

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.

CBM unveils newly constructed branch in Mandalay



Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presses the electronic button to inaugurate the new building of the Central Bank of Myanmar (Mandalay Branch) yesterday.

The Central Bank of Myanmar is advancing its vision and mission in line with the demands of the current era to ensure stability and sustainable development in the nation’s monetary sector.

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inaugurated the new building of the Central Bank of Myanmar (Mandalay Branch) yesterday morning.

On the occasion, Secretary of the Commission and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Mya Tun Oo, Union Minister for Construction U Myo Thant, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung and Central Bank of Myanmar Governor Daw Than Than Swe

formally opened the new bank building. The Senior General unveiled the new building and had documentary photos taken together with attendees. The Senior General, the Secretary of the Commission and Joint Executive Chief and attendees sprinkled scented water on the plaque of the building. The Senior

General viewed around the new building. A video clip on the brief history of the bank branch and the construction process was presented. Union Minister U Myo Thant handed over the documentary book for the new building to CBM Governor Daw Than Than Swe.

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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.

Four National Objectives for 78th Independence Day 2025

- To safeguard the non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty by all citizens, as they are the most essential and suitable national objectives and national duties
- To strive forward for national unity and Union peace to implement sustainable and balanced development
- To establish a genuine, disciplined democratic system completely by exercising the freedom and justice in accordance with the laws and regulations
- To advance other economic sectors and promote MSMEs based on regional products

Book launch and donation ceremony for Dreams from My Father held



The book launch and donation event underway on 3 December in Yangon.

A book launch and donation ceremony for *Dreams from My Father* (the first book of Barack Obama), translated by Saya Shwe O Latt, was held on 3 December at the Central Hotel in Yangon.

Saya Shwe O Latt explained the contents of the book, the purpose of translating it, and the objectives of holding the launch event.

Madam Susan from the US Embassy and Saya Myinmu Maung Naing Moe, chairman of Myanmar Writers' Association, made remarks.

The author donated 150 copies of book to the libraries of IPRD, and the relevant official received the donation and gave the certificate of honour in return.

The book contains 19

chapters detailing the childhood, student life, political entry, and political journey related experiences of Barack Hussein Obama, the first African-American President of the United States.

The event was attended by relevant officials of respective embassies, great writers, book lovers and invitees. — Kyaw Tint Tun (IPRD)/KTZH

SEA Games men's football group C match to be broadcast live on MRTV

THE Myanmar U22 national football team will face the Philippines U22 national football team in a Group C match of the 33rd South-East Asian Games, hosted by Thailand, at 5:30 pm on 5 December.

The match will be broadcast live on MRTV HD, MRTV Entertainment, MRTV Sports, and Myanma Radio starting at 5:15 pm on Monday. — MNA/TH

SEA Games women's football group B match to air live on MRTV

THE Myanmar women's national football team will encounter the Philippines women's national football team in a Group B match of the 33rd South-East Asian Games, hosted by Thailand, at 3:30 pm on 5 December.

The match will be broadcast live on MRTV HD, MRTV Entertainment, MRTV Sports, and Myanma Radio starting at 3:15 pm on Monday. — MNA/TH

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

NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

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

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

Pleasant stairways ensured for pilgrims at Maha Muni Buddha Image

Religious buildings damaged by the earthquake are being restored to their original form to ensure their long-term preservation and continued existence.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing guided officials to systematically keep the stairways pleasant for pilgrims during his inspection tour of renovating the damaged religious buildings at the Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay.

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo and his wife, the Mandalay Region chief minister, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and the commander of Central Command, paid homage to Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay



Acting President and SSPC Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing looks around the restoration work of the damaged religious buildings at the Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay yesterday.

yesterday morning and inspected the renovation of damaged religious buildings caused by the earthquake.

The Senior General and his wife cordially greeted pilgrims and offered alms in the alms-bowl, fruit, flowers and water to the Buddha image.

The Senior General looked into the renovation of the religious buildings in their original states and gave guidance on

the systematic work process in repairing the damaged buildings and the construction of new structures to have long-term existence.

The Senior General and his wife donated cash to the fund for the overall renovation of the Buddha Image to the officials.

At the foreign donated items museum and hanging Yadana hall, the Senior General viewed around the systematic keeping

of jewellery items donated by well-wishers and precious ornaments hung at the diamond orb and the pennant-shaped vane which fell on the ground due to the earthquake and gave necessary instructions to officials.

At the stairway, the Senior General guided officials to systematically keep the stairways pleasant for pilgrims and cordially greeted the pilgrims. — MNA/TTA

CBM unveils newly constructed branch in Mandalay

FROM PAGE 1

The CBM Governor presented a commemorative gift to the Senior General and spoke words of thanks for opening the new bank branch.

Officials conducted the Senior General round the documentary photo gallery on the construction of the building.

Also, present at the ceremony were

Union minister-level dignitaries, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of Central Command, departmental officials, members of the Board of Directors of the CBM, and officials from the Myanmar Banks Association, the State-owned banks and private banks.

The Central Bank of Myanmar is

implementing its vision and mission in conformity with the current era in order to stabilize and develop the monetary sector of Myanmar. Moreover, efforts are being made to control the monetary sector in regions and states, improve the monetary sectors of all regions and implement financial inclusion and conduct effective supervision in border regions. In accord with

the guidance of the Head of State, a new building of the Central Bank of Myanmar (Mandalay Branch) was built in Mandalay, starting from the 2022-23 financial year. In the work process, the Ministry of Construction took responsibility for the construction of the new bank branch building of the CBM, meeting the characteristics of international bank buildings. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

Myanmar hosts Workshop on Rural Transformation through ASEAN Smart Village

THE Rural Development Department of the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development hosted the Workshop on Rural Transformation through ASEAN Smart Village at the Grand Ballroom of the Eravati Sule Grand Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister U Hla Moe said Myanmar's rural transformation efforts are being carried out in line with the Myanmar Comprehensive Sustainable Development Plan, and the ministry is making efforts in rural transformation for 69 per cent of rural people. In implementing the Territorial Rural Development approach, the six major sectors, such as rural infrastructure development through the Smart Village project, agrochemicals



The Workshop on Rural Transformation through ASEAN Smart Village in progress yesterday in Yangon, addressed by Union Minister U Hla Moe.

and financial assistance, vocational development and rural economic promotion, strength-

ening units and technical distribution, social protection and environmental conservation, are

being carried out.

He then called for active participation in sharing experi-

ence, good practices, potential points and practical measures.

The pre-recorded remark video sent by Deputy Secretary-General U San Lwin of the ASEAN Secretariat and a documentary of the model village project of the Rural Development Department were played.

ActionAid Country Director Mr Shihab Uddin Ahamad delivered a keynote speech titled Rethinking Rural Development in a Transforming ASEAN. The representatives of ASEAN coordinated in the discussion under four panel sessions. The workshop will be held until 5 December, and they will visit the Yemon Model Village, the fruit and vegetable research development centre and the Myanmar Handicraft Centre on 5 December. — MNA/KTZH

Deputy Minister leads visit to Liuzhou Industrial Museum, Liu Gong Factory



Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya is pictured during the observation tours in China.

A Myanmar delegation led by Dr Aung Zeya, Chairman of the Research Development and Technology Dissemination Committee on Electric Vehicle and Re-

lated Equipment and Deputy Minister for Science and Technology, visited the Liuzhou Industrial Museum yesterday afternoon.

Upon their arrival, the museum supervisor, Ms Cai Wen, and other officials explained that the museum has continued producing household electrical appliances and industrial products since the country's first car was manufactured in 1982. She also highlighted the success of the business, its production of electric vehicles, and its current involvement in environmental protection activities, responding to questions from the Deputy minister and his delegation.

The deputy minister and his team then visited Liu Gong Group, a manufacturer of heavy-duty commercial vehicles. Senior Director Ms Xiang Lin gave them a tour of the production plant and the Kui Gong R&D Centre, during which the Deputy minister asked questions and exchanged souvenirs. — MNA/MKKS

Public Announcement

AN internet service disruption on 1 November 2025 along the UMO submarine fibre-optic cable, which connects Singapore and Myanmar, caused reduced internet speeds for mobile network operators and Internet Service Providers (ISPs) that rely on this route. While repair operations are underway to restore full connectivity, additional cross-border fibre-optic routes have been activated, allowing internet services to return to a stable and acceptable level. Repairs to the UMO submarine cable are expected to be completed by the end of December 2025, after which normal internet service levels are anticipated to fully resume.

Ministry of Transport and Communications

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NATIONAL

General Aung San Declares Firm Stand Against Election Disruption

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

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



Russian delegation on SEA projects calls on MoC Union Minister

UNION Minister for Commerce U Chit Swe received a delegation led by Mr Sergey Shatirov, Honorary Consul of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Krasnogorsk, a Supervisory Board Member of the Roscongress Foundation, and Coordinator of South-East Asia Projects for the RC-Investments Fund, at the Ministry’s meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, both sides discussed ways to increase bilateral trade by providing greater market access in Russia for Myanmar’s main exports, including agricultural and marine products. They also explored the possibility of exporting Russian

fertilizers to Myanmar, holding trade fairs to strengthen business ties and showcase products, establishing trade centres between the two countries, importing equipment required for a natural fertilizer factory to be built in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, and cooperating in broader economic and trade sectors.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Minister U Min Min, the permanent secretary, directors-general, and representatives from the Roscongress Investment Fund. — MNA/MKKS



Union Minister U Chit Swe meets the Russian delegation led by Mr Sergey Shatirov, Honorary Consul of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Krasnogorsk and a Supervisory Board Member of the Roscongress Foundation, and Coordinator of South-East Asia Projects for the RC-Investments fund.

Myanmar delegates attend Launch of South-East Asia Primary Learning Metrics-2024 Main Regional Report



A group photo session of the Launch of the SEA-PLM 2024 Main Regional Report, joined by Deputy Minister U Nay Myo Hlaing, in the Philippines.

THE Myanmar delegation, led by Deputy Minister for Education U Nay Myo Hlaing, attended the Launch of the (South-East Asia Primary Learning Metrics) SEA-PLM 2024 Main Regional Report held at Hilton Manila Newport World Resorts

in Manila, the Philippines, yesterday.

Union Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw Sein sent a video message to the event, highlighting the key role of SEA-PLM in the ASEAN education framework and com-

mitment to work together with ASEAN member countries to ensure equality and growth in the education sector.

Deputy Minister U Nay Myo Hlaing then appreciated the release of the SEA-PLM 2024 main regional report, and discussed measures to promote the education system for the children in Southeast Asia and plans of the ministry to apply these results as evidence-based guidance.

The event was attended by education ministers, deputy ministers and representatives of ASEAN countries and other international organizations such as SEAMEO, ASEAN, SEA-PLM Secretariat, UNICEF and AKCF. — MNA/KTZH

MoE begins direct sales of domestic petrol at affordable prices

THE Ministry of Energy, in line with its slogan of delivering the nation’s resources directly to the public, has been distributing domestically refined Ron 68 petrol directly to consumers since January this year, after previously selling it to the private sector through a tender system.

In addition, Ron 72 and Ron 77 petrol are also being produced and distributed based on crude oil and natural gas availability.

Currently, as crude oil prices have declined, the Ministry of Energy has announced that, starting today, various types of domestically produced petrol will be sold at prices reduced by up to K200 per litre compared with previous rates.

Furthermore, the Ministry continues to strive to independently produce and distribute higher-grade Ron petrol domestically. — MNA/MKKS



Vehicles line up for refuelling at the domestic petrol station.

NATIONAL

Authorities intensify action against scams, illegal gambling in Shwe Kokko and KK Park

THE Government of Myanmar continues its coordinated operations in the Shwe Kokko and Myawady-Maethawtalay (KK Park) areas, which have been hubs for online scam networks and illegal online gambling activities. Security personnel, administrative bodies, and local authorities have jointly entered illegal buildings, seized materials used in scam operations,

and systematically demolished unlawful structures. To date, 297 illegal buildings in the KK Park area have been demolished. In Section Three of KK Park, authorities demolished four additional illegal buildings yesterday, including one two-storey building, two three-storey buildings, and one four-storey building. Out of 425 buildings in this section, 149 have now been

removed. Across the entire KK Park area, 297 out of 635 illegal buildings have been demolished. Authorities also transferred 278 Chinese nationals involved in online gambling, online scams, and related crimes from the Shwe Kokko area to their respective countries via the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II. The transfers were conducted on humanitarian grounds, in ac-

cordance with legal procedures and bilateral agreements. Security teams intensified inspections in Myawady yesterday. Acting on intelligence, they searched Ward 3 and arrested 25 Chinese nationals and 223 Myanmar nationals, a total of 248 individuals engaged in illegal online gambling and fraud. Authorities seized 82 computers, 92 mobile phones, and other related

equipment. The offenders will face legal action. Officials also discovered eight buildings previously used for scam and gambling activities. One three-storey building was demolished yesterday to prevent further misuse.

From 30 January to 4 December 2025, a total of 12,945 nationals who had entered Myanmar illegally were taken into custody. After screening, 11,239 were repatriated to their respective countries through Thailand in line with legal procedures. The remaining 1,706 individuals are awaiting transfer and are being properly cared for.

The Government of Myanmar continues to regard the elimination of online scams and illegal online gambling as a national priority and is cooperating with neighbouring governments to ensure such crimes cannot take root in the country. — MNA/KZL



Images reveal the ongoing demolition of illegal housing facilities.



The 25 arrested Chinese nationals linked to illegal gambling.



The demolition measure taken at KK Park area 3.



The map showing location where scammers were arrested in Kayin State.

Tatmadaw vessels deliver healthcare services to Mawlamyinekyun locals

TATMADAW Naval Hospital Ships named Shwe Puzun and Saku provided healthcare services to locals in Ywathit village, Mawlamyinekyun Township, yesterday. The Tatmadaw medical team provided healthcare services to residents at the Thiri Mingala Mogok Dhamma Yeiktha Monastery.

The treatments included general medical consultations for 162 patients, surgical care for 29 patients, obstetric and gynaecological care for 58 patients, paediatric treatments for 27 children, orthopaedic care for 120 patients, ear, nose, and throat treatment for 45 patients, ophthalmology services for 100 patients, and dental care for 42 patients, totalling 583 patients.

Moreover, four patients underwent general surgery, six received eye surgery, 22 received dental services, 18 had x-ray examinations, 46 were tested using ultrasound



An operation underway, as part of healthcare services provided by Tatmadaw hospital ships for Mawlamyinekyun residents. testing, 17 underwent ECG heart screenings, and 48 had laboratory tests.

The Shwepuzun vessel successfully facilitated the delivery of a baby boy to Daw Phoo Ngone Hlwar, the wife of U Ye Naing Tun from Nyaung Peik village, Bogale Township, at around 8:16 pm on 3 December. Both mother and baby are reported to be in good health. The newborn received a congratulatory gift, including monetary rewards. This baby was the first successful delivery during the current mission. — MNA/KTZH

Tatmadaw Hospital Ship continues medical services in Cocokyun

THE Tatmadaw Hospital Ship, Thanlwin, continued providing healthcare services in villages in Cocokyun Township in Yangon Region and Hainggyikyun in Ayeyawady Region. Yesterday morning, the mobile medical teams offered medical services to 295 locals in Cocokyun and its vicinity.

Treatment included 55 general illnesses, 30 surgical cases, 10

obstetric cases, 20 paediatric cases, 36 orthopaedic cases, 19 ENT cases, 68 eye cases, and 57 dental cases, totalling 295 individuals. Among them, four patients received general surgery, seven had eye surgery, 52 dental services, four had x-rays, 45 underwent ultrasound scans, 47 had ECG examinations, and 27 received laboratory tests. — MNA/KTZH

Growing trees brings lasting benefits for future generations

- ❖ “If we continue to consistently plant, conserve, and protect forests and trees for environmental conservation, the benefits of our efforts will extend to future generations.”
- ❖ “As tree growing takes time, financial resources and manpower, it should not be done merely as a duty, but with genuine goodwill and commitment.”

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the third monsoon tree-growing ceremony 2025 of the families of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) on 11 September 2025)

59 container vessels scheduled to enter Yangon Port in Dec

A total of 59 container vessels are slated to call at the Yangon Port in December 2025, the Myanma Authority announced.

Ten container vessels run by Cosco Shipping Line, seven each by CMA CGM Line and SITC Shipping Line, six each by Ti2 Container Line and ONE Line, five each by MSC Line and Maersk A/S Line and four by Samudera Shipping Line, three each by RCL Line and BLPL Shipping Line and two by Evergreen Line, and one by Land and Sea are scheduled to dock at the Yangon Port in December.

Myanma Port Authority has arranged maritime trade channels to handle increasing imports to meet domestic demand, to bolster exports, and to improve port capacity for significant arrivals of ships. Myanma Port Authority notified that it will inform exporters and importers of ship arrival



A container vessel is seen berthing alongside the Yangon Port.

schedules promptly upon an extended schedule.

A total of 62 container vessels in January 2025, 53 in February, 58 in March, 62 in April, 65 in May, 62 in June and 60 in July arrived at Yangon Port.

Sixty containers in August, 59 in September, 68 in October and 60 in November entered the 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 Myanma Port Authority’s statement on 22 June 2022.

After the new navigation channel (Kings Bank Channel) accessing the inner Yan-

gon River was found, the draft extension work was accelerated. Afterwards, 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 TEU) 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.

From May 2021, the arrival of the ships 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

Dawei River waterway undergoes evacuation, improvement work

THE Tender Accepting and Evaluation Committee of the Myanma Port Authority invited qualified bidders for Dawei River Dredging and waterway improvement works.

Climate change resulted in increased silt deposition in the Dawei River, Taninthayi Region, leading to flooding from riverway blockages.

Vessels encountered restricted access to enter ports or to pass through channels due to shallow water. The Myanma Port Authority invited domestic and foreign companies to participate in an open tender to undertake sediment excavation to achieve sufficient draft in the river and improve waterway transport, and export river sand.

It is not like commercial spot dredging. The dredging work needs to ensure no impact on the ecosystem. Furthermore, the bidders are required to be equipped with profound working experiences, technical experiences with experts and equipment and financial capabilities to dredge at the specific shallow-water areas designated by the Myanma Port Authority to restore the original river draft, ensure no socio-economic and environmental impacts for the local community and contribute to regional development projects and local needs if necessary. Those companies that meet the qualifications can purchase a tender form between 8 and 31 December 2025 at the Myanma Port Authority in Botahtaung. International companies need to form a Joint Venture with local companies or set up a branch in Myanmar and register in Myanmar if they win a tender.

The tender submission date is 1:30 pm on 6 January at the Myanma Port Authority, and the tender opening will be held at 2 pm on that day. Individuals can enquire about details through the contact numbers of the committee at 01 246380 and 09 444714377. — NN/KK

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

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) announced on 3 December that it would sell US\$30 million to those engaged in fuel oil businesses. Furthermore, CBM sold over \$1.736 million to edible oil-importing companies on the same day.

CBM sold over \$1.45 million, purchased from CMP companies, to edible oil-importing companies on 2 December after sales of \$1.28 million on 1 December.

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

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

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

CBM injected over \$2.48 million, 5.75 million yuan and 4.98 million baht in October, along with sales of over \$54 million purchased from CMP companies. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM’s notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

Aims set to boost national forest coverage

MYANMAR is among the countries highly vulnerable to the impacts of global climate change. Due to climate change, the country may increasingly face extreme weather events such as changing rainfall patterns, rising day-time temperatures, the occurrence of cyclones, and periods of drought and water scarcity.

In April 2024, heatwave conditions caused extremely high daytime temperatures, with Chauk in central Myanmar recording 48.2 degrees Celsius — the highest temperature in the world at that time. Magway, Minbu, NyaungU, and Sagaing townships were also listed among the world’s 15 hottest cities. Among the many measures needed to mitigate global climate change, establishing forests and tree plantations is one of the most important sectors. Therefore, it is necessary to prioritize

In efforts to conserve natural ecosystems, priority is given to establishing forest reserves, protected public forests, and nature conservation areas. In our country as well, to improve dry zone ecosystems, enhance greenery, and ensure balanced and favourable climatic conditions, activities are being carried out across 13 districts, including planting roadside trees and establishing village firewood plantations.

as nature conservation areas. As of July this year, 1,324 forest reserves and protected public forests have been designated, covering 25.94 per cent of the country’s land area, along with 62 nature conservation areas, accounting for 6.43 per cent of the national territory. According to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, a further 14 forest reserves and 156 protected public forests are planned for designation in 2025.

In efforts to conserve natural ecosystems, priority is given to establishing forest reserves, protected public forests, and nature conservation areas. In our country as well, to improve dry zone ecosystems, enhance greenery, and ensure balanced and favourable climatic conditions, activities are being carried out across 13 districts, including planting roadside trees and establishing village firewood plantations.

Furthermore, to provide a green and thriving environmental legacy for current citizens and future generations, the country aims to increase forest cover to 50 per cent of its total area. Relevant ministries, local authorities, and the public must work together to continuously expand forest coverage and carry out ongoing greening and ecosystem restoration activities nationwide.

I AM a member of a monthly alms-donation association. Our association makes donations at monasteries and Buddhist universities on the first Sunday of every month. We intentionally donate only on Sundays because most of the members are government and company employees who are off duty on that day.

On a Sunday two years ago, we made an alms-donation to the monks from the Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University located on the fringe of Poedawnagon village near Hmawby. That morning, the venue for those who were to donate the alms was the home of a member in Kaba Aye. Two mini-buses were parked in front of the home that morning. All the members had already taken their seats in the buses by 9 am. The buses set off from the venue at 9:05 am. They inched along the Kaba Aye Pagoda Road and Pyay Road. When it came to 9:15 am, we reached the Khayaybin junction. As many cars and buses massed at the traffic, our buses were held up for some minutes.

After we had passed this junction, traffic became lighter. So, our buses geared up the speed and scud along the Pyay Road. The Kyaikkalei and the Kyaikkalo pagodas, and the main Hlawga power-supply station were passed quickly. When we got to Shansu, we saw lonely bus stops standing on rises on the roadside with forlorn wooded lands far in the background. At 9:30 am, our buses came to the Htaukkyant junction and followed the Pyay Road. In no time, we came in sight of the entrance to the Hlawga sanctuary park. We advanced along the Pyay Road and arrived at the Nyaunghnapin junction at 9:45

am. Our buses directed the course into Nyaunghnapin road, having veered from Pyay Road. After following Nyaunghnapin Road for a few minutes, our buses turned onto a road leading northwards. It was lined with green trees on one side, but as the other side of the road was being extended, the trees on that side were already felled. However, the road was surrounded on both sides by wide plains and presented itself as a pleasant one. The plain on the left side was covered with fields of paddy and wild grass studded with clumps of trees in some places, with the Gyophyu pipe laid in the north-south alignment at the far end. The plain on the right was a landscape checkered by fields of paddy and wild grass and plantations of rosella and lady’s fingers. The outlines of tree-clumps beyond the fields could be traced against the sky.

Then, our buses pulled into



It is found that the monks from this university followed the Vinaya rules strictly and devoted most of their time to the study of Buddhist scriptures (Pariyatti) and practices of meditation (Patipatti). The photo shows the three-storey Maha Kavinanda Sima (Ordination Hall). **PHOTO: THE MAHAVIHARA DHAMMA-VINAYA UNIVERSITY**

A Donation Made at the Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University

By Maung Maung Aye

Yethoe village. We saw shop-houses on both sides of the village; some shops tucked away in the downstairs of two-storeyed houses. The village is said to be inhabited by different ethnic peoples, especially the Bamar and the Kay-in. We caught a glimpse of some monasteries at the edge of the

village. When we got out of the village, we again saw wide paddy fields and vegetable plantations on both sides of the road. We passed Shangan and Thayatnyobin villages. These villages took on the appearance of developing ones, with new monasteries and pagodas, mini-stores, primary schools,

garment-factories, mango-plantations, flower-gardens, restaurants, resort-farms and houses within wide compounds. At 10 am sharp, we got right in front of the main gate to the Mahavihara monastery. On the entry, we noticed that the precincts were sheltered by green trees. The trees in full foliage gave coolness and peace.

On the right side, two one-storeyed buildings were seen. We

followed the covered passage-way leading eastwards. Some young monks and novices were walking back to their quarters from the classes with books in their arms, crossing the passageway. They all were wearing robes properly with their eyes cast down. Even the youngest novices, aged about four or five years, did not lift their eyes. It is learnt that the Mahavihara monastery is a Vinaya-oriented

one and that over 1,300 monks and novices at this monastery are forbidden from holding money, mobile phones and other electronic devices which can arouse sensual desire. We espied a three-storeyed building under construction in a clearing in the forest on the left side of the passage-way. It is known that the precincts of the monastery cover a total area of 300 acres, half of which is covered

with wooded areas and the other half scattered with facilities and amenities of the university and the Pariyatti learning centre. Soon after we had passed the Pariyatti learning centre, we reached the Mahavihara Dhamma-Vinaya University. We were ushered by Saya Zin Lin Oo, Head of the Administration Department, into his office, where we donated money which would incur the expenses of the alms for a day and for three sets of Kathina robes. At 10:30 am, we donated alms to the monks who came in a file. I offered to take documentary photos of the members donating alms to the monks.

Soon, the monks went straight to the refectory and seated themselves on the floor with their alms-bowls placed in front and partook of the alms-meal serenely. No dish-bowl, no table and no plate were not used. After having alms-meal, the monks retired to their monasteries. We lunched on vegetables and cooked rice. Then, we sat chatting over the green tea 15 minutes later, a senior monk, on behalf of Mahavihara Sayadaw, delivered to us a discourse on elation over the donation. Short as the discourse was, it was noteworthy. We learnt from it that there must be donations, offerings, and the donor’s confidence in the donee to accomplish a donation. It was heard that Mahavihara Sayadaw was then meditating seriously, taking up abode at a small hermitage in a forest about a twenty-minute walk from the university and that he came out to the university only on Uposatha days to give admonition to the monks and novices from the university and the Pariyatti leaning centre. After listening to the discourse, we felt satisfied with

ourselves and at peace in mind.

Afterwards, I, together with some members, visited the three-storeyed Maha Kavinanda Sima (Ordination Hall), which was a ten-minute walk from the university buildings. On the way to that ordination hall, we saw some one-storeyed student hostels on the left of the laterite-dirt road we took. When we got to the ordination hall, we went up to the second floor, where there was a wide assembly hall. There, we found a gilded, seated Buddha image in Bhumi-phassamudra bearing a trace of a smile on the lips. After worshipping it, I made for a window and looked down. I espied a woodland tract stretching some miles to the north and a large cashew forest where Mahavihara Sayadaw sojourned alone to the east. I was bewitched by this natural scenic view. We spent some minutes there enjoying the natural beauty offered by the neighbouring areas of the ordination hall. Then we, with the refreshed mind and the gleeful heart, returned to the university building where our buses were awaiting us to make our home-bound journey.

To conclude, it is found that the monks from this university followed the Vinaya rules strictly and devoted most of their time to the study of Buddhist scriptures (Pariyatti) and practices of meditation (Patipatti). Moreover, the neighbouring areas of the university were very beautiful. Thus, my heart was filled with peace, happiness and serenity. At the same time, I felt that I got a lot of merit from the alms donation to the virtuous monks. So, I decided to provide the Four Requisites to the monks from this university as much as I could.



Persons with disabilities are also travellers. According to 2021 data, there are over one billion people with disabilities, while 2.4 million are in Myanmar as per the 2014 Census. **ILLUSTRATION: SHUTTERSTOCK**

To Ensure that No One is Left Behind on the Tourism Journey

THE domestic tourism industry has shown a remarkable surge in growth in the post-COVID-19 period. People travelled near and far to see the world that emerged after the pandemic. It is a push factor in terms of tourism; people are forced to vacate our typical location, which has been locked down

for months because of COVID-19.

With the advancement of the modern era and the increasing use of technology and social media, a growing number of images showcasing the beauty of Myanmar’s tourist destinations can be seen, including photos captured and shared by travellers on their personal social media platforms.

Therefore, like a gentle breeze spreading news far and wide, an increasing number of visitors to these destinations are sharing their experiences – tasting local cuisines, exploring unique and fascinating traditional customs, and documenting their journeys through written posts, photos, and videos.

In writing about tourism, authors also provide extensive explanations of the most popular and widely practised types of tourism, such as festival tourism, pilgrimage tourism, and leisure tourism, highlighting the various activities that travellers eagerly engage in. In discussions and presentations related to policy

matters, topics such as responsible tourism and sustainable tourism are also being actively highlighted and encouraged.

It is also noted through extensive writings that the tourism industry brings numerous benefits, creating income and employment opportunities for local communities, generating foreign revenue

and tax income for the country, improving basic infrastructure such as clean drinking water, electricity, and transport networks, and supporting cultural and environmental preservation efforts.

Indeed, the tourism industry holds many positive prospects, provided that all stakeholders, including travellers and service providers, act responsibly and carry out their roles in a systematic and accountable manner. It will effectively minimize negative impacts while maximizing the benefits.

SEE PAGE 12

NATIONAL

Myanmar embassies set advance voting dates for 2025 General Election



The signage of the Myanmar Embassy to Thailand.

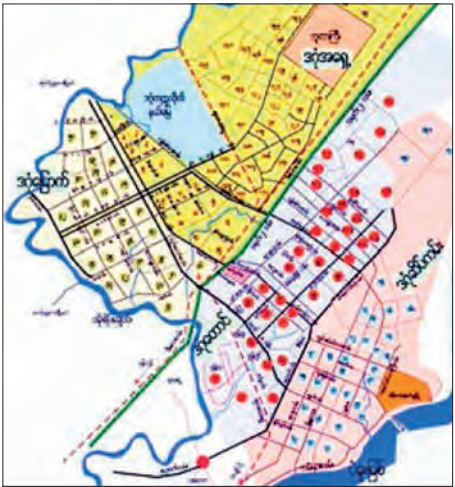
MYANMAR citizens residing in the Republic of Korea who have completed and submitted Form 15 to vote in the 2025 General Election can cast their advance votes on 6 and 7 December, the Myanmar Embassy to the Republic of Korea announced.

The polling station will be open at the embassy in Seoul from 10 am to 4 pm. All voters need to bring their original Myanmar passport or original/copy of their Citizenship Scrutiny Card.

Similarly, the advance voting will be held at the Myanmar Embassy, Kuala Lumpur, from 10 am to 4 pm on 6-8 December, from 10 am to 4 pm, according to the embassy. Voters who have submitted Form 15 can come to cast their advance vote, and they must bring their original Myanmar Passport.

The Myanmar Embassy to Thailand has also announced that the embassy in Bangkok will be open from 9 am to 4 pm on 6 and 7 December and that Myanmar citizens in Thailand can come in person to cast their advance votes. – MT/ZN

Govt invites tenders for affordable housing in 3 Dagon Myothit townships



This image shows the map of four Dagon Myothit townships.

FOR affordable housing projects in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township and Dagon Myothit (East) Township of Yangon Region, a tender invitation has been called, according to the Tender Acceptance and Evaluation Committee under the Yangon City Development Committee.

It is an invitation for local companies to participate in a public-private partnership. The project includes 36 six-storey buildings (four units per floor) and 20 shop houses in Dagon Myothit (South), 10 six-storey buildings (four units per floor) in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) and 45 six-storey buildings (four units per floor) and a 2.73-acre-wide commercial area in Dagon Myothit (East).

The tender application form will be sold from 4 to 18 December, and the submission will be accepted at the YCDC Engineering Department in Yangon Region's Kyauktada Township. The deadline for the application and insurance payment is 31 December, and the opening date of the bidding will be announced in advance. — MT/ZS

Receptionist application deadline for film academy pushed to 12 Dec

THE application period for receptionists (Shwekyo) for the Myanmar Academy Awarding Ceremony has been extended to 12 December on the grounds of requests, said the Myanmar Motion Pictures Organization.

The deadline was 5 December; however, on the grounds of requests, it will be available until 12 December, said MMPO.

For the Academy Shwekyo at the 2025 Myanmar Motion Pictures Academy Award ceremony to be held in Nay Pyi Taw, applications are open as of 24 November.

Applicants, both male and female, must be 16 years old and not exceeding 25 years as of 31 December 2025, unmarried, and women's height must be between five feet two inches and five feet eight inches, while men's height



This photo captures the Academy Shwekyo (receptionists) audition in 2024.

must be between five feet six inches and six feet. Other requirements are having good health, a good personality and a good-looking body.

Application forms can be available on 24 November at the MMPO located on Winkaba Road and will be closed before 4 pm on 12 December. For more information, enquiries can be requested by dialling the following numbers 09 880942791 and 09 880896957 during office hours, said MMPO. — MMT/ZS

အမျိုးသမီးများအပေါ် အကြမ်းဖက်မှုပျောက်ရေး(၁၆)ရက်တာ လှုပ်ရှားမှု

၂၅-၁၁-၂၀၂၄ ရက်မှ ၁၀-၁၂-၂၀၂၄ ရက်ထိ

“အမျိုးသမီးများအပေါ်အကြမ်းဖက်မှု ရပ်တန့်ဖို့ အားလုံးပေါင်းစု ကြိုးပမ်းလို့ ဘေဂျင်းကြေညာစာတမ်းနှင့် လုပ်ငန်းစီမံချက် နှစ်(၃၀)ပြည့်ဆီ အရောက်လှမ်းဖို့”

“ Towards 30 years of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action:
UNITE to End Violence Against Women”

အပြစ်ရှိသူများအပေါ် အကြမ်းဖက်မှုပျောက်ရေး(၁၆)ရက်တာ လှုပ်ရှားမှု

၂၀၂၅ ခုနှစ်၊ ဒီဇင်ဘာလ (၉) ရက်

UNITED AGAINST CORRUPTION

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

“စုပေါင်းဖက်ဆန်ကြည့်သော အနာဂတ်ကို ဖော်ဆောင်ဖို့၊ အဝတ်ထိုးကျက် လူငယ်များနှင့် လက်ချင်းဆက်ကြပါစို့”

NATIONAL

TV series ‘Lotus in the Waves’ holds press show at Zealax Hotel

THE press preview for the TV series Lotus in the Waves was held at the Zealax Hotel in Ahlon Township, Yangon Region, on 2 December, according to actress Myat Thu Thu.

The story of the new Myanmar television series is based on the novel by writer Ni Ni Naing (Thaton), which won the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award.

The screenplay was written by Hay Mar San, Min Mu Paing, and Nay Myo Aung, while Toe Waiyan Lwin directed the production for Hey Play App and Niyyayana Entertainment.

“This is Myat Thu’s first filming in four years. The novel was very popular, and when

I learned it was being adapted into a series, I really wanted to participate. Filming took about a year. Myat Thu portrays a character across three ages: young, middle-aged, and old. I would like to invite fans to share their thoughts on whether this character suits Myat Thu’s portrayal,” said actress Myat Thu Thu.

The cast includes Kaung Myat San, Myat Thu Thu, Kaung Set Naing, Phone Min Nay La, August Moe, Mary Maung, and many other artistes.

The series began airing on 3 December on MRTV-4 and is broadcast at 7 pm every evening from Monday to Friday. — ASH/MKKS



Artistes are seen at the press show of the TV series.

Myanmar to export 7,500 tonnes of Aemahta rice to Bangladesh via Pathein Port



Export rice bags are seen being loaded onto overseas-going merchant vessels.

THE Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) stated that 7,500 tonnes of Aemahta rice (five per cent broken) produced from Ayeyawady Region will be exported to Bangladesh under the Government-to-Government agreement.

A total of 2,500 tonnes will be shipped under the first batch. The rice will be sent to Bangladesh by sea only.

According to the Memorandum of Understanding on rice trade between Myanmar

and Bangladesh, 31 companies are allowed to convey rice to Bangladesh. A total of 7,500 tonnes of rice will be exported to Bangladesh through Pathein Port.

Yangon Port also saw rice shipments to Bangladesh in the last week of November and the first week of December with two ships.

MRF aims to meet the rice export target of three million tonnes in the current financial year 2025-2026. Myanmar’s rice

export during the April-October period exceeded 1.5 million tonnes, bagging US\$499 million.

Rice designated for Bangladesh’s market was processed at the Pathein Industrial Zone. Rice mills there install 400-kilo-watt solar, ensuring consistent product quality and milling efficiency. Ayeyawady Region’s government is also coordinating export facilitation in the set timeframe in line with the rules and regulations of the departments concerned. — ASH/KK



This image shows a promotional poster for the Greenfield Concert by Myo Kyawt Myaing and Sithu Lwin.

Top artistes set to headline Greenfield Concert in Yangon

THE Greenfield Concert, featuring vocalists Myo Kyawt Myaing and Sithu Lwin, will be held at the Round House, Royal Kandawgyi Hotel, in Bahan Township, Yangon Region, at 6 pm on 12 December, according to vocalist Myo Kyawt Myaing.

He said that he and Sithu

Lwin will perform together at the event, which will take place on the evening of 12 December at the same venue.

The concert will be accompanied by the New Direction band, which will provide full musical support throughout the performance. — ASH/KZL

Bamboo briquette export plant planned in Nay Pyi Taw for China, Japan markets

ACCORDING to the Bamboo Cultivation Association, a bamboo charcoal briquette factory will be built in the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area to produce high-quality briquettes for export to markets in China and Japan.

Around five acres of land in Pobbathiri Township, within the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, have been designated for the construction of the factory. The raw materials will comprise waste generated by bamboo chopstick factories, as well as lower-grade bamboo unsuitable for chopstick production. These materials will be milled into powder and processed into bamboo charcoal briquettes for export to China and Japan.

“There is a plan to produce bamboo charcoal briquettes for export, with initial implementation to take place in Pobbathiri, Nay Pyi Taw. Waste from bamboo chopstick businesses will be used as raw material for the factory. The materials will be ground into powder and reprocessed into bamboo charcoal. We will ensure proper packaging before exporting,” an official from the Myanmar Bamboo Cultivation Association said.

Once completed and operational, the factory is expected to provide employment for at least 500 residents and generate foreign income through exports. — ASH/KNN



ARTICLE/SCI/TECH:
WORLD

To Ensure that No One is Left Behind on the Tourism Journey

FROM PAGE 9

However, shouldn't these benefits, the beauty of tourism, and the exciting, meaningful experiences it offers be enjoyed equally by everyone? When speaking of inclusiveness in the tourism industry, the discussion primarily emphasizes the importance of local community participation in tourism development and their involvement in decision-making processes.

Persons with disabilities should also have the same rights as others to enjoy their own land and waters, appreciate natural beauty, and study and cherish cultural heritage. Therefore, measures must be taken to ensure that persons with disabilities

can access and navigate these tourist destinations without difficulty.

Barrier-free tourism attempts to make travel accessible to everyone, including those with impairments, so that they can have the same experiences as others.

Barrier-free tourism, also known as accessible tourism, refers to travel that is accessible to all individuals, regardless of their physical limitations or disabilities. This covers older people and people with transitory disabilities, as well as people with mobility, hearing, sight, cognitive, or intellectual problems. In order to enable everyone to fully engage in tourism activities, obstacles in the physical

environment, transportation, information, and services must be removed.

Similarly, persons with disabilities are also travellers. According to 2021 data, there are over one billion people with disabilities, while 2.4 million are in Myanmar as per the 2014 Census. Therefore, the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism of Myanmar made efforts to create a comfortable and convenient tourism environment for tourists with disabilities to visit tourist destinations.

Barriers to tourism for persons with disabilities generally include transport barriers, architectural barriers, and lodging barriers.

Transport barriers include

measures such as providing services with vehicles that can accommodate and lift wheelchairs, designating priority seating on vehicles, installing tourist signage for persons with disabilities at destinations, and allowing sufficient time to cross streets and intersections.

Architectural barriers refer to measures such as establishing wheelchair-accessible routes within tourist destinations, constructing paths that allow for uphill and downhill navigation, providing wheelchairs suitable for use on sandy surfaces, creating rest areas, providing parking spaces, and installing special flooring that prevents slipping or tripping.

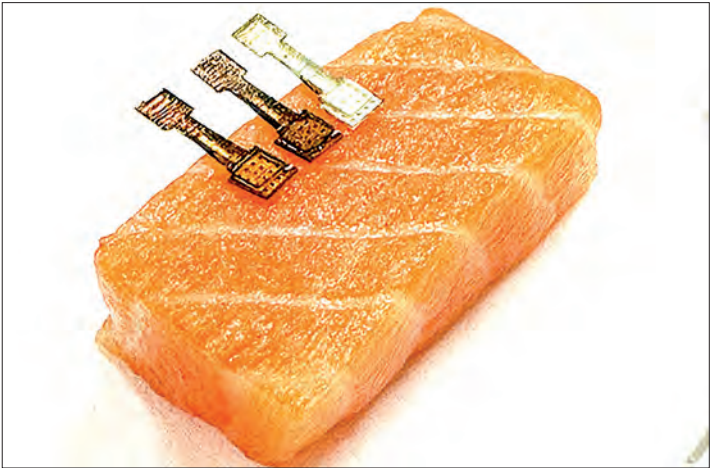
Lodging barriers refer to

measures such as installing doors wide enough to allow wheelchair access, fitting doors with standardized handles, providing auditory or tactile indicators inside elevators, arranging reception counters, furniture, light switches, and amenities at heights compatible with wheelchair users, and ensuring the availability of accessible, all-purpose restrooms.

At present, there is a growing recognition that understanding the principles of barrier-free tourism and addressing the travel needs of persons with disabilities is not only a matter of human rights but also an important factor in enhancing the quality, sustainability, and competitiveness of the tourism industry.

Scientists in Australia develop microneedle biosensor for real-time fish freshness monitoring

The Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS) has co-designed a new microneedle array device that quickly reads information when pressed onto fish meat.



The system matched the accuracy of a commercial assay, highlighting the biosensor's effectiveness in delivering accurate, early-stage detection that traditional methods can easily miss.
PHOTO: THE MONASH INSTITUTE OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES (MIPS)

SCIENTISTS in Australia have developed the first microneedle-based biosensor capable of monitoring fish freshness in real time, poten-

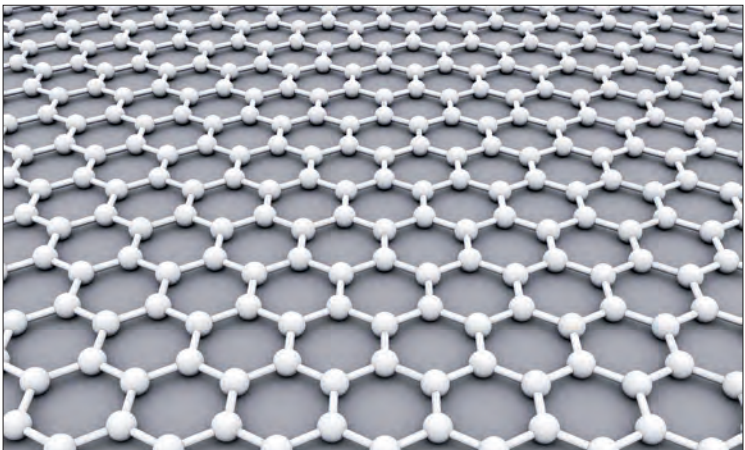
tially transforming food safety testing across supply chains.

The electrochemical "microneedle array" (MNA) based biosensor tracks levels

of hypoxanthine, a compound that rises as fish spoils, directly from fish tissue without complex lab preparation, a media release of Australia's Monash University said Thursday.

The new device, co-designed by the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS), enables quick, on-site readings by pressing the microneedle array onto fish meat, according to the study led by Monash University and Deakin University in Australia, published in ACS Sensors. "Food, especially fish meat, is extremely vulnerable to oxidation and microbiological deterioration," said study first author and MIPS PhD candidate Masoud Khazaei. — Xinhua

Miracle material's hidden quantum power could transform future electronics: Study



Graphene is a remarkable form of carbon, built from a single layer of tightly connected atoms that is only one atom thick. **PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

RESEARCHERS have directly observed Floquet effects in graphene for the first time, settling a long-running scientific debate. Their ultrafast light-based technique demonstrates that graphene's electronic properties can be tuned almost instantaneously. This paves the way for custom-engineered quantum materials and new approaches in electronics and sensing.

Graphene is a remarkable form of carbon, built from a single layer of tightly connected atoms that is only one atom thick.

Despite its thinness, it is highly stable and conducts electricity extremely well.

Because of these qualities, graphene is considered a "miracle material" and is already being explored for flexible electronic screens, highly sensitive sensors, advanced batteries, and next-generation solar cells.

A new study led by the University of Göttingen, in collaboration with teams in Braunschweig, Bremen, and Fribourg, shows that graphene may be capable of even more. — ANI

Nintendo launches long-awaited ‘Metroid Prime 4’ sci-fi blaster

FANS of Nintendo’s “Metroid” science-fiction saga have reason to celebrate Thursday as the latest instalment in the series is released after an eight-year wait and a bumpy road through development. Drawing loose inspiration from the “Alien” movies since its first title in 1986, the game series has followed the adventures of space bounty hunter Samus Aran in her battle with the extraterrestrial Metroids. — AFP



The ‘Metroid’ series’s unique look has garnered many fans since it began in 1986. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

CATL’s Hungary battery plant ready to launch, capacity fully booked

CHINA’S Contemporary Amperex Technology Co Limited (CATL) said on Wednesday its battery cell factory in Debrecen, Hungary, is prepared for launch and will be central to the company’s strategy to deepen its long-term European operations. The plant, with an initial annual capacity of 40 gigawatt hours (GWh), is already fully booked by clients, CATL said. Cell production is scheduled to start in early 2026 after construction and installation of Industry 4.0 equipment is completed. The company is expanding its local workforce and expects to em-



China’s Contemporary Amperex Technology Co Limited (CATL) said its battery cell factory in Debrecen, Hungary, is prepared for launch and will be central to the company’s strategy to deepen its long-term European operations. PHOTO: WECHAT ACCOUNT OF CATL/ GLOBAL TIMES

ploy 1,500 people by the first quarter of 2026. “Our Debrecen investment is a major step towards strengthening CATL’s European presence,” said Matt Shen, managing director of CATL Germany and Hungary. “We are planning for the long term, bringing our most advanced and sustainable manufacturing technologies to Hungary.” — Xinhua

Ministry of Transport and Communications

Myanma Port Authority

Invitation to Open Tender for Dredging and Waterway Improvement of Dawei River

1. The Myanma Port Authority (MPA) is planning to award the contract for **dredging** across the waterway of the Dawei River(Tavoy River) in Tanintharyi and for **sand export**, in order to improve the waterway and navigation channel as the sedimentation causes shallow water-depth and disrupts port operation. MPA, in this regard, would like to invite both local and international companies to participate in an Open Tender.

2. Unlike a commercial dredging, such dredging needs to ensure a) not to incur any damage to the environment and ecosystem, by dredging at the specific shallow-water areas designated by the MPA to reach the targeted water-depth, b) not to disrupt the socio-economic conditions of the local people, and c) to assist and support to local development works and local needs if necessary. And thus, the potential bidders must present qualification in terms of work- and technical experience, and the strength of expert team and equipment as well as strong financial capability. (International companies may need to form a JV with a local company or have a branch office in Myanmar or the agreement that will be registered in Myanmar after success.)

3. Therefore, any interested companies (both local and international) that meet the above mentioned technical and financial requirements are invited to enter the tender. Tender Application and forms can be purchased from the following address and the dates and times of the tender process are as follow:

(a) Address to purchase Tender Forms

- Myanma Port Authority (Store Department, Near by Botataung Pagoda, Botataung, Yangon.

(b) Date & Time to purchase

- 8-12-2025 to 31-12-2025, Office Hour (1400)

(c) Address for Tender submission and Date & Time

- Myanma Port Authority Head Office - 6-1-2026, 1300

(d) Tender Opening Date & Time

- 6-1-2026, 1400

4. For further details, please contact the following numbers:

- 01-246380, 09-444714377

Myanma Port Authority
Tender Committee

Ministry of Transport and Communications

Myanma Port Authority

Invitation to Open Tender for Dredging and Waterway Improvement of Thanlwin River (Darebauk)

1. The Myanma Port Authority (MPA) is planning to award the contract for **dredging** across the waterway of Bilu Island North Channel, Thanlwin River (Darebauk) in the Mon State, and for **sand export**, in order to improve the waterway and navigation channel as the sedimentation causes shallow water-depth and disrupts port operation. MPA, in this regard, would like to invite both local and international companies to participate in an Open Tender.

2. Unlike a commercial dredging, such dredging needs to ensure a) not to incur any damage to the environment and ecosystem, by dredging at the specific shallow-water areas designated by the MPA to reach the targeted water-depth, b) not to disrupt the socio-economic conditions of the local people, and c) to assist and support to local development works and local needs if necessary. And thus, the potential bidders must present qualification in terms of work- and technical experience, and the strength of expert team and equipment as well as strong financial capability. (International companies may need to form a JV with a local company or have a branch office in Myanmar or the agreement that will be registered in Myanmar after success.)

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Myanma Port Authority
Tender Committee

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD



Chinese President Xi Jinping and his wife Peng Liyuan pose for photos with French President Emmanuel Macron and his wife Brigitte Macron ahead of talks between the two leaders in Beijing, capital of China, 4 December 2025. **PHOTO: HUANG JINGWEN/XINHUA**

Xi holds talks with Macron,
calling for expanded
cooperation in multiple areas

Xi said China is willing to work with France to always proceed from the fundamental interests of the two peoples and the long-term interests of the international community.

CHINA and France should seize opportunities and expand the scope of cooperation, Chinese President Xi Jinping said while holding talks with visiting French President Emmanuel Macron in Beijing on Thursday.

As both visionary and responsible independent major countries, China and France serve as constructive forces in advancing multipolarity and promoting solidarity and co-operation among humanity, Xi said.

At present, as changes unseen in a century are accelerating, humanity once again stands at a crossroads, facing crucial choices about its future path, Xi noted, adding that China and France should demonstrate a sense of responsibility, uphold multilateralism, and stand firmly on the right side of history.

Xi said China is willing to work with France to always proceed from the fundamental interests of the two peoples

and the long-term interests of the international community, while upholding equal dialogue and open cooperation, to ensure that the China-France comprehensive strategic partnership continues to advance steadily and thrives over the next 60 years, fully demonstrates its strategic value, and makes new contributions to promoting an equitable and orderly multipolar world as well as a universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization. — Xinhua

Trump to scrap Biden’s
fuel-economy standards

PRESIDENT Donald Trump announced Wednesday a reset of Joe Biden’s fuel-economy standards, arguing it will lower US car prices — but critics warned it would worsen climate change and leave drivers paying more at the pump.

Trump was flanked in the Oval Office by the CEOs of Ford

and Stellantis and a senior General Motors official, a show of buy-in from Detroit’s “Big Three”.

“My administration is taking historic action to lower costs for American consumers, protect American auto jobs and make buying a car much more affordable,” the US president said.

“Today is a victory (for) common sense and affordability,” Ford CEO Jim Farley chipped in.

Environmentalists quickly pushed back, saying the wind-back stood out even among Trump’s many anti-green actions because of its outsized impact on car-dependent America. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

31 Western Pacific countries test pandemic readiness

AS health emergencies emerge at an accelerating pace, 31 countries and areas across the World Health Organization (WHO) Western Pacific Region took part in this year’s International Health Regulations (IHR) Exercise Crystal, an annual drill designed to test and strengthen pandemic preparedness.

In a statement on Thursday, the WHO said the simulation required participants to respond in real time to reports of a fictitious novel respiratory illness, assessing their ability to verify and share information with WHO, evaluate public health risks, and coordinate across sectors. — Xinhua

Israel awaits return of last hostage remains from Gaza

ISRAEL awaited the return of the last hostage remains held by Palestinian militants in Gaza, as the military said on Thursday that those of a Thai national had been identified after they were handed over.

Under the first phase of the US-brokered ceasefire between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, militants were due to return all 48 hostages they held captive, 20 of whom were still alive.

All but the remains of Israeli Ran Gvili have since been handed over, though Israel has accused the Palestinian militants of dragging their feet on returning bodies.

Hamas has said the process of retrieving the remains has been slow because they have been buried under the vast piles of rubble left by two years of devastating war. — AFP

46th GCC summit issues Sakhir Declaration

THE 46th session of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Supreme Council concluded Wednesday with the Sakhir Declaration, which emphasized regional unity.

The declaration stated that Gulf leaders are determined to continue advancing coordination and integration among GCC member states across all political, security, economic, and social fields to achieve the “aspired unity”.

The leaders expressed satisfaction with the integrative achievements made along the path of joint Gulf action, reflected in a consolidated defence and security framework, unified diplomatic positions, and sustainable development and economic projects.

They affirmed that the security and stability of GCC states are indivisible, and that any harm to the sovereignty of a member state constitutes a direct threat to their collective security. — Xinhua



President Donald Trump cast his rollback of fuel-economy standards as a way to lower the price of new cars. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

SPORTS
LOCAL

Upper Myanmar Amateur Open 2025 concludes with 288 participants



Vice President of the Myanmar Golf Federation and Chairman of the Upper Myanmar Golf Subcommittee, U Tin Ko Ko, presents the Upper Myanmar Amateur Open championship trophy to women’s category first prize winner Khin Zani Aung. **PHOTO: MGF**

THE Upper Myanmar Amateur Open 2025 golf tournament concluded on 4 December at Shwe Man Taung Golf Course in Mandalay, under the guidance of the Myanmar Golf Federation and organized by the Upper Myanmar Golf Subcommittee.

The awards ceremony followed the final day of competition. Vice President of the Myanmar Golf Federation and Chairman of the Upper Myanmar Golf Subcommittee, U Tin Ko Ko, delivered opening remarks and received honorary gifts from the course director, U Htun Htun Lin. Winners of the guest competitions were presented with trophies by U Tin Win Shwe.

In the women’s amateur category, the third prize was awarded to Pyone Pyone Htwe, who

scored 154 strokes, by Vice Chairman U Shwe Myint; the second prize went to Nanda Lin, with 153 strokes, presented by Vice Chairman U Htun Htun Oo; and the first prize was awarded to Khin Zani Aung, with 151 strokes, by U Tin Ko Ko.

In the men’s amateur category, third prize went to Hein Naing Zin, with 221 strokes, presented by Vice Chairman U Hla Soe Oo; the second prize to Thet Htoo Zin, also with 221 strokes, presented by Vice Chairman U Soe (Shwe Wa Taung); and the first prize to Kaung Htike Zaw, with 209 strokes, by U Tin Ko Ko.

The tournament saw a total of 288 participants — 208 men and 80 women — compete over three days, from 2 to 4 December. — Maung San Gyi/KZL

Myanmar U22 head coach vows to deliver for fans at SEA Games



Head coaches of Myanmar, Indonesia, and the Philippines are pictured at the pre-match press briefing.

MYANMAR U22 head coach Kurosaki said during the pre-match press briefing that he would push for a positive result for supporters at the SEA Games.

The Group C pre-match press conference for the men’s football tournament at the SEA Games was held on 4 December at the press conference hall of the Seven Hundredth Anniversary Stadium in Chiang Mai. The head coaches of Myanmar, Indonesia, and the Philippines attended the briefing.

Myanmar U22 head coach Kurosaki said, “We will compete with respect for every opponent. From their recent matches, we have seen that both the Philippines and Indonesia are strong and well-organized sides. Both teams reached the semifinals of the previous ASEAN U23 Championship. We will do our best against them. Our entire squad has been working hard for the fans who follow and support us. We want to deliver a positive result to make them proud”. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Myanmar teams kick off SEA Games football against Philippines

THE group-stage football matches of the 33rd Thailand SEA Games continue today, with Myanmar’s U22 men’s team and senior women’s team set to face the Philippines in their opening fixtures.

In the women’s competition, Group B begins today at



The Myanmar U22 squad is seen training in Chiang Mai. **PHOTO: MFF**

the IPE Chonburi Stadium in Chonburi. Myanmar will play the Philippines at 3:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time, while defending champions Vietnam will take on Malaysia at 6 pm Myanmar Standard Time. With Myanmar, Vietnam, and the Philippines all strong contenders for qualification, each head-to-head match is expected to be a decisive one. Myanmar drew 1-1 with the Philippines in their most recent encounter during the ASEAN Women’s Championship group stage, and the team aims for an opening victory to strengthen its path to the semi-finals.

Men’s Group C fixtures also commence today at the Seven Hundredth Anniversary Stadium in Chiang Mai. Myanmar will meet the Philippines at 5:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time. Group C comprises Indonesia, Myanmar, and the Philippines. A win over the Philippines is essential for Myanmar to bolster their chances of progressing. Myanmar’s U22 squad, led by Japanese head coach Kurosaki, has not recorded a victory in recent international tournaments and now hopes to break that run at the SEA Games. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL



President Putin visits India for 23rd India-Russia Summit

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has departed from Russia for his two-day State visit to India, as reported by TASS.

According to the Russian media outlet, the Russian delegation will hold comprehensive discussions on cooperation in areas such as trade and economic, scientific and technological, and cultural and humanitarian spheres. Current international and regional issues will also be on the agenda.

Ten intergovernmental documents and more than 15 agreements and memorandums between commercial and non-commercial entities of the two countries are being prepared for signing during the visit of the Russian President, TASS reported. Putin is set to arrive in New Delhi this evening on a State Visit for the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit.

The last time he visited the country was in December 2021.

Ptuin's two-day visit is at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Prime Minister Modi is set to host a private dinner for the Russian President Putin after his arrival in New Delhi.

On 5 December, Putin will receive a ceremonial welcome and a tri-services guard of honour at Rashtrapati Bhawan, before he proceeds to the Raj Ghat to pay homage at the memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. The two leaders will hold talks in a restricted

India is a great power that cannot be treated like a British colony, a fact that the international community should accept, Russian President Vladimir Putin said.



Russian President Vladimir Putin and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi shake hands as they pose for photos before a meeting at the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia. Prime Minister Modi was on an official visit to Russia on 8-9 July 2024, for the 22nd India-Russia Annual Summit.

PHOTO: SPUTNIK/FILE

format and with their delegations at Hyderabad House.

Several agreements focus on cooperation in areas such as

trade, economy, agriculture and academia. According to Ministry of External Affairs, Putin's visit will provide an opportunity for

the leadership of India and Russia to review progress in bilateral relations, outline the vision for strengthening the 'Special and

Privileged Strategic Partnership', and exchange views on regional and global issues of mutual interest. — SPUTNIK/ANI



This photo taken on 3 July 2024 shows a city view of Dushanbe, Tajikistan. PHOTO: YAO DAWEI/XINHUA/FILE

CIS countries' GDP up 2.2% in first nine months of 2025

THE gross domestic product (GDP) of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) member countries grew by 2.2 per cent year on year in the January-September period of 2025, the press service of the CIS Executive Committee said Thursday.

According to the committee,

most CIS countries maintained positive economic growth dynamics. Kyrgyzstan recorded the fastest growth, with GDP expanding by 10 per cent. Tajikistan's economy expanded 8.2 per cent, and Uzbekistan's grew 7.6 per cent.

The committee added that

industrial output, agricultural production and retail trade continued to grow during the period. Overall industrial production in the CIS increased by 1.4 per cent, agricultural output rose by 2.4 per cent, and retail trade turnover expanded by 3.3 per cent. — Xinhua