

The **Global** **NEW LIGHT** of **MYANMAR**

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

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

Acting President & SSPC Chairman, Malaysian FM discuss peace and election issues

Fifty-seven political parties that have met all legal requirements are set to contest in the upcoming election, fielding more than 5,000 candidates nationwide.



Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing shakes hands with Dato’ Seri Utama Haji Mohamad Bin Haji Hasan Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia during the latter’s courtesy call on the former yesterday.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing unveiled that the government has issued 27 statements to ensure a ceasefire since 2018. Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman of the

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Dato’ Seri Utama Haji Mohamad Bin Haji Hasan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, at the Tatmadaw Guesthouse in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting, the Malaysian Minister of Foreign Affairs said that he was delighted to see the preparations and efforts of Myanmar to hold the multi-party democratic general election. He guaranteed that ASEAN will emphasize

the best cooperation with Myanmar in its endeavours. He advised that the election should be all-inclusive and vowed to send election observation teams to Myanmar. In his discussions, the Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar expressed his pleasure at the visit of the Malaysian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Myanmar. Preparations for holding a multiparty democratic general election were announced as early as 2024. The government has worked to ensure that political parties and individuals with differing political views have had sufficient time to prepare for the election. Registration of political parties has also been carried out in accordance with the law. In the upcoming election, 57 political parties that comply with legal requirements will compete, with over 5,000 candidates running. With regard to the peace process, the Acting President and SSPC Chairman of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar continued that efforts have also been made to invite ethnic armed organizations to pursue the political path and achieve peace. Since 2018, 27 statements have been issued to ensure a ceasefire. Furthermore, three invitations have been extended to individuals involved in terrorist acts due to political differences, encouraging them to participate in the political process. On the 15th of this month, a ceremony marking the anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA will be held. Leaders from NCA signatory ethnic armed organizations, as well as some leaders from NCA non-signatory groups, along with international observers, will attend the event.

SEE PAGE 3

NATIONAL



2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

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

Union Election Commission



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

Objectives of 26th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2025

- To explore, preserve, and enhance Myanmar's national prestige, integrity, and distinctive cultural heritage.
- To promote and exemplify the spirit of national solidarity and unity through Myanma art.
- To transmit traditional performing arts to the younger generation.
- To function as a national cultural and artistic institution contributing to the State's socioeconomic development.

Gold Market Rate as of 9 October 2025

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K5,990,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.



Announcement on Advance Voters Outside Registered Townships

9 October 2025

- The Union Election Commission (UEC) has announced that the general election will be held on 28 December 2025.
- UEC announced advance voting for eligible voters who are outside their registered townships but are included on the voter lists of various constituencies. It is hereby notified that the following deadlines have been extended:
 - Heads of schools, training centres, detention centres and hospitals, must submit the completed Form 15 of voters together with the township-based registration form (Form 15-A) to the relevant township subcommissions by 17 October 2025 instead of 12 October 2025.
 - Those who are temporarily displaced outside their registered township where the voter list is located should obtain Form 15 from the Union Election Commission website or from the township sub-commission in their area and submit it to the relevant township subcommission by 17 October 2025 instead of 12 October 2025.
 - With the permission of the Union Government, the deadline for sending completed Form 15 to the Commission, in relation to advance voting by those who are outside the country, has been extended from 12 October 2025 to 17 October 2025.

Union Election Commission

Notice to Voters

9 October 2025

- The Union Election Commission is displaying the voter lists for the general election to be held in December 2025 for 14 days from 30 September 2025 to 13 October 2025 for voters to review.
- To ensure the accuracy and completeness of the voter lists and to give voters more time to submit their requests, objections, and amendments, the voter lists will be displayed for an additional seven days from 14 October 2025 to 20 October 2025.
- Therefore, if a person's name is missing from the voter list, they may request to be added to the voter list using Form 3. If someone who should not be included appears on the list, an objection may be filed using Form 4. If any information on the voter list is incorrect, an amendment may be submitted using Form 4-C, up until 20 October 2025.

Union Election Commission

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

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

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

Acting President & SSPC Chairman, ...

FROM PAGE 1

Both sides frankly exchanged views on political progress in Myanmar, plans to use Myanmar Electronic Voting Machines to cast votes to ensure a free and fair election, holding of the elections in

portions, invitation extended to election observation teams from neighbouring countries and international community, a plan of walking on the path of democracy in Myanmar, positive cooperation of Myanmar in ASEAN community, co-

operation in humanitarian aid process, and promotion of cooperation with the international community.

Also, present at the meeting were Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, and

Commission member and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Than Swe. The Malaysian Minister for Foreign Affairs was accompanied by Tan Sri Othman Hashim, Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar and officials. — MNA/TTA

Prime Minister holds talks with Malaysian FM and party

PRIME Minister U Nyo Saw received a delegation led by Malaysian Minister of Foreign Affairs Dato' Seri Utama Haji Mohamad Bin Haji Hasan at Office 18, the Union Government Office in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on friendly relations between the two countries, promotion of cooperation in all sectors including trade and investment, implementa-

tion of the peace process under the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA, preparations to hold a free and fair multiparty democratic general election successfully, further enhancement of relations between the two countries, and further promotion of positive cooperation in the ASEAN and international landscapes.

Also, present at the meeting were Union Minister for



Malaysian Foreign Minister Dato' Seri Utama Haji Mohamad Bin Haji Hasan pays a courtesy call on Prime Minister U Nyo Saw yesterday.

Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Soe Win, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U

Naing Min Kyaw and officials. The Malaysian Minister of Foreign Affairs was accompanied by

the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar and officials. — MNA/TTA

Verify Name on Voter List

THE announcement period for the first display of voter lists has been extended by seven days until 20 October 2025. The lists are posted at ward or village-tract subcommission offices for public viewing.

If your name is not included in the list, you may apply using Form 3. If you wish to object to any name or information, use Form 4. To correct any personal information, apply with Form 4-C.

All these forms are available free of charge at the respective subcommission offices.

Displaced Persons Eligible for Advance Voting in Upcoming Elections

DISPLACED persons who have temporarily left their original residences will be allowed to cast advance votes for their respective constituencies.

They can obtain Form 15 free of charge from the township subcommission in the area where they are currently residing and must submit the form no later than 17 October 2025.

NATIONAL

MMCWA holds 34th annual general meeting

THE Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association held its 34th annual general meeting at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-I in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, attended by Honorary Patron of the MMCWA, Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

On the occasion, Union Minister Dr Thet Khaing Win said that out of a population of over 51 million in Myanmar, more than 60 per cent are mothers and children. Maternal mortality, infant mortality under one year, and child mortality under five years are important national health indicators. Reducing maternal and child mortality will not only improve these health outcomes but also increase the expected lifespan of the population. Therefore, the Head of State has emphasized that maternal and child health, as well as the overall health and longevity of the people, should be prioritized and actively promoted.

He continued that the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, has established maternity wards including Myitta Sanyay Clinic in Nay Pyi Taw, regions, and states to



MMCWA Honorary Patron Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman, views around the exhibits displayed at yesterday's event.

provide care for pregnant mothers, ensure safe deliveries, offer postnatal care, and carry out family planning services. Pregnant mothers receiving care are provided with monthly nutritional units and prenatal supplements starting from the fourth month of pregnancy. Members of the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association are encouraged to continuously study and acquire up-to-date knowledge and skills in the Association's key areas — health,

education, economy, social work, and international relations so that they can effectively collaborate with the Ministry of Health, affiliated departments, and partner organizations. Best wishes are extended for their success in these endeavours.

A video clip on activity of MMCWA was screened.

Honorary Patron Daw Kyu Kyu Hla presented the first prize for the activities in the health sector to the Yangon Region, the joint second prize to the Kachin

State and Mandalay Region and the third prize to the Sagaing Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, respectively.

Honorary Patron Daw Than Than Nwe also gave first, second and third prizes to the activities in the education sector to the Bago Region, Shan and Mon State Supervisory Committees, respectively.

The Union Minister for Health and Chairperson of MMCWA Prof Dr San San My-

int Aung handed prizes to the winning teams in the social and economic sectors.

Honorary Patron Daw Kyu Kyu Hla viewed documentary photos on the activities of the region and state supervisory committees.

She gave nutritious food-stuffs and vaccines to children under five years and viewed display and sales of domestic products and traditional handicrafts of Nay Pyi Taw and the Region and State Supervisory Committees.

The annual general meeting followed, with an address by the MMCWA Chairperson. The secretary and the treasurer of the association submitted the financial report for 2024 and the financial statement for 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial years. Officials from regions and states also read the financial reports. The meeting adopted the minutes and plans.

The ceremony was also attended by Deputy Minister for Health Prof Dr Aye Tun, Central Executive Committee members of MMCWA, officials from Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation and sister associations, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Myanmar Medical Association, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Association and Myanmar Health Assistant Association. — MNA/TTA

Coast Guard plays vital role in safeguarding maritime interests



Union Minister General Maung Maung Aye speaks on the fourth anniversary of the founding of the Myanmar Coast Guard yesterday.

UNION Minister for Defence General Maung Maung Aye attended the fourth anniversary of the founding of the Myanmar Coast Guard yesterday.

Speaking at the event, the Union minister highlighted the objective of the founding of the Myanmar Coast Guard, which plays a key role in protecting maritime interests. He also added that the Coast Guard should serve a duty in ensuring the State's stability, maritime law enforcement and economic growth, and it needs to serve as White Hull Diplomat in matters related to the maritime law enforcement organizations and international maritime affairs.

He added that the government enacted the Myanmar Coast Guard law on 17 July 2025, and the law states the effectiveness, justice, safety, protection and practical actions in carrying out the law enforcement measures in Myanmar's waters. The Coast Guard serves duty in accordance with the Myanmar Coast Guard Law and existing law, and should keep learning further maritime law.

The Union minister cordially greeted the officers and other ranks of the Coast Guard. He observed around the booths at the Myanmar Coast Guard Headquarters and the coast guard vessel. — MNA/KTZH

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)



151st World Post Day celebrated in Nay Pyi Taw

THE Ministry of Transport and Communications celebrated the 151st World Post Day in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In his speech, Union Minister U Mya Tun Oo explained that this year’s theme is “POSTFORPEOPLE: Local Service. Global Reach”, which reflects that the postal service sector plays a vital role in global connectivity by providing postal services to the people across the nation, from urban areas to rural and remote villages. It also serves as a guiding vision for contin-

ued efforts dedicated to the people, the nation, and the entire world.

He emphasized that postal services play a vital role in connecting communities worldwide, not only through traditional services but also by embracing digital innovation to stay relevant in the future.

A video message from the UPU Director General and a commemorative clip were also screened during the event. Awards were also presented to winners of the 54th International Letter-Writing Competi-



Union Minister U Mya Tun Oo speaks on the 151st World Post Day held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.



tion for Young People, and certificates of honour to the judging panel mem-

bers. After the ceremony, attendees visited the

postal exhibition, which showcased the history and evolution of Myanmar’s

postal services through documents, photos, and materials. — MNA/KTZH

MoFA Union Minister receives ASEAN Chair, Malaysia

DATO’ Seri Utama Haji Mohamad Bin Haji Hasan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia and the current Chair of ASEAN, undertook a working visit to Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on 9 October 2025. During the visit, Dato’ Seri Utama met U Than Swe, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Jasmine Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, Union Minister U Than Swe briefed on the continued efforts of the Government of Myanmar to restore peace and stability in the country, ongoing negotiations with Ethnic Armed Organizations to achieve long-lasting peace, and preparations for holding



MoFA Union Minister U Than Swe holds talks with the Malaysian Foreign Minister and his delegation yesterday.

free and fair elections as part of the country’s path towards building a genuine multiparty democratic system. He also updated Myanmar’s cooperation with ASEAN in the implementation of the ASEAN Five-Point Statement

(Consensus), and with neighbouring countries, as well as regional and international partners in addressing transnational crimes and online scams.

The Union minister also suggested the establishment of a Tripartite

Core Group comprising the Government of Myanmar, the United Nations, and ASEAN, to coordinate post-disaster recovery efforts and support the rehabilitation and well-being of the communities affected by the devastating earth-

quake in Myanmar.

Reaffirming Myanmar’s commitment as a responsible member of ASEAN, the Union minister highlighted Myanmar’s constructive engagement in ASEAN initiatives and the ASEAN Chair’s efforts. While reaffirming Myanmar’s continued commitment to fulfilling its duties and responsibilities as a member state, the Union minister underscored the importance of inclusivity and equal rights, and urged reinstatement of Myanmar’s rightful role and entitlements in ASEAN.

The Foreign Minister of Malaysia expressed appreciation for the comprehensive briefing by

the Union minister. He stated that this visit is intended as a constructive effort towards finding a solution to the ongoing political situation. The minister acknowledged Myanmar as an integral part of ASEAN and supported the implementation of the 5PC to achieve a durable resolution that is Myanmar-owned and Myanmar-led. He also reiterated to continue greater engagement and closer cooperation with Myanmar.

The Union minister hosted the Malaysian delegation led by the Foreign Minister of Malaysia with a welcoming lunch before the Bilateral Meeting at the Jasmine Hotel. — MNA

NATIONAL

Coord meeting held for NCA’s 10th anniversary



The fourth coordination meeting of the Steering Committee on the NCA 10th Anniversary Celebration in progress yesterday, addressed by Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae.

THE Steering Committee on the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) held its fourth coordination meeting yesterday afternoon at M Gallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

Since the signing of the

NCA, its anniversary has been celebrated annually, and the upcoming 10th anniversary on 15 October 2025 will be marked in Nay Pyi Taw with grand political essence alongside a commemorative workshop.

In his remarks, Steering

Committee Chairman Union Minister Lt-Gen Yar Pyae said the working committees are expected to be ready with their relevant duties, and there should be rehearsal sections by the region and state cultural dance troupes. The opening ceremony

will be in the first section and the workshop in the second section. It needs to release information promptly, and the transport committee should practice to facilitate the transportation in time, whereas the relocation committee also need to practice in the hall.

Steering Committee Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing outlined the status of preparations for the NCA 10th Anniversary Celebration, and the deputy ministers, permanent secretaries, and directors-general from various ministries discussed sector-specific tasks, while attendees offered suggestions and deliberated on necessary actions.

Steering Committee Vice-Chair Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn discussed the timely arrivals of participants to the event, clear-cut explanations at the galleries, systematic photo displays, timely announcement

by the presenter, and the need to be aware of as the event will be broadcast via livestreaming.

The NCA 10th anniversary is celebrated intending to review the achievements, successes, and lessons learned over the past ten years, and to establish Forward Action Plan for the peace process, to enable the public to better understand the NCA enhancing the trust and cooperation between the government and public, to support in drafting effective peace policies and procedures, to let the regional and international countries know the situation of the Myanmar peace processes, to explore the methods to continue implementing the peace process by the government, which will emerge after the election, in building future Myanmar by compiling the opinions and perspectives from different stakeholders and sectors. — MNA/KTZH

NDSC Information Team Leader clarifies AA terrorists’ drug trafficking and distribution

I WOULD like to explain drug trafficking and the distribution of AA terrorists to the media. These drug trafficking and distribution by AA terrorists are a danger not only for Myanmar but to regional countries. In the past, I have said that the AA terrorists have been relying on narcotic drugs for their standing. Now, 3,438 kilogrammes of ICE and 2,198 kilogrammes of Ketamine worth K195.85 billion to be distributed to Rakhine State and Malaysia were seized in the last week of September. Based on information provided by a responsible citizen who did not wish to tolerate drug trafficking and the terrorist acts of the AA terrorists, authorities learned that narcotic drugs were being transported from Shan State through Yangon to be sent on to Rakhine State and Malaysia. Acting on this information, a search and seizure operation was conducted. As a result, on the Hlegu-Phaunggyi road in Hlegu Township, authorities intercepted a vehicle driven by Aung Khant Kyaw, together with conductor Htet Wai Phy, and seized 1,439 kilogrammes

of ICE valued at K35.97 billion. According to the confessions of the arrested suspects, in addition to those who arranged the drug trafficking, further investigation led to the arrest of Zaw Lin and Saw Zin Min Han from Sipintha Village, Htantabin Township. At their homes, authorities seized 1,999 kilogrammes of ICE worth approximately K49.97 billion, along with the offenders. Similarly, from a warehouse at the residence of Kyaw Naing near Thamasaitta Village in Thongwa Township, authorities seized 2,198 kilogrammes of ketamine worth about K109.9 billion, together with the drivers, conductors, and vehicles used for transportation. The seized narcotic drugs were traced back to the Wamhai area in Kehsi Township, Loilem District of southern Shan State. They were being transported by those in charge of business section of the AA terrorists, Ye Zaw and Chit Min, who had arranged to move the drugs from Wamhai through Yamethin, Yangon, and Rakhine State, and then onward to Malaysia via maritime routes. The arrests were made while this



Maj-Gen Zaw Min Tun.

operation was underway.

The AA terrorist group has been involved in drug trafficking and distribution through various means since around 2013. They have used multiple methods of packaging and even concealed drugs inside fuel bowzers for transportation. To ensure large-scale drug trading, they have transported narcotics ranging from small to massive quantities. Confessions from arrested members of the AA insurgents also revealed that these drug transport and distribution operations were carried out under direct instructions from the group’s leader, Tun Myat Naing. In connection with the AA terrorist

group, drug seizures have been made as follows: one case in 2015 worth about K1.65 billion; four cases in 2019 worth about K59 billion; one case in 2020 worth about K10 billion; two cases in 2023 worth about K155.87 billion; two cases in 2024 worth about K3.22 billion; and six cases so far in 2025 worth about K1,003.93 billion. **From 2015 up to the present, there have been a total of 16 drug seizure cases linked to the AA terrorist group, with an overall value amounting to approximately K1,233.67 billion.** These figures clearly show the magnitude and danger of the problem. It also demonstrates how the AA terrorist group has

been transporting narcotic drugs from areas under its control in Rakhine State to various regions across the country. In the 2023 drug seizure case linked to the AA terrorist group, six members of the group were involved—Tun Lin (aka) Pyone Cho at the level of Lieutenant, Nay Lin Tun (aka) Nor Naw (aka) Kyaw Soe at the rank of Second Lieutenant, Soe Tun at the rank of Second Lieutenant, Kyaw Han at the rank of Seageant, Private Kyaw Lin San, and Private U Tun Nu. Upon systematic investigation, it was found – based on their confessions – that they were operating under the direct instructions of AA terrorist group leader Tun Myat Naing, and that the operation was led and managed by Kyaw Myat Oo (aka) Thar Thar (aka) Wai Tha Tun at the rank of Colonel of the AA terrorist group. Similarly, in subsequent cases, those arrested were also found to be individuals connected with the AA terrorist group and actively involved in drug operations organized and overseen by the group’s leadership.

SEE PAGE 7

NATIONAL

Economic sector must align with the New World Order

❖ In expanding relationships with our partners, it is necessary to establish sustainable development plans.
❖ Economically, in terms of security, and technologically, relationships must be enhanced appropriately across these different sectors.
❖ Especially in the economic sector, all of us must make adjustments and reforms to align with the changing global framework known as the New World Order.
(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the opening of the Forum on Myanmar Beyond 2025: Challenges and Opportunities in a Multipolar World held on 21 March 2025)

NDSC Information Team Leader clarifies AA terrorists' drug trafficking and distribution

FROM PAGE 6

The AA insurgent groups have been paying and luring residents with money to transport narcotic drugs, not only selling them within Rakhine State but also trafficking them across the border into Bangladesh and other countries via maritime routes. It was also mentioned by the Commander of the Ramu Command of Bangladesh Border Guard (BGB) himself during a press conference on 15 September that such activities have been taking place. In the past, when Myanmar's border guard police were able to effectively maintain security along the Rakhine-Bangladesh border, such incidents were well controlled. However, in areas now under the AA insurgent group, their members themselves have been found directly transporting narcotic drugs into Bangladesh and other countries without obstruction. It has further been discovered that the money earned from these drug trafficking and distribution operations is being used to purchase provisions, arms, and ammunition.

The PDF insurgent groups operating under the AA insurgent group's network have also been involved in drug transportation and distribution routes. Their desire to profit from these illegal activities has led to large-scale arrests. Following these crackdowns, internal financial shortages, conflicts, betrayals, and even mutual accusations and killings have occurred within their groups. Up to now, a total of 823 members of PDF terrorist groups across the country have returned to the legal fold. In addition, there are still groups that are in contact and making arrangements to return to the legal fold. From 2018 to the present, the Government has announced 27 ceasefire statements with various Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs). Furthermore, due to political differences, the government has also extended an invitation three times to the PDF and other armed groups to return to the legal fold and resolve issues within the framework of the law. At this point, what I would like to say is that the AA insurgent group is not only carrying out insurgent activities under the pretext of racial and ethnic issues, but is also engaging in the trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs — a danger to all humankind — not only within Rakhine State but across Myanmar and even to neighbouring countries. Although they claim to be acting in the name of ethnic interests, it is in fact the Rakhine youth themselves who are becoming victims of drug abuse. Therefore, as national brethren and citizens of Myanmar must all stand together to oppose the extremist acts of the AA terrorist group — the so-called Arakan Drug Army — whose operations harm the people of Myanmar and pose threats to neighbouring countries as well. I would also like to urge everyone to promptly report any related information to the responsible authorities. Thank you all.

Information staff insured with SSB receive healthcare services



Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn and U Aung Kyaw Hoe, Deputy Minister U Win Shein, and Officials views around the healthcare services to the insured staff.

THE Thu Kha Mingalar Mobile Medical Unit offered healthcare services to the staff of the Ministry of Information who registered for social security at the Social Security Board of the Ministry of Labour in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, Union Minister for Labour U Aung Kyaw Hoe, Deputy Minister U Win Shein and relevant officials inspected the healthcare services provided for the insured staff by doctors and health workers of the SSB.

U Maung Maung Ohn also inspected the lab test, ECG processes, blood test and certain healthcare services on the mobile medical unit.

The SSB project operates three SSB hospitals, 96 township SSB clinics, 61 departmental clinics, 68 contract clinics, 48 contract clinics for maternity and outpatient services, 16 contract hospitals and labour rooms for maternity services and one traditional medicine clinic.

In Nay Pyi Taw, there are two township SSB clinics, four departmental clinics and five contract clinics for maternity and outpatient services.

A total of 253 insured Information staff received the medical services, and the insured staff in Nay Pyi Taw will receive medical services until 30 October. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar Coast Guard holds 4th Anniversary Parade



The fourth anniversary parade of the Myanmar Coast Guard is underway. THE fourth Anniversary Parade of the Myanmar Coast Guard was held yesterday morning at the Coast Guard parade ground in Thanlyin Township, attended by Director-General Commodore Tet Lwin Tun of the Myanmar Coast Guard, officials, personnel, families and guests.

The parade was held as planned, with the national flag and the fallen leaders and Tatmadaw members being saluted while taking oaths.

Director-General Commodore Tet Lwin Tun of the Myanmar Coast Guard then delivered a speech to commemorate the

fourth Anniversary of the Myanmar Coast Guard.

In the afternoon, the fourth Coast Guard Anniversary Award Ceremony was held at the Coast Guard Command Headquarters' temporary hall. Officials presented awards to officers and Tatmadaw members who had performed their duties diligently during the 2024-2025 year and to family members of Tatmadaw members who received the Best Housing Award and Housing Room Award during the year. — MNA/MKKS

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Provide treatment for mental disorders of patients to ease their suffering

THE overall objective of World Mental Health Day, which falls on 10 October this year, is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilize efforts in support of mental health. The Day provides an opportunity for all stakeholders working on mental health issues to talk about their work and what more needs to be done to make mental health care a reality for people worldwide.

The World Health Organization (WHO) stated that many mental health conditions can be effectively treated at relatively low cost, yet health systems remain significantly under-resourced and treatment gaps are wide all over the world. Mental health care is often of poor

quality when delivered. People with mental health conditions often also experience stigma, discrimination and human rights violations. Mental disorders, also known as mental health conditions, refer to a range of mental and psychosocial issues that cause significant distress, functional impairment, or risk of self-harm. The term “mental health conditions” more broadly includes mental disorders, psychosocial disabilities, and other mental states linked to serious distress or dysfunction. This fact sheet focuses on mental disorders as defined in the International Classification of Diseases, 11th Revision (ICD-11). Globally, nearly one in seven people lives with a mental disorder. If left untreated, these conditions can severely affect daily life and cause long-term suffering. Although various types of mental disorders exist and effective prevention and treatment options are available, most people still lack access to adequate care. The World Mental Health Day 2025 theme, set by the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH), is “Access to Services – Mental Health in Catastrophes and Emergencies”. This theme focuses on the urgent need for accessible mental health support during crises, such as natural disasters, conflicts, or pandemics, highlighting the importance of prioritizing psychological care alongside physical health. Although the number of patients with mental health disorders is less than those suffering from other diseases, emphasis must be placed on providing necessary treatment and consultation to patients to ease their suffering and the impact of the disease. In this regard, relatives of patients and health authorities, in addition to the government, have to join hands in giving proper treatment to the patients in various ways. Improving the mental health of patients can contribute to the development of the health sector of the nation, on the one hand. Moreover, health authorities concerning the mental health section can win the trust of people so as to march towards the plans of the health sector.

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Although the number of patients with mental health disorders is less than those suffering from other diseases, emphasis must be placed on providing necessary treatment and consultation to patients to ease their suffering and the impact of the disease. In this regard, relatives of patients and health authorities, in addition to the government, have to join hands in giving proper treatment to the patients in various ways. Improving the mental health of patients can contribute to the development of the health sector of the nation, on the one hand. Moreover, health authorities concerning the mental health section can win the trust of people so as to march towards the plans of the health sector.

World Mental Health Day 2025: Protecting Minds, Building Futures



EVERY 10 October, the world unites to mark **World Mental Health Day**. The 2025 theme, “Access to Services: Mental Health in Catastrophes and Emergencies”, comes at a crucial time. Conflicts, disasters, pandemics, and climate shocks continue to reshape lives worldwide, often leaving **invisible scars on mental health** that persist long after the physical wounds heal.

Mental health is not a luxury; it is a **foundation for resilience**. Without psychological well-being, communities cannot rebuild, children cannot learn, and economies cannot thrive. Yet, despite increasing awareness, **mental health services remain scarce and stigmatized**, particularly in crisis-affected countries such as Myanmar.

This article highlights the **global burden of mental disorders, the Myanmar perspective with GSHS findings**, common conditions, risk factors, and the urgent need for prevention, especially for **youth populations**, who are the most vulnerable.

The Global Burden: A Hidden Emergency

According to the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, nearly **one in five people (22 per cent) in conflict or crisis settings** develop mental health conditions, ranging from depression and anxiety to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia.

Global emergencies such as wars, natural disasters, and pandemics not only **increase psychological distress** but also **disrupt existing health services**, leaving millions without care when they need it most. WHO warns that **only two per cent of those in need actually receive mental health services** in humanitarian emergencies.

The impacts are profound:

- Increased **suicide rates**, substance abuse, and family breakdowns.
- Long-term economic costs due to **reduced productivity and chronic disability**.
- Intergenerational trauma**, when children exposed to conflict and disasters carry emotional scars into adulthood.

Globally, mental disorders account for **one in six years lived with disability**, making it one of the leading public health challenges of the 21st century.

Myanmar’s Challenges: Conflict, Disasters, and Young Minds

Myanmar faces a double storm: ongoing conflict and recent disasters. In 2023, 19.9 million people – over one-third of the population – need humanitarian aid. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) says conflict and climate shocks drive this. A massive 7.7 earthquake hit in March 2025, killing thousands and shaking Mandalay and Sagaing. Floods and cyclones add to the pain. In flood-prone areas, 47 per cent of men report severe depression, 41 per cent severe anxiety.

Youth are hit hardest. A 2025 study by the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

surveyed adolescent girls in conflict zones. It found high rates of distress from violence and displacement. Another survey shows displaced adults in camps have severe mental issues linked to loss and fear.

The **2016 Myanmar Global School-based Student Health Survey (GSHS)**, though conducted before the current crises, still provides vital insights into adolescent mental health:

- 8.5 per cent** of students reported feeling lonely most of the time.
- 3.6 per cent** were so worried that they could not sleep regularly.
- 9.2 per cent** seriously considered suicide in the past 12 months.
- 8.4 per cent** had made a suicide plan.

These figures underscore a **vulnerable youth population** – at high risk of worsening outcomes under current crises. With millions of children now risks of **depression, PTSD, and self-harm** are significantly higher.

Stigma around mental illness remains strong in Myanmar, silencing many who suffer. This makes **early prevention and open conversations** in schools, communities, and families critical.

Common Mental Disorders and Their Impacts

The most frequent mental health conditions in emergencies include:

- Depression:** Persistent sadness, hopelessness, and loss of interest.
- Anxiety disorders:** Fear, panic attacks, and constant worry.
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD):** Nightmares, flashbacks, and avoidance following trauma.
- Substance use disorders:** Often rising after displacement and loss.
- Suicidal ideation and behaviour:** A tragic but preventable consequence.

Untreated, these conditions disrupt education, strain families, and hinder national recovery. For Myanmar, where the majority of the population is young, the **mental health of youth will shape the nation’s future resilience**.

Risk Factors and Vulnerabilities

What makes mental health worse in emergencies? Risks are the same worldwide, but local ones hit hard.

Globally: Pre-existing issues like poverty make it bad. Emergencies add grief, substance use, and isolation. Helpers face “compassion fatigue.” Impacts include higher suicide rates, broken families, and lost productivity. Mental disorders cause 1 in 6 years of disability.

In Myanmar: Conflict and quakes mix with cultural stigma. People hide pain, fearing shame. Risk factors include displacement, food shortages, and no safe spaces. The GSHS showed weak parent bonds raise suicide risk by 2-3 times.

Impacts last year: Post-quake, kids show Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) symptoms like nightmares. Women report more anxiety from home burdens. Economy suffers too – depressed workers can’t rebuild. Without help, small problems become lifelong scars.

Prevention and Protection: Investing in Youth

WHO and UNICEF emphasize **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)** as essential in all humanitarian responses. Myanmar can act through:

- School-based interventions** – Integrating resilience and coping skills into curricula using GSHS data as a baseline.
- Community-led support** – Training volunteers in **Psychological First Aid (PFA)** to offer immediate comfort and guidance.
- Integration into primary healthcare** – Expanding trained professionals and linking mental health with general health services.
- Youth-friendly services** – Hotlines, peer-support groups, and safe spaces for adolescents.
- Stigma reduction** – Public campaigns to normalize mental health conversations.
- Care for caregivers** – Ensuring health workers and volunteers receive protection from burnout and trauma.

A Call for Action: Shared Responsibility

World Mental Health Day 2025 is a reminder that **mental health is everyone’s responsibility**.

Governments, NGOs, schools, religious leaders, communities, and families must **act together**:

- Government:** Increase budget allocation for mental health, embed MHPSS in all emergency plans.
- Communities:** Create safe, stigma-free spaces for sharing.
- Youth:** Speak up, support peers, and break the silence.
- International partners:** Provide resources, technical expertise, and advocacy.

Mental health is not only a **health issue**, but also a **social and economic priority**. When minds heal, societies recover.

Healing Beyond Survival

Emergencies test human resilience, but they also offer an opportunity to **rebuild stronger, more compassionate systems**. For Myanmar, protecting youth mental health is critical to safeguarding its future.

On **World Mental Health Day 2025**, let us recognize that healing is not just about bodies, but also about minds. Together, by sharing responsibility, reducing stigma, and expanding services, we can ensure that mental health is **not forgotten in times of crisis** – but prioritized as the **path to recovery, dignity, and hope**.

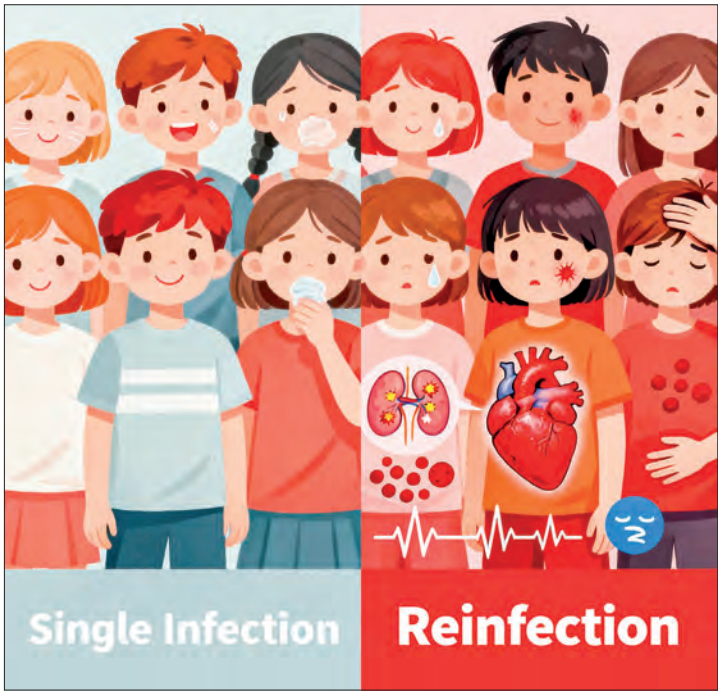
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Global School-based Student Health Survey									
Myanmar 2016 Fact Sheet									
	Students Aged 13-15 Years			Students Aged 16-17 Years			Students Aged 13-17 Years		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Mental Health									
Percentage of students who seriously considered attempting suicide during the 12 months before the survey	9.2 (7.0-12.0)	7.6 (5.1-11.2)	10.6 (8.2-13.4)	10.9 (7.7-15.1)	9.1 (6.2-13.1)	12.5 (8.7-17.7)	9.4 (7.5-11.8)	7.9 (5.7-10.8)	10.9 (8.8-13.4)
Percentage of students who attempted suicide one or more times during the 12 months before the survey	8.4 (6.4-10.9)	6.3 (4.4-9.0)	10.3 (7.8-13.6)	11.2 (8.4-14.7)	10.0 (6.7-14.7)	12.3 (8.6-17.4)	8.8 (7.0-11.1)	6.9 (5.1-9.2)	10.6 (8.3-13.6)
Percentage of students who did not have any close friends	3.6 (2.7-4.8)	3.5 (2.3-5.1)	3.7 (2.4-5.6)	4.4 (3.5-5.6)	3.5 (1.5-7.8)	5.3 (3.2-8.8)	3.7 (2.9-4.7)	3.5 (2.4-4.9)	4.0 (2.7-5.7)

Risk of long Covid in kids doubles after second infection: Study

The study suggests that long COVID may become a persistent pediatric health issue with serious long-term effects.



Children and adolescents were twice as likely to experience long COVID after catching COVID for the second time, compared to their peers with a single previous infection. **ILLUSTRATION: CCO IMAGES**

CHILDREN and adolescents were twice as likely to experience long Covid after contracting Covid for the second time, compared to their peers with a single previous infection.

These results run counter to the popular perception that Covid in children is “mild” and that reinfections with Covid do not carry the same risk of long Covid as initial infections.

Among the conditions associated with long Covid in youth, myocarditis (swelling of the heart muscle that can weak-

en the heart and even prove fatal) was most common, with the risk tripling after a second Covid infection compared to the initial infection. Blood clots in children were more than twice as likely after a second Covid infection. Kids were also at increased risk for many other conditions after getting Covid twice, including damaged kidneys, abnormal heartbeats, headache, abdominal pain and

SOURCE: ANI

NATIONAL

26th Performing Arts Competitions (Central Level) enters 3rd day

THE third day of the central level of the 26th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2025 was held at designated sites in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Maha Gita (classic song) contest took place at the Mini Theatre of the National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw), including the basic education level (aged 15-20) male contest and the higher education level female contest.

The basic level Myanmar traditional dance (first level) contest was held at Hsinphyushin Hall, including the basic education level (aged 10-15) female and male contests. The traditional Dawei dance contest continued in the afternoon, with participants from regions and states performing the song “Pyidaungsu Atwat Thamine Pay Thitsar” in combination with traditional choreography.

The songcomposing contest was held at the Cultural Gem Hall of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, including the basic education level (aged 15-20) male and female contests and higher education level male and female contests.

The xylophone contest took place at Wunzin Minyaza Hall of the National Library (Nay Pyi Taw), comprising the basic education level (aged 10-15) male and female contests and the higher education level male contest.

The Oboe and Myanmar flute contests, part of the traditional orchestra contest, were held at the Training Theatre of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, including the basic education level (aged 15-20) and (aged 10-15) male contests, higher education level female contest, and higher education level male contest.

The Pobbathiri Hall hosted a orchestra troupe contest, including basic education level (aged 10-15 and 15-20) male and female contests.

Union-level dignitaries, including Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, who is also a member of the State Security and Peace Commission, union ministers, departmental personnel, staff, and students attended yesterday’s competitions to observe and support the contestants.

The 26th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (central level) will continue from 7 to 13 October 2025. Contestants from regions and states will continue to compete in the remaining traditional dance and musical contests on the following days. — MNA/KZL



From Kayah State.



The traditional Dawei dance contest.



A female dance contest at basic education level (aged 10-15).



Photos feature contestants from states and regions taking part in traditional Myanmar musical instrument competitions.

Ma Wai Wai Aung from Chin State.



Photos show contestants participating in the traditional Myanmar orchestra contests of the 26th Performing Arts Competitions (Central Level).

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



An entrance view to the Bagan Archaeological Museum.

Bagan Archaeological Museum plans to open on religious days

THE archaeological museum in Bagan is planning to open on religious holidays as these days tend to attract many visitors, according to a museum official.

Bagan is a popular tourist destination during the religious holidays and festivals, so the museum is arranging to remain open on all major holidays.

“Mondays are the usual museum closing days. There are many visitors on religious holidays. It’s now open season, which means there’s an increase in tourist traffic to Bagan and the museum this month. We will submit a proposal for the opening of the Bagan Archaeological Museum on those religious holidays,” a museum official told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

Last weekend, the number

of tourists was so high that the hotels were full, and on the day of the reopening of the museum on 8 October, 1,087 domestic travellers and four foreign tourists visited the museum, while the number of visitors remained high on 9 October.

Last September, many pilgrims attending the Popa Festival also visited Bagan, resulting in approximately 800 museum visitors per day.

The Bagan Archaeological Museum is open from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm daily except on Mondays and public holidays. The entrance fee is set at K1,000 per domestic tourist, K10,000 per foreign tourist, and is free for monks, children under 12 years old, and students with a school recommendation letter. — MT/ZN

‘5 Ladies Show’ musical to light up Nay Pyi Taw on 25 Oct

THE 5 Ladies Show musical concert, featuring vocalists Connie, Htun Eindra Bo, Eaint Chit, Poe Mi, and Laimmawthee, will be held in Nay Pyi Taw, according to sources.

The upcoming 5 Ladies Show marks the second event organized by Melody Marvel Productions.

“Under the arrangement of Melody Marvel Productions, the five of us, the 5 Ladies, will be performing in Nay Pyi Taw. In addition to our own performances, there will be other musical programmes as well, so we invite everyone to come and enjoy the show,” said vocalist Connie.

The 5 Ladies Show, featuring these five renowned vocalists, will take place at the M



This image displays a promotional poster for the 5 Ladies Show musical concert.

Gallery Nay Pyi Taw by Sofitel at 6 pm on 25 October. Melody Marvel Productions announced that tickets are available in three categories – Standing, VIP, and VVIP – and include dinner privileges. — ASH/KZL

MFF pays respect to former officials, players, and referees



This photo captures the Myanmar football family’s respect-paying ceremony to seniors. PHOTO: MFF

LED by the Myanmar Football Federation, the Myanmar football family paid respect to old chairpersons, secretaries, national players and referees aged above 70 years. The ceremony was held on 9 October morning at the MFF Futsal Stadium.

At the ceremony, MFF

Chair U Zaw Zaw and executive members, Myanmar National League committee members, club owners, Futsal Committee and Futsal League members, coaches, Myanmar national players and staff paid obeisance to seniors with gifts.

Old Myanmar national player U Soe Myint gave a speech to young players, and MFF Chair U Zaw Zaw also spoke on the occasion, expressing appreciation.

MFF presented K300,000 each for 124 seniors with Myanmar national team shirts as a tradition of the Thadingyut celebration. — Htun Htun/ZS

K100M jackpot announced for 24th five-digit Aungbarlay Online Lottery

AT the opening of the 23rd 5-digit online lottery, a K100 million jackpot winner appeared, and the Aungbarlay online lottery said the prize money for the grand prize will be the same at this 24th lottery opening.

At the 23rd lottery opening, the winner bought 18 lottery tickets in all the alphabet with 24,107 numbers to mark his birthday.

The 5-digit Aungbarlay online lottery can be bought easily at the Aungbarlay application or by dialling 117# by Mytel, and the price per ticket is K1,000.

It opens on the first and 16th days of the month, twice a month. — MT/ZS



U Nyi Nyi, the jackpot winner of the 23rd lottery opening.

Filming for drama series begins at Eaindawya Pagoda in Yangon

ACCORDING to actor Charlie, who will be starring in the series, the opening ceremony for the filming of the drama series ‘Yaungzon Myethnaphone Myar’ (Queens of the Set) was held at the Eaindawya Pagoda in Dagon Township, Yangon Region, on 7 October.

The story of Queens of the Set is based on a novel written by Wai Yan Pe. The screenplay is written by Chit Su Khin, and the series is directed by Wai Yan Pe, with Chit Su Khin and Wai Yan Ye Yint serving as assistant directors.

“We’ll be giving full support to Thanda Bo’s exciting comeback project. Bo and I are very close friends. We first met while working on a film together and have been friends since our modelling days, nearly ten years now. I really want her to make a strong return. This time, she won’t be playing a sweet character but rather a bold and fierce one. Our real-life friendship will help us act naturally together in the series,” said actor Charlie.

The drama series will feature 12 episodes and stars Academy Aye Myat Thu, Thanda Bo, Yamin May Oo, Sai Si Tom Kham, Charlie, Bhone Thike, Aye Thidar, Hnin Ei Wint Wah, Khant Oak Soe, Sai Zeya, and guest actor Thein Lin Soe, among many others. Filming is set to begin in Yangon on 8 October, with main scenes to be shot at various locations around the city. — ASH/MKKS

NATIONAL

BUSINESS

CBM to inject US\$30M into fuel oil sector

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 8 October that it would sell US\$30 million to those engaged in the fuel oil industry.

CBM also sold over \$1.87 million to edible oil-importing companies and over \$530,290 to fuel oil-importing companies on that day, in addition to an injection of over 4.98 million baht and over 21,480 yuan into the market.

CBM injected over \$2.9 million into edible oil-importing companies on 3 October 2025.

CBM sold over \$2.6 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$656,270 to fuel oil-importing companies on 2 October, in addition to an injection of over 524,200 yuan into the foreign exchange market.

CBM announced on 2 October that it would sell \$25 million to fuel oil entrepreneurs.



The facade of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) in Nay Pyi Taw.

CBM pumped over \$39 million purchased from companies working on a Cut, Make, and Pack basis into the market in September 2025. Moreover, CBM also injected over \$680,000, 6.2 million yuan and 300,000 baht into the market through the foreign exchange market online

trading platform last month.

CBM sold over \$1 million, 11 million yuan and four million baht in August. Furthermore, CBM also pumped over \$32 million, purchased from the companies working on a Cut, Make, and Pack basis, into the financial market. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

MRCS, ICRC conduct refresher course on safety

THE Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) offered a Refresher Course focused on enhancing safety, security and emergency preparedness for Red Cross volunteers in regions and states between 29 September and 4 October.

A total of 23 safety & security focal persons from Nay Pyi Taw, Kachin State, Kayin State, Mon State, Shan State (East, South, North), Sagaing Region, Magway Region, Mandalay Region, Bago Region, Yangon Region, Ayeyawady Region and Taninthayi Region attended the six-day course.

Moreover, MRCS and ICRC jointly opened a Risk Awareness and Safe Behaviour Course on 30 September



This image displays an opening ceremony of the Refresher Course for Safety and Security Focal Persons.

at the headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw.

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement adopted seven fundamental principles: humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary ser-

vice, unity and universality on 8 October 60 years ago. Those fundamental principles guide members to ensure that assistance is provided based on humanity without discrimination, and with neutrality and independence. — ASH/KK

DWIR invites bids for equipment to support riverbank erosion control

TENDER Accepting and Evaluation Committee of the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems under the Ministry of Transport and Communications invited qualified bidders for renting and buying equipment to conduct river bank erosion protection work and waterway improvement works. Myanmar business entities can submit the tender to the DWIR for renting and purchasing equipment valued between K20 million and K200 million, and above K200 million to carry out

river bank erosion protection work and waterway improvement works, with the Union Capital Fund in the 2025-2026 Financial Year.

The tender form is available at the DWIR located at 400, Lower Pazundaung Road, Pazundaung Township, Yangon. Submission of tender is by 3 pm on 21 October 2025. Tender will be opened on 24 October 2025 (10 am).

Individuals can enquire about details through the contact number of the DWIR at 09 880004975. — NN/KK

YUOE to offer Business Studies course

YANGON University of Economics will open a Certificate Course in Business Studies (CBS) for three months starting from 7 am to 9 am on 13 November 2025 at YUOE (Hlaing Campus).

Those who hold a matriculation pass certification are eligible to apply for the CBS. Interested individuals can apply for it at YUOE (Hlaing Campus) between 8 October and 7 November, by present-

ing a matriculation pass certificate, national registration card and two photos. They can enquire about details by dialling the following contact numbers: 09 442037023 and 09 696128472. — NN/KK

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Ferrari goes electric with four-seat coupe but shares get shocked

FERRARI will begin its cautious shift to electric vehicles in 2026 with its first battery-powered four-seat coupe, but shares plummeted Thursday over a long-term profit outlook that fell short.

Shares of Ferrari fell by as much as 16 per cent Thursday on the Milan stock market, as the luxury carmaker spelled out profit and revenue expectations for 2030 that disappointed investors.

The luxury brand with the prancing horse logo presented details of its first electric sports

car, to be released next year, during a presentation to investors and media at its Maranello factory, even while revealing it would scale back its electrification plans.

The four-seat coupe, “Elettrica,” will offer over 1,000 horsepower and have a range of 530 kilometres (329 miles).

Ferrari — which sold fewer than 14,000 cars last year — “must manage scarcity” to succeed, Ferrari CEO Benedetto Vigna told investors.

With rising prices, many

different models, and a waiting list ideally ranging from 20 to 24 months, “we have to be sure that there aren’t too many cars on the road,” he said.

Although Ferrari slightly boosted its 2025 guidance for revenue, margins and adjusted earnings per share, investors were disappointed by a longer-term outlook.

Ferrari predicted revenue to grow by five per cent per year to reach 9.0 billion euros in 2030, with an adjusted operating profit of 2.75 billion euros. — AFP



Luxury sports car manufacturer Ferrari will release its first electric vehicle next year. **PHOTO: AFP**

Second Global Food Week to take place in Abu Dhabi on 21 Oct



This event brings together a select group of experts, innovators, and industry leaders to address pressing challenges in food, agriculture, and sustainability. **PHOTO: ANI**

UNDER the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice President, Deputy Prime Minister, Chairman of the Presidential Court, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Abu

Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority (ADAFSA), ADNEC Group, a Modon Holding company, in cooperation with the ADAFSA, is organising the second edition of Global Food Week from 21st to

23rd October. This event brings together a select group of experts, innovators, and industry leaders to address pressing challenges in food, agriculture, and sustainability, reinforcing Abu Dhabi’s leading role as a major international platform for dialogue on building sustainable food systems.

Dr. Tariq Ahmed Al Ameri, Acting Director-General of ADAFSA, said, “Global Food Week embodies Abu Dhabi’s commitment to supporting sustainable food systems and enhancing global food security. It brings together leading experts and innovators to exchange knowledge and expertise and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.” — ANI

Uniqlo operator Fast Retailing posts record net profit on solid Asia, US

FAST Retailing Co, the operator of the Uniqlo clothing chain, said Thursday it posted a record net profit for the fifth straight year in the year ended August, driven by solid growth in Asia and the United States.

The casual clothing store chain operator said net profit

jumped 16.4 per cent to 433.01 billion yen (\$2.83 billion) in the year ended 31 August. Operating profit climbed 12.6 per cent to 564.27 billion yen on sales of 3.40 trillion yen, up 9.6 per cent.

“It has become mainstream to wear good quality clothes for a long time and with care, to re-

cycle and reuse,” Tadashi Yanai, chairman, president and chief executive at Fast Retailing, said at a press conference. Sales of the Uniqlo brand in Japan rose 10.1 per cent to 1.03 trillion yen, supported by strong demand for newly designed sweatshirts and jeans. — Kyodo

Shein’s Paris store kicks up a storm in France

ASIAN e-commerce giant Shein’s decision to set up shop in a historic Parisian department store has ruffled feathers in the fashion capital.

Anger has been boiling since Shein announced last week that it would open its first permanent physical store in November at BHV Marais, an iconic building that has stood across from Paris City Hall since 1856.

The move prompted some French brands to announce they would leave BHV Marais, but the department store had already been losing tenants over late payments.

Aime cosmetics line co-founder Mathilde Lacombe, whose brand was among those that decided to leave following Shein’s announcement, said she was “deeply shocked” by the deal.

Critics fear that Shein — whose meteoric rise has been a bane for traditional retail fashion companies — will further hurt stores in France that have had to lay off staff or close.

Founded in China and now based in Singapore, the fast-fashion giant sells a wide variety of products at ultra-competitive prices. — AFP



Shein will open its first permanent physical store at the historic BHV Marais department store in front of the Paris city hall. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

ROLLING UPDATES

WORLD

China, India to resume direct flights before end of Oct



Flight passengers align at security check points in the Indira Gandhi International Airport of New Delhi.
PHOTO: AFP/FILE

This development stems from the key consensus reached by President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi during their 31 August meeting in Tianjin.

CHINA and India will resume direct flights before the end of this month, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun confirmed on Thursday. This is the latest result as the two sides earnestly implement the important consensus reached between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during their meeting in Tianjin on 31 August, Guo told a regular press briefing.

It is also a positive move to

facilitate friendly exchange between the Chinese and Indian people totalling more than 2.8 billion, he added. China is ready to work with India to view and handle bilateral ties from a strategic and long-term perspective, become good-neighborly friends and partners that help each other succeed to better benefit the two peoples, and make due contributions to maintaining peace and prosperity in Asia and beyond, Guo said. — Xinhua

US govt shutdown enters 2nd week, with no end in sight

THE US federal government's shutdown entered its second week on Wednesday, with no end on the horizon as the Senate was unable to reach an agreement to reopen it.

On the day, two bills to fund the government — one from Democrats and the other from Republicans — failed to pass for the sixth time.

House Speaker Mike John-

son, the top Republican in the lower chamber, said that Senate Democrats should back the GOP stopgap measure to reopen the government.

The two parties continued to trade blame for the impasse.

"Washington Democrats voted for this government shutdown — and it's families, workers, and small businesses who are being forced to pay the

price," Johnson said Wednesday on X. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, the top Democrat in the upper chamber, said on X that "The government is shut down because Trump and the Republicans are hellbent on taking health-care away" from Americans, and that Republicans "won't even come to the table to talk to us about it". — Xinhua

Argentine Congress restricts Milei's ability to govern by decree

ARGENTINA'S Congress on Wednesday voted overwhelmingly to restrict President Javier Milei's ability to govern by decree — the latest in a string of setbacks for the right-wing leader.

Milei, whose party is in a minority in parliament, has issued more than 70 decrees since taking office in December 2023 to push through his austerity agenda.

The lower house Chamber of Deputies approved an

amendment to a bill regulating presidential decrees by 140 votes in favour to 80 against and 17 abstentions.

The bill, which had already been approved by the Senate, stipulates that a decree can be overturned by a single house of parliament.

Previously, a majority of both houses of parliament was required to reject a presidential order. The bill now goes back to the Senate, where it is expected to be approved. — AFP

Macron seeks new PM to end France crisis

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron was on Thursday racing to find a new prime minister within a two-day deadline after the resignation of outgoing premier Sebastien Lecornu tipped the country deeper into political crisis.

The presidency said late Wednesday Macron will name a new prime minister within the next 48 hours, indicating the appointment will come by Friday evening at the latest.

Lecornu told French tel-

evision in an interview that he expected a new premier to be named — rather than early legislative elections or Macron's resignation — in order to resolve the crisis.

The developments were the latest twists in three tumultuous days of political drama that have shaken France and raised concerns over the stability of the key member of the European Union. Lecornu had resigned early Monday after less than a month in office, but

Macron gave him up to Wednesday evening to find a way out of months of deadlock over an austerity budget.

Lecornu's two immediate predecessors were ousted by the legislative chamber in a standoff over the spending plan.

The president "will name a prime minister within 48 hours", the presidency said in a statement to AFP, adding a "path was possible" to agree a budget by the end of the year. — AFP



Argentine President Javier Milei presents his book "The Construction of the Miracle" on 6 October 2025, in Buenos Aires. **PHOTO: LUIS ROBAYO / AFP**

SPORTS

Myanmar to compete in 6 billiards & snooker events at XXXIII SEA Games

MYANMAR will compete in six billiards and snooker events at the XXXIII SEA Games to be hosted by Thailand in 2025, according to the Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation.

Out of the 10 events included in the tournament, Myanmar's three male cueists will take part in six, comprising the singles and team events in billiards, 15-red snooker, and 6-red snooker categories.

The three Myanmar national cueists set to represent the country are Pauk Sa, Aung Htay, and Nay Thway Oo. Pauk Sa, who won gold medals in the singles events at both the 31st and 32nd SEA Games, is again seen as a strong contender for gold. Aung Htay, a gold medallist at the 2013 and 2015 SEA Games, and Nay Thway Oo, a silver medallist at the 16th 2020 Asian Championships and double silver winner at the World Billiards Championships, will also join the national team.

To test their skills ahead of the Games, these three national cueists are currently competing in a trial match against the top three winners from the 2025 Region and State Billiards and Snooker Championships – Kyaw Swa Win from Ayeyawady Region (first prize), Teza Aung from Yangon Region (second prize), and Aye Min from Man-



Myanmar national cueist Nay Thway Oo in action.

dalay Region (third prize). The trial competition is being held at the National Indoor Stadium-I Billiards and Snooker Hall in Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, Yangon.

"This competition is a test match between the top three winners from the 2025 Region and State Billiards and Snooker Championships and our three national cueists who will represent Myanmar at the XXXIII SEA Games. Billiards is one of the sports that consistently brings home gold, silver, and bronze medals for Myanmar in international tournaments. However,

we currently have a shortage of young talent. The Union Minister also wishes to observe the skill levels of regional players, and this event is meant to motivate them by allowing direct interaction with our national players. It helps regional players learn how top players make decisions and develop strategies during matches," said U Win Htet Mon, Vice-President of the Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation and Director of the Competition and Training Branch.

The trial competition will continue until 10 October. — Arkar Linn/KZL



Florian Wirtz celebrates after scoring a goal in Germany's 3-1 win over Northern Ireland in September. PHOTO: AFP

Mbappe 'relaxed' and ready to play in France's World Cup qualifiers

FRANCE captain Kylian Mbappe said Thursday he was feeling relaxed with his life in Madrid and was in good shape as his nation seeks to move to the brink of World Cup qualification as they face Azerbaijan in Paris.

Mbappe had received treatment for a "small niggle" in his right ankle picked up playing for Real Madrid last weekend.

"The coach (Didier Deschamps) wants me to play. I don't think there will be a major problem," Mbappe told reporters on Thursday.

Deschamps added: "It's not prohibitive; it depends more on his sensitivity regarding his ankle".

Mbappe said he was feeling "more relaxed" in his life, having fully settled into life in the Spanish capital since joining Real from Paris Saint-Germain last season. "A career can have some slightly more complicated years, years where you have a little more hardship," he said.

"But in life, I think I've adapted well to Madrid. This isn't an attack on France, but it's true that I'm more relaxed there. In Madrid, the lifestyle is different. It's less hectic than in Paris. — AFP

French cycling sprinter Demare announces retirement

FRENCH sprinter Arnaud Demare announced on Thursday that he would retire from professional cycling after Sunday's Paris-Tours one-day classic. The 34-year-old, who won two stages of the Tour de France and eight at the Giro d'Italia during his career, is a twice

former winner at Paris-Tours, which is one of the oldest cycle races in the world having first been held in 1896. "The time has come," Demare said in an Instagram post. "At the end of this season, after Paris-Tours, I will turn the page on my professional career".

Demare has managed 97 victories in his career, putting him third on the roster of active riders behind only the incomparable Tadej Pogacar (107) and Norwegian Alexander Kristoff (98), who has also recently announced his impending retirement. — AFP

Sabalenka, with help from Djokovic, and Swiatek reach Wuhan quarters

WORLD number one Aryna Sabalenka raced into a fourth consecutive Wuhan Open quarter-final Thursday, having revealed she spent time on holiday last month practising with Novak Djokovic.

She was joined by Iga Swiatek who reached her 25th WTA 1000 quarterfinal with a hard-fought 7-6 (7/2), 6-4 win over Belinda Bencic.

Sabalenka, in contrast to her rusty start against Rebecca Sramkova the day before, came

out firing from the get-go to blow away Russia's world number 20 Liudmila Samsonova 6-3, 6-2.

Sabalenka, whose unbeaten match run in Wuhan extended to 19-0 as she seeks a fourth straight title, took a month off after winning her fourth Grand Slam title at the US Open in early September. She went on holiday to Greece, where she spent time hitting with former number one Djokovic, who is a resident there.

"We went for dinner. We practised a couple times," Sa-

balenka told reporters. "I hope I was a great hitting partner. So far, he's winning in Shanghai, so I guess I was," she added. Sabalenka did not face a break point against Samsonova and was impressive on her second serve, dropping just three points. — AFP

Aryna Sabalenka takes a selfie after beating Liudmila Samsonova in Wuhan. PHOTO: AFP





Chinese premier arrives in DPRK for WPK's 80th anniversary celebrations, visit

The trip was invited by the WPK's Central Committee and the DPRK government, underscoring ongoing bilateral ties between the two nations.

CHINESE Premier Li Qiang arrived on Thursday to attend the 80th anniversary celebrations of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) and pay an official goodwill visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

Li, also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, makes the trip at the invitation of the Central Committee of the WPK and the government of the DPRK.

Upon arrival, Li said that China and the DPRK, as socialist neighbours connected by mountains and rivers, enjoy a profound traditional friendship. In recent years, under the strategic guidance and personal efforts of General Secretary Xi Jinping and General Secretary Kim Jong Un, China-DPRK relations have been brimming with new dynamism and vitality, said Li. — Xinhua



Chinese Premier Li Qiang, also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, reviews the guard of honour with Pak Thae-song, premier of the cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and presidium member of the Political Bureau of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) Central Committee, during a welcome ceremony at Pyongyang Sunan International Airport in Pyongyang, DPRK, 9 October 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Gaza ceasefire deal offers hope to people of region for stable future: Egyptian President



Israelis jumped, clapped and sang in Hostages Square in Tel Aviv following the announcement. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE ceasefire agreement in the Gaza Strip gives the people of the region hope for a just and stable tomorrow, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Sisi said on Thursday.

"This agreement not only closes the chapter on the war, but also gives the peoples of the region hope for a just and stable tomorrow," Sisi wrote on X.

The ceasefire agreement in the Gaza Strip will only go into effect after the Israeli government approves the deal on Thursday evening, Israel's Channel 12 reported, citing a source.

At the same time, Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich said that he would not support the Gaza agreement and stressed the need to destroy Palestinian movement Hamas and achieve the demilitarization of Gaza after the release of the hostages. — SPUTNIK

Hungary's Krasznahorkai, 'master of the apocalypse' wins literature Nobel

THE Nobel Prize in Literature was on Thursday awarded to Laszlo Krasznahorkai, considered by many as Hungary's most important living author, whose works explore themes of postmodern dystopia and melancholy.

Hungarian writer Laszlo Krasznahorkai, the winner of the 2025 Nobel Prize in Literature, has a 'compelling and visionary oeuvre', the Swedish Academy said.

The Swedish Academy honoured him "for his compelling and visionary oeuvre that, in the midst of apocalyptic terror, reaffirms the power of art."

"I'm very happy, I'm calm and very nervous altogether," the author told Swedish broadcaster Sveriges Radio from Frankfurt.

"It is my first day as a Nobel prize winner," he said.

The Academy highlighted Krasznahorkai's first novel published in 1985, "Satantango", which brought him to prominence in Hungary and remains his best-known work.

The Academy called it "a literary sensation". — AFP