15.71 billion dollars of special drawing rights, 4.79 billion dollars of gold bullion and 4.41 billion dollars of the IMF position. — Xinhua

New Zealand's financial stability risks remain elevated: Reserve Bank



People use ATM machines in Auckland, New Zealand, 21 November 2022. **PHOTO: ZHAO GANG/XINHUA/FILE**

NEW Zealand's financial stability risks remain higher than in recent years amid fragmentation of global trade and finance,

and ongoing uncertainties, a Reserve Bank report said on Wednesday.

"As a small open economy,

New Zealand would be exposed to any impacts on global economic activity or volatility in financial markets," said a statement of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand after releasing its biannual Financial Stability Report. "Elevated global equity valuations, in areas such as tech stocks, and growing government debt levels in many advanced economies are also vulnerabilities," it said.

"Underperformance in parts of the New Zealand economy, such as retail and hospitality, is creating challenging conditions for households and businesses," said Reserve Bank Governor Christian Hawkesby. — Xinhua

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Toyota lifts FY 2025 net profit outlook even as US tariffs weigh

TOYOTA Motor Corp on Wednesday lifted its net profit outlook for the year through next March to 2.93 trillion yen (\$19 billion) from the earlier estimated 2.66 trillion yen, as higher vehicle sales and the weaker yen help offset the impact of severe US tariffs.

The fallout of the tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump continues to weigh on Toyota, with the world's biggest automaker by volume estimating the blow on its operating profit to total about 1.45 trillion yen for the full

business year, 50 billion yen more than it projected earlier in August.

Still, Toyota revised upward its operating profit outlook to 3.4 trillion yen from the previous forecast of 3.2 trillion yen, on sales of 49 trillion yen, up from the estimate of 48.5 trillion yen.

The Japanese company raised its group vehicle sales outlook for the current fiscal year by 100,000 units to 11.3 million, citing strong demand for its vehicles, especially for its high-end models and hybrids in North America. — Kyodo



Toyota Motor Corp. President Koji Sato speaks at a press conference in Tokyo on 8 May 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO/FILE**

Singapore's private sector growth accelerates in Oct: S&P Global

BUSINESS conditions in Singapore's private sector improved further at the start of the fourth quarter, with the seasonally adjusted Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) climbing to 57.4 in October from 56.4 in September, according to a report released Wednesday by S&P Global.

A PMI reading above 50 indicates expansion, while one below 50 signals contraction. The

latest figure marks the ninth consecutive month of growth and the rate of growth since August 2024, the report noted.

"Demand conditions remained robust, spurring job creation and contributing to growth of purchasing activity and inventory levels," said Jingyi Pan, economics associate director at S&P Global Market Intelligence. — Xinhua

8th China International Import Expo opens in Shanghai

THE latest edition of the China International Import Expo (CIIE), the world's first national-level exposition dedicated to imports, opened on Wednesday in Shanghai.

Chinese Premier Li Qiang delivered a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the eighth CIIE and the Hongqiao International Economic Forum.

It is necessary to uphold equality and mutual benefit, and consolidate the foundation of legitimate common interests, Li said, calling for safeguarding international fairness and justice.

China is willing to work with all parties to promote the implementation of the Global Governance Initiative in international economic and



Guests talk at the venue of the opening ceremony of the eighth China International Import Expo (CIIE) and the Hongqiao International Economic Forum in Shanghai, east China, 5 November 2025. **PHOTO: FANG ZHE/XINHUA**

trade fields, and improve the WTO-centered multilateral trading system, Li noted.

The document of recommendations for

formulating the 15th Five-Year Plan (2026-2030), adopted at the recent fourth plenary session of the 20th Communist Party of China Central

Committee, has injected greater certainty into China's economic and social development for the period ahead, Li said. — Xinhua

Bangladesh companies sign deal to buy US\$1B soybeans from US

A consortium of Bangladesh's top three soy crushing companies, Meghna Group, City Group, and Delta Agro, committed to the purchase of US\$1 billion of US soybeans over the following twelve months, a

spokesperson to the US Embassy in Dhaka said on Tuesday.

"The landmark agreement with the US Soybean Export Council (USSEC), a trade association representing the interests of US soybean

farmers abroad, signals a growing export market for high-quality US agricultural products in Bangladesh", said Poornima Rai, spokesperson to the US Mission in Bangladesh.

"US Charge d'Affaires Tracey Jacobson wel-

comed the agreement, underscoring Bangladesh's increasing significance as a key market for US exports and noting that US soybean sales to Bangladesh are expected to triple as a result of this agreement", she added. — ANI

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ITHACA VOY.NO. (0098N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ITHACA VOY. NO. (0098N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-11-2025** 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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AREZOO VOY.NO. (SCY1191)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AREZOO VOY. NO. (SCY1191)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-11-2025** 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 LAND AND SEA INTERMODAL LOGISTICS
SDN BHD LINE

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

Death toll tops 100 as Philippines digs out after typhoon

Unprecedented floodwaters swept through the province's towns and cities, destroying cars, riverside shanties, and even large shipping containers.



Residents carrying their belongings and pet dogs wade through a flooded street as they evacuate from their inundated homes in Liloan town, Cebu province. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE death toll from Typhoon Kalmaegi in the central Philippines climbed past 100 on Wednesday as the devastating impact

on Cebu province became clearer after the worst flooding in recent memory. Floodwaters described as unprece-

dentented had rushed through the province's towns and cities a day earlier, sweeping away cars, riverside shanties and even massive shipping containers.

Cebu spokesman Rhon Ramos told AFP that 35 bodies had been recovered from flooded areas of Liloan, a town that is part of provincial capital Cebu City's metro area. The grim news brought the toll for Cebu to 76.

On neighbouring Negros Island, at least 12 people were dead and 12 more were missing after Kalmaegi's driving rain loosened volcanic mudflow which then buried homes in Canlaon City, police Lieutenant Stephen Polinar said.

"Eruptions of Kanlaon volcano since last year deposited volcanic material on its upper sections. When the rain fell, those deposits rumbled down onto the villages," he told AFP.

Only one Negros death had been included in an earlier government tally of 17 deaths outside Cebu. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

US nuclear aircraft carrier arrives at S Korea's Busan port city

US nuclear aircraft carrier, George Washington, arrived at the naval base in South Korea's largest port city of Busan on Wednesday, state media Yonhap reported.

The move the news outlet said is a "reaffirmation of the South Korea-US combined defence posture."

The nuclear powered vessel of Carrier Strike Group 5 is accompanied by a missile cruiser, USS Robert Smalls and USS Milius and USS Shoup Aegis.

The visit is intended to replenish supplies and rest the crew, South Korea's Navy said. — ANI

Zohran Mamdani marks historic NYC win walking off to "Dhoom Machale"

ZOHRAN Mamdani, 34, made history by becoming the first-ever Muslim mayor of New York City and the youngest person to win the mayoral election in a century.

The Democratic socialist defeated former Governor Andrew Cuomo and Republican Curtis Sliwa on the strength of his progressive agenda, signalling both a generational and symbolic shift in New York politics.

Addressing supporters at his victory party, Mamdani said, "My friends, we have toppled a political dynasty. I wish Andrew Cuomo only the best in private life, but let tonight be the final time I utter his name as we turn the page on a politics that abandoned the many and answers only to the few."

The celebratory moment was amplified as the song 'Dhoom Machale' from the Bollywood film 'Dhoom' played in the background, while Mamdani appeared on stage with his wife, Rama Duwaji, and mother, Mira Nair, sending Bollywood fans into a frenzy. — ANI

At least 7 dead after UPS cargo plane crashes near Louisville airport

AT least seven people died and several more were injured after a UPS cargo plane crashed shortly after takeoff on Tuesday from Louisville International Airport in Kentucky, exploding into flames as it crashed into businesses adjacent to the airport.

The US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said the McDonnell Douglas MD-11 departing for Hawaii crashed at around 5:15 pm local time (2215 GMT).

Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear told a press briefing that he expected the number of dead and injured was going to rise.

"First responders are onsite and working hard to extinguish the fire and continue the investigation," he posted in a Tuesday night update on X.

UPS said in a statement that three



The McDonnell Douglas MD-11 departing for Hawaii crashed at around 5:15 pm local time (2215 GMT). **PHOTO: AFP**

crew members were on board the aircraft, adding that "we have not confirmed any injuries/casualties."

Beshear said the status of the three crew members was unknown and said

that he was "very concerned" for them.

The cause of the crash was under investigation by the FAA and the US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). — AFP

China announces top journalism award winners

THE All-China Journalists Association on Wednesday announced the winners of the 35th China Journalism Award, one of the most prestigious journalism prizes

in the country.

A total of 377 news entries by media outlets nationwide won this year's China Journalism Award.

The announcement was issued ahead of Journalists' Day on 8 November in China. — Xinhua

Inter and AC Milan complete purchase of San Siro

INTER Milan and AC Milan moved one step closer to a new stadium of their own on Wednesday after completing the purchase of the iconic San Siro, which is set for demolition.

The two Serie A clubs announced "the signing of the deed of sale with the Municipality of Milan", little more than a month after city approval for the acquisition of the land on which the

stadium sits.

Nicknamed football's La Scala, San Siro is one of the world's most recognizable stadiums and the longtime home of Inter and AC Milan, who between them have been crowned European champions 10 times.

Inter and AC Milan obtained approval to purchase the land for 197 million euros (\$231 million) after over 11 hours of debate and a knife-edge vote at Milan city



Nicknamed football's La Scala, San Siro is one of the world's most recognizable stadiums. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

hall in the early hours of September 30.

The sale needed to be completed by next Monday, otherwise a public building protection

order for the San Siro's second tier would have come into effect.

Now the two clubs can now push ahead with a project worth around 1.2 billion euros which

will radically change an area of just over 28 hectares (70 acres) in a densely-populated neighbourhood on the western outskirts of Milan. — AFP

PSG's Desire Doue wins 2025 Golden Boy award

PARIS Saint-Germain attacker Desire Doue won the 2025 Golden Boy award, the Turin-based media outlet Tuttosport reported on Tuesday.

Doue, 20, enjoyed a breakout campaign with PSG last season, logging 16 goals and 16 assists

in 61 games, including two goals and an assist in PSG's 5-0 Champions League final win over Inter Milan.

Doue beat out a number of nominees including Chelsea's Estevao, Real Madrid's Arda Guler and Arsenal's Myles Lewis-Skelly.

The Golden Boy award is given to under-21 footballer rated the best each year, with Barcelona forward Lamine Yamal winning last year's award. Former winners include Lionel Messi, Kylian Mbappe and Wayne Rooney. — Xinhua

Keys withdraws from WTA Finals with illness



At the end of her match against Amanda Anisimova on Monday, Madison Keys wouldn't shake her opponent's hand, indicating she was feeling unwell and didn't want to pass on the virus. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

MADISON Keys has withdrawn from her WTA Finals clash against Elena Rybakina on Wednesday due to a viral illness and has been replaced in the draw by Ekaterina Alexandrova. The Australian Open champion suffered two defeats in round-robin play this week in Riyadh, to Iga Swiatek and Amanda Anisimova, and had no chance of advancing to Friday's semifinals. At the end of her match against Anisimova on Monday, Keys wouldn't shake her opponent's hand, indicating she was feeling unwell and didn't want to pass on the virus.

"I'm really disappointed to not be feeling my best and ultimately having to withdraw from the tournament. It's a huge accomplishment to make it this far and I'm very proud of myself for doing that and having a great year. I hope to be back next year," said Keys in a statement.

Alexandrova is the second alternate in Riyadh. The first alternate, Mirra Andreeva, who is already competing in the doubles at this year's WTA Finals, elected not to sign in due to not being fit to play on Wednesday.

Andreeva has a doubles match on Thursday, alongside her partner Diana Shnaider, and might be called in for duty as an alternate to replace Jasmine Paolini in singles, given the Italian is no longer in contention for a semi-final spot and is also feeling unwell. — AFP

Beyond limits: Croatian freediver's breathtaking record

FOR almost 30 minutes, Vitimir Maricic didn't take a breath. Face down in a pool, surrounded by anxious onlookers, the Croatian freediver fought spasming pain to redefine what doctors thought was possible. When he finally surfaced, he had smashed the previous Guinness World Record for the longest breath-hold underwater by nearly five minutes.

But even with the help of pure oxygen before the attempt, it had pushed him to the limit.

"Everything was difficult, just overwhelming," Maricic, 40, told AFP, reflecting on the record-breaking day on 14 June 2025.

"When I dive, I completely disconnect from everything, as if I'm not even there.

"This time, I struggled mentally and halfway through I thought about quitting."

Before the record dive, Maricic inhaled pure oxygen deeply



Vitimir Maricic spent 29 minutes and three seconds under water without oxygen. **PHOTO: AFP**

ly for 10 minutes to prepare his body to go so long without fresh air, saturating his blood with oxygen. — AFP



WORLD

Standing strong together: Russia celebrates National Unity Day

Putin emphasized the undeniable value of Russian unity at the Unity Day state awards ceremony, highlighting the nation's ability to unite against global threats and challenges.

ON National Unity Day, Vladimir Putin laid flowers at the Minin and Pozharsky monument. He also met young volunteers on Red Square and the children of heroes of the special military operation in Ukraine.

"This holiday means unity; it means preservation of our sovereignty, of our country and of our statehood," the Russian president emphasized.

The holiday traces back to 1612, when a people's militia led by Kuzma Minin, elder of the Nizhny Novgorod zemstvo, and Prince Dmitry Pozharsky expelled Polish invaders from Moscow, ending the Time of Troubles.

The fourth of November is celebrated with a wide range of events, from official ceremonies and parades to concerts and public gatherings. Orthodox churches hold services in honour of the Kazan Icon of the Mother of God.

Russian troops are observing the holiday on the front lines of the special military operation.

"The value of our unity is undeniable," Putin said at



Russian President Vladimir Putin, religious leaders and members of public associations, youth and volunteer organizations take part in a flower-laying ceremony at the monument to Kuzma Minin and Dmitry Pozharsky while marking the Russia's National Unity Day in Red Square in central Moscow, Russia. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

the Unity Day state awards ceremony. "We know how to close ranks to tackle common challenges in the face of global threats — and to celebrate victories, achievements, and successes together." — SPUTNIK

Iran celebrates victory over Western imperialism

Hundreds of thousands of Iranians took to the streets in Tehran and over 900 cities nationwide to mark the 46th anniversary of the 1979 takeover of the US Embassy in Iran.



The fourth of November marks the "National Day of the Fight Against Global Arrogance", commemorating the 1979 US embassy takeover in Tehran. PHOTO: SPUTNIK

IN Tehran, demonstrators on Tuesday marched from Palestine Square to the former US embassy, where the event ended with speeches, patriotic songs, and the reading of a closing statement condemning Western sanctions and reaffirming solidarity with the Palestinian people.

Hundreds of thou-

sands of Iranians flooded the streets of Tehran and 900+ cities across the country to commemorate the 46th anniversary of the 1979 takeover of the US Embassy — a day officially observed as the National Day of Fighting Global Arrogance.

Crowds marched in unison, waving Iranian flags and portraits of those killed in US and Israeli attacks.

On 4 November 1979, Iranian students seized the US Embassy in Tehran, heralding the beginning of America's expulsion from Iran. The 1979 revolution ended both Western and Israeli influence in Iran by deposing the Pahlavi monarchy. — SPUTNIK

US government shutdown becomes longest in history

THE US government shutdown became the longest ever Wednesday, topping the 35-day record set during Donald Trump's first term, as his administration warned of holiday air travel chaos and threatened Americans' benefits in a bid to force a resolution.

Federal agencies have been grinding to a halt since Congress failed to approve funding past 30 September, and the pain has been mounting as welfare programs — including aid that helps millions of Americans afford groceries — hang in limbo.

There were in recent days the first fragile signs of progress in Congress in the search for an off-ramp, although — for now — 1.4 million federal workers, from air traffic controllers to park wardens, remain on enforced leave or working without pay.

Hours before the shutdown record toppled at midnight, the Trump administration sounded the alarm over turmoil at airports nationwide if the crisis drags beyond a sixth week, with worsening staff shortages snarling airports and closing down sections of airspace. — AFP