Embrace the Future: Unfolding a New Chapter with a Fresh Vision

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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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.

Clean government, strong administration vital to democratic nation

Ensuring good governance demands the complete absence of corruption, which fundamentally undermines and obstructs effective administration.

ACTING President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivered a video message at the ceremony to mark the International Anti-Corruption Day, which falls on 9 December 2025. The full text of the translated video message is as follows: -

Everybody, Mingalaba!

On the occasion of the International Anti-Corruption Day, observed on 9 December, today, I would like to extend my greetings and best wishes for good health and well-being to all Union-level dignitaries, chief ministers of states and regions, and guests attending the commemorative ceremony.

SEE PAGE 3

Myanmar expands food exports to Japan, South Korea and ASEAN

This image displays export food products from Myanmar.

Myanmar's noodles are exported to regional markets, while dried vegetables, sesame powder, honey and other value-added food products are shipped to Japan and South Korea.

Myanmar primarily exports value-added food products, including noodles, to the Republic of Korea, Japan and ASEAN countries, according to the Myanmar Food Processors and Exporters Association.

"Myanmar's food products were primarily shipped to markets of Japan, South Korea and ASEAN. If we manage to reduce production costs, it will increase market competition between the neighbouring countries, boost exports and create opportunities to embrace challenges. Myanmar's food processing industry practises good food packaging, yet some packaging materials are still required to be imported," said an official of the association.

Myanmar's noodles are exported to regional markets, while dried vegetables, roasted sesame powder, honey and other value-added food products are shipped to Japan and South Korea.

Moreover, efforts are being exerted to export value-added food products made from mango, durian, coffee, avocado and other fruits to Belarus and other foreign countries.

— ASH/KK

NATIONAL PAGE 2

59th national photography contest opens for entries in 7 categories

BUSINESS PAGE 11

Live prawn shipments lift overseas revenue

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

1. 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
2. To strive forward for national unity and Union peace to implement sustainable and balanced development
3. To establish a genuine, disciplined democratic system completely by exercising the freedom and justice in accordance with the laws and regulations
4. To advance other economic sectors and promote MSMEs based on regional products

59th national photography contest opens for entries in 7 categories

According to the Myanmar Photographic Society on 35th Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, photography enthusiasts from across the country are invited to take part in the 59th Myanmar National Annual Photography Competition, organized by the Myanmar Photographic Society.

Participants may compete in seven categories: scenic (black and white/monochrome), scenic (colour), portrait (single person), nature study (wildlife, aquatic, terrestrial and mountain landscapes), open (digital), open (photo essay), and mobile phone photography. Entrants may participate only after agreeing to comply with the 27 competition rules and regulations set by the organizers.

These images showcase entries across various categories. **PHOTO: KO LWIN**

Submissions must be sent in by 4 pm on 31 January 2026. For those submitting by email, the final deadline is midnight on the same date. All entries will be shortlisted by the Myanmar Photographic Society, and the date of selection will be announced separately. Entrants are required to compete in all seven categories. The competitor who wins first prize in any category and achieves the highest total score overall will be awarded the Best Photographer of the Year 2025 trophy. For further information on the competition rules, interested individuals can contact the following numbers: 01 373167 or 09 777843387. — Oktha/MKKS

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)

Clean government, strong administration vital to democratic nation

FROM PAGE 1

Corruption remains a major obstacle in implementing reforms and development activities needed for national progress. The government, prioritizing the national interest, is working with strong political will to eliminate corruption, aiming to build a genuine democratic state based on responsibility, accountability, transparency, integrity, fairness and the rule of law.

A clean government and an effective administrative system are essential to establishing a disciplined and fully democratic nation. Ensuring good governance requires the absence of corruption, and corruption itself is a barrier to effective administration. Therefore, only by establishing a corruption-free and sound governance system can the country achieve development across all sectors, leading to fairer and more prosperous social conditions for the public.

Short-term and long-term plans are needed to effectively carry out anti-corruption efforts, and all members of society must participate actively and transparently in the fight against corruption. Transparency, responsibility, and accountability in anti-corruption activities help prevent and eliminate corruption effectively. At the same time, tolerance, excusing, or ignoring corrupt acts only encourages such behaviour and must therefore be strictly avoided.

The United Nations Convention against Corruption has set this year's International Anti-Corruption Day theme as: **"Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow's Integrity"**. In line with this theme, the Commission will continue implementing awareness programmes and youth dialogue sessions aimed at educating young people, who play an important role in shaping the future, about anti-corruption issues. The Commission also emphasized the need to work continuously toward building a corruption-free society.

Integrity is an essential pillar of political, economic, and social institutions. For individuals and communities alike, integrity is vital for building trust, fostering healthy social and economic relations, and ensuring both physical and mental well-being. To ensure effective national reforms, integrity must be upheld not only in administrative processes but also within the legislative and judicial sectors. Such practices require cooperation not only from government institutions but also from individuals and the private sector. Only then can national and public interests be served with goodwill, honesty, and strong moral principles.

To build a corruption-free society, existing corrupt practices must be reduced by investigating and eliminating cases of corruption, while at the same time implementing the necessary reforms, management measures, and sustained efforts to ensure that corruption eventually disappears in the future.

In particular, it is necessary to identify and remove all root causes that give rise to corrupt practices. This includes addressing complex and difficult-to-understand laws, regulations, orders, instructions, rules, and procedures that can be misused by those in positions of authority. These must be revised and presented in a clear and accessible way so that the public can easily understand them. Such measures need to be incorporated into the formulation of national anti-corruption strategic plans.

The government is implementing its responsibilities with a focus on Our Three Main National Causes and is working to build a Union based on democratic and federal principles. This includes carrying out the national objective of **"promoting national prosperity and ensuring food security"** and the political objective of **"strengthening a genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system and building a Union based on democracy and a federal system".**

The National Defence and Security Council has set the objective **"to implement a multiparty democratic system, with the participation of the people, to ensure the success of the multiparty democratic general election process and successfully move towards the multiparty democratic system aspired by the entire people"**. Measures are being carried out accordingly.

To build a Union based on democratic and federal principles, it is essential to successfully hold free and fair elections. All eligible voters must have the opportunity to cast their votes, and elections must be conducted freely, fairly, and within the designated timeframe. The public is therefore urged to participate actively and responsibly in these processes. The authorities also call on all stakeholders to avoid inappropriate conduct and unlawful actions that may occur during the election process. Officials and citizens alike are encouraged to work together to ensure that the elections are free from corruption, impartial, transparent, and conducted in a disciplined and credible manner.

In conclusion, to cultivate a culture that does not tolerate corruption and to prevent misconduct, it is essential to prioritize balanced approaches to public awareness and preventive measures. In addition, in line with the objectives set by the State, action must be taken effectively in accordance with the law against anyone who commits corruption, without discrimination or favour.

Therefore, efforts must be made to establish a culture of zero tolerance for corruption, to expand public understanding of anti-corruption issues, and to build a society committed to rejecting and eliminating corrupt practices. In doing so, civil servants, public employees, business operators, civil society organizations, the media, and the general public must work together to distinguish clearly between public interest and personal gain, and to prevent any form of misconduct as part of honouring the 22nd International Anti-Corruption Day.

Thank you all.

NATIONAL

NDSC Office Executive Chief opens International Anti-Corruption Day ceremony

A ceremony to commemorate International Anti-Corruption Day was held this morning at the Myanmar International Convention Centre I in Nay Pyi Taw, where U Aung Lin Dwe, Executive Chief of the Office of the National Defence and Security Council, delivered a speech.

The ceremony was attended by State Security and Peace Commission member Union Minister Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, Union Chief Justice U Tha Htay, Union Ministers, the Auditor General of the Union, the Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board (UCSB), the Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission, the Chairman of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, deputy ministers and departmental officials, officials from the Anti-Corruption Commission, officials from the Competition Organizing Sub-committee, winners of the anti-corruption video, poster, and painting competitions, teachers, students, and guests, while the Chief Ministers of the regions and states joined via video conference.

A video message from Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman, for the International Anti-Corruption Day commemoration ceremony was first shown.

(The video message delivered by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Acting President and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman, has been published separately.)

National Defence and Security Council Office Executive Chief U Aung Lin Dwe then delivered a speech, stating that the government is striving to implement reform and development through people-centred approaches to achieve peace, stability, and the rule of law throughout the Union, the unity of all ethnic groups, national prosperity, and food security. In these efforts, it is widely recognized that corruption, along with other disruptions, acts of sabotage, and various challenges, remains a major obstacle.

Corruption occurs in various forms across the fields of politics, economy, and administration. It includes not only the misuse of state funds, money, and assets, but also the abuse of authority and influence.

Those involved in anti-corruption work understand that improving morale is essential for a corruption-free country. Therefore, it is necessary to set future expectations, formulate action plans as part of the strategic framework, and strive to align the public's expectations with anti-corruption goals as closely as possible.

National Defence and Security Council Office Executive Chief U Aung Lin Dwe presents the certificate of honour for the anti-corruption awareness video competition.

U Aung Lin Dwe also highlighted the need to teach people from a young age that corruption is a moral weakness and a form of moral corruption, to help them fully understand that it is shameful, and emphasized that more extensive education must be carried out from school age to ensure that young people understand the nature of corruption and learn to prevent and avoid it.

He stated that by training young students to develop good morals and habits of adhering to laws, rules, and regulations, systematically educating them not only in academic skills but also in morals, discipline, and civic knowledge, and cultivating a sense of love for the country and patriotism, to produce well-disciplined and capable human resources, and that the Anti-Corruption Commission has been actively organizing integrity education programmes and youth discussions in basic education schools, universities, and colleges, while encouraging further improvements in these initiatives.

The commission has established Corruption Prevention Units (CPUs) in Union Ministries, organizations, and regional and state governments to conduct integrity education programmes, reduce petty corruption in government departments, and improve departmental services, and is also implementing a Public Feedback Programme (PFP) to gather feedback on services provided to the public.

Such well-intentioned actions will help build a future of integrity, fairness, and justice, enabling all individuals to access the opportunities they deserve and to live healthy lives, both physically and mentally.

Based on Goal 16 of the 17 goals in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Myanmar's Sustainable and Balanced Development Plan (MSDP) Strategy 1-4 emphasizes "enhancing good governance, accountability, and transparency." Acting in accordance with this strategy will strengthen the country's governance and facilitate the successful implementation of sustainable development on a corruption-free foundation.

He then emphasized the necessity of working towards creating an honest and trustworthy society that does not tolerate corruption by encouraging everyone from all sectors to participate in anti-corruption processes starting with individuals, while the commission seeks to further promote the fight against corruption as a national responsibility in line with the purpose of the Anti-Corruption Law – to protect state property, society, and the rights and interests of citizens from corruption, promote greater transparency in governance and the rule of law, and foster domestic and foreign investment and economic development – and he urged not only civil servants and public officials, who play a key role in the country's administrative apparatus, but also various sectors and organizations to cooperate and participate in the anti-corruption process to ensure its success.

Next, U Lwin Oo, Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission, presented the International Anti-Corruption Day commemorative medal to Executive Chief U Aung Lin Dwe.

Executive Chief U Aung Lin Dwe then presented medals, certificates of honour, and cash prizes to the first, second, and third-place winners in each age group of the anti-corruption awareness video competition.

Chief Justice of the Union U Tha Htay also presented medals, certificates of honour, and cash prizes to the first, second, and third-place winners in the anti-corruption awareness poster competition for each age group, while the Commission Chairman presented medals, certificates of honour, and cash prizes to the first, second, and third-place winners in the anti-corruption awareness painting competition for each age group.

Afterwards, the first-prize videos in the anti-corruption video competition for each age group were shown, and the Commission Chairman explained the Commission's anti-corruption activities.

The Executive Chief then watched a video clip of the year-long activities commemorating International Anti-Corruption Day with the attendees, took a group photo, and reviewed documentary photos of anti-corruption activities, as well as books on integrity, investigation, and the fight against corruption.

This year's 22nd International Anti-Corruption Day is being celebrated under the theme "Uniting with Youth against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow's Integrity". — MNA/TH

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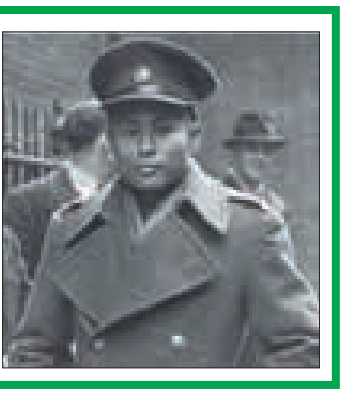
NATIONAL

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)

Regional & human resource development activities inspected in Shan State (South)

STATE Security and Peace Commission Member and Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Ethnic Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, together with Commander Maj-Gen Soe Myat Htut of the Eastern Central Command, Shan State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Sein Win, and other officials, met staff at the Loilem District Development Supervision Office yesterday morning. They inspected the completed brick fence protection works and issued instructions to address any remaining requirements.

The Union minister then inspected the 2,868-foot concrete paving work on the macadam road connecting Kwetthit Ward in Panlon and Wan-in Monastery. He instructed the systematic excavation of drainage ditches to meet the designated standards, improve water flow, and address the needs of the local ethnic communities.

He also inspected a one-mile concrete road connecting the Loilem–Laikha main road with the Metta Aye Yate Monastic Education School.

Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Ethnic Affairs Lt-Gen Yar Pyae inspects the asphalf paving of four furlongs in Hopong Township.

Following this, the Union minister visited the Border Ethnic Youth Development Training School in Pinlon, where he met the principal, staff, teachers, and students. He encouraged students to continue learning diligently, to combine practical skills with broader general knowledge, and to cultivate critical thinking, discernment between right and wrong, and moral integrity. Teachers and instructors were urged to guide students in both academic subjects and the development of sound ideas and principles, aiming to nurture future leaders and responsible civil servants for the nation. The Union Minister also presented awards and cash prizes to outstanding staff and students and conducted an inspection tour of the school campus.

Finally, the Union minister, together with U Khun Ye Htwe, Chairman of the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone, inspected the asphalt paving of four furlongs on the 12-mile - 2-furlong macadam road in Hopong Township and ensured that the requirements were met. — MNA/MKKS

Myanmar delegates study AI technology in Nanning

A Myanmar delegation led by Dr Aung Zeya, Chairman of the Innovation and Digital Skills Promotion Committee and Deputy Minister for Science and Technology, paid a visit to Nanning in China on 6 December.

On arrival at the China-ASEAN Health centre on that morning, the relevant officials briefed on the history of the over 90-year-old hospital, quality, establishment of the centre in 2025, One Stop Healthcare programmes, online healthcare system using AI-powered medics via video conferencing in different languages and traditional medicines.

Deputy Minister Dr Aung Zeya leads the study tour on AI technology in Nanning, China.

The Deputy minister and party proceeded to Shinju ward, and the CPC Secretary Qin Yuning and officials clarified the work operations and public services.

In the evening, they visited China–ASEAN AI Innovation Centre, and the officials explained establishment of China-ASEAN AI cooperation platform for use in ASEAN countries in Guangxi through research conducted in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, AI-related chip production, the application of AI technology to enhance culture, economy, education, healthcare, tourism, and public services in ASEAN countries, uses of researches conducted in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou in Guangxi, AI-related technologies and other cooperation work with 38 local and foreign organizations.

They proceeded to the China-ASEAN Information Harbour, and officials clarified the different booths regarding digital platforms with ASEAN countries according to the Digital Silk Road project. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

3rd Myanmar-Russia Joint Anti-Terrorism Committee meeting held in Nay Pyi Taw

The third meeting of the Myanmar-Russia Joint Anti-Terrorism Committee in progress yesterday.

THE third meeting of the Myanmar-Russia Joint Anti-Terrorism Committee was held yesterday at the Jasmine Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

Present at the meeting were Lt-Gen Than Htike from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and Tatmadaw senior officers, who are committee members, Colonel General Aleksandr Anatolyevich Matovnikov, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Ground Forces of the Russian Federation and committee members.

Lt-Gen Than Htike, who is co-chair of the committee, welcomed the Russian Tatmadaw delegation warmly, and made an opening speech highlighting the fast flow of information in combating terrorism between the two armed forces by organizing the committee meeting in each country, close cooperation in technology, human resource development, collaboration in exercises and mutual support in military operations against changing terrorist activities.

Colonel General Aleksandr Anatolyevich Matovnikov, who is co-chair of the committee, made a remark stating the measures to promote regional peace between Russia and Myanmar and further cooperation between the two Tatmadaws in combating terrorism.

The parties also discussed the rapid response to terrorist attacks under different topics, and the two chairs exchanged views on the topics. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission

Statement 17/ 2025

1. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which enshrines the fundamental rights of all human beings, including the right to life, liberty and security, was proclaimed on 10 December 1948. This day is observed globally as International Human Rights Day, marking its 77th anniversary.
2. The UDHR, emanating from the Charter of the United Nations, stands as a cornerstone document for all humanity in the post-Second World War era. Myanmar not only voted in favour of the adoption of the Declaration, which recognizes the inherent dignity and equal rights of all human beings, in the UN General Assembly, but has also incorporated the rights stipulated in the Declaration into the 2008 Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
3. Emphasizing the importance of the international human rights laws that emerged based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Myanmar has also become a party to four international human rights treaties and two optional protocols to those treaties. Furthermore, Myanmar is participating in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), which is a process that regularly reviews the human rights situation of all countries worldwide.
4. Demonstrating regional and international cooperation, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) participated in person at the annual meeting of the Southeast Asia National Human Rights Institutions Forum (SEANF) in Jakarta, Indonesia, in 2025. Furthermore, the MNHRC attended the 9th International Scientific and Practical Conference on "Protection of Human Rights in the Context of Digitalization of Society", in the Russian Federation. During this Conference, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the MNHRC and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of the Russian Federation to enhance bilateral collaboration in human rights promotion and protection. Additionally, the Commission attended twelve other international meetings via online platforms.
5. In line with its mandate under the enabling law, the MNHRC, throughout 2025, conducted human rights awareness-raising activities such as human rights talks and lectures in collaboration with Union-level organizations, ministries, and civil society organizations, reaching a total of 7,290 participants. In its legal advisory role, the Commission provided human rights-based recommendations on five proposed draft laws. The MNHRC also published translated versions of key documents: the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and its Optional Protocol (CRPD-OP), and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW-OP). Moreover, an illustrated booklet about the MNHRC was published in Myanmar, English, and Russian languages and distributed domestically and at international fora.
6. In its protection mandate, the MNHRC undertakes several key activities: handling complaints, monitoring alleged human rights violations, and conducting inspections of places of detention. These include prisons, jails, labour camps, police lock-ups, court holding cells, elderly homes and day-care centres for the aged, and youth training schools. Inspections focus on ensuring non-discrimination, freedom of religion, access to adequate healthcare, sufficient clean drinking water, and the lawful provision of state-authorized entitlements and support. Based on findings, necessary recommendations are sent to the relevant authorities. The respective authorities have also cooperated in addressing the Commission's recommendations.
7. Regarding the upcoming multiparty democratic general election, the Commission will conduct its monitoring processes in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations to ensure the legally mandated rights of every citizen and to contribute to the realization of a free and fair electoral process.
8. The theme designated by the United Nations for this 77th anniversary of International Human Rights Day is "Our Everyday Essentials". Therefore, on this commemorative day, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission calls upon everyone to respect and uphold the essential human rights that are indispensable in our daily lives.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
Date: 10 December 2025

NATIONAL

People's choice of representatives should protect national interests

❖ "When casting their votes, citizens should choose representatives who can genuinely work for the interests of the country, truly uphold democratic principles, faithfully safeguard the Our Three Main National Causes, and are capable of working for the nation's development."

(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 meeting with departmental officials and town elders in Myeik of Taninthayi Region to talk about regional development on 19 September 2025)

ASEAN SOMRI content group convenes 10th online session from Nay Pyi Taw

THE 10th Meeting of the SOMRI Working Group on Content Production (WG-CP) was held online at 9 am today from Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV) in Nay Pyi Taw.

Representatives responsible for television programme production from ASEAN member states, including the ASEAN Secretariat, attended the meeting.

The meeting discussed decisions and follow-up actions concerning the production of ASEAN regional television programmes during the 2025 ASEAN Summit and related meetings, progress in implementing the ASEAN Strategic Plan for Information and Media (2016–2025), cooperation with ASEAN dialogue partners on joint projects, and the submission of proposals for new projects.

The 10th Meeting of the SOMRI on Content Production underway online from MRTV in Nay Pyi Taw.

Delegates also exchanged views on the drafting and endorsement of the ASEAN Strategic Plan for Information and Media (2026-2035), the development of the ASEAN Communication Master Plan III (2026–2030), and the outcomes of the second Meeting of SOMRI Chairs, Working Group Chairs, and the SCI Chair and Vice-Chairpersons.

The SOMRI Working Group on Content Production, which operates at the ASEAN senior officials' level, plays a central role in improving the quality and development of television programme production within the ASEAN region. The Ministry of Information's Myanma Radio and Television is currently serving as the rotating Chair for 2025 and 2026, and Myanmar is preparing to host the 11th WG-CP Meeting in 2026. — MNA/MKKS

Tatmadaw vessels offer healthcare to Minkagon village in Bogale

Bogale local undergoes surgery provided by the Tatmadaw medical team.

THE Tatmadaw medical team from the Tatmadaw Naval Hospital Ships named Shwe Puzun and Saku arrived at Minkagon village in Bogale Township yesterday, and were welcomed by departmental officials, town elders, teachers, students and locals.

The Tatmadaw medical team provided healthcare services to residents at the station hospital of the village.

The treatments included general medical consultations for 150 patients, surgical care for 19 patients, obstetric and gynaecological care for 25 patients, paediatric treatments for 13 children, orthopaedic care for 120 patients, ear, nose, and throat treatment for 40 patients, ophthalmology services for 134 patients, and dental care for 34 patients, totalling 535 patients.

Moreover, three patients underwent general surgeries, 19 had x-ray examinations, 53 were tested using ultrasound testing, 22 underwent ECG heart screenings, and 51 had laboratory tests. — MNA/KTZH

Renewed love for tradition sparks spike in Myanmar attire orders

THERE has been a rise in the number of people ordering and a renewed surge of interest in wearing traditional Myanmar attire, according to Myat Taw Win Traditional Costumes Service.

The service provider has received significantly more orders for the costumes for events such as ear-piercing, baby naming, birthdays, alms-giving, wedding receptions, and other festivals this year.

"Since it is now the alms-giving season, ear-piercing and baby naming ceremonies are being organized. For baby naming ceremonies, both parents and children wear royal costumes. For other alms-giving ceremonies, traditional attire is worn. A large number of people are now ordering costumes for wedding receptions as well. We are currently sewing the maximum amount," Myat Thinka Nge told The Global New Light of Myanmar (GNLM).

This photo features young people wearing and posing in traditional Myanmar attire.

The source continued that there is currently a stronger preference for the Konbaung-era style costumes, which are created using literary and photographic references.

There is a renewed interest in traditional Myanmar clothing, with people wearing it more often. The popularity of Myanmar's traditional costumes began about three years ago, and this interest has become much more widespread and popular recently, the source added, expressing delight at the increased appreciation. — MT/ZN

OPINION

ARTICLE ESSAY

Sustain the rights of humans in society

HUMAN rights are deeply rooted in the core values of dignity, liberty, justice, and equality, which together form the foundation of a just and harmonious society. These values are not abstract concepts but guiding principles that shape how everyone interacts with one another and ensure a fair, inclusive world for all.

If individuals do not violate any forms of human rights, the entire world will be prosperous and peaceful. Everyone will be free from anxiety, worries and sufferings. So, everyone is trying to enjoy the fruits of the basic principles of human rights. Actually, the entire world has not enjoyed the full fruits of human rights till today.

Countries across the world observe the ceremony to mark the Human Rights Day on 10 December. It commemorates the anniversary of one of the world's most groundbreaking global pledges: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). This landmark document enshrines the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being, regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. All humans have to safeguard their rights as inborn rights and the Universal Rights of society.

Whenever those who oppose the exploration of human rights dominate societies and communities, no matter who passes away, throughout the entire world and at all times, no one can fully enjoy human rights. Those who exploit human rights for personal gain must be opposed and eliminated. However, the fact that human rights are not fully realized does not mean one should give up. Everyone must strive to the best of their ability, working for their country and circumstances, to ensure that present and future generations can fully enjoy their human rights.

In this period of turbulence and unpredictability, where many feel a growing sense of insecurity, disaffection and alienation, the theme of Human Rights Day is to reaffirm the values of human rights and show that they remain a winning proposition for humanity. "Human Rights, Our Everyday Essentials" set as the theme for the 2025 Human Rights Day aims to re-engage people with human rights by showing how they shape our daily lives, often in ways we may not always notice. Too often taken for granted or seen as abstract ideas, human rights are the essentials we rely on every day. By bridging the gap between human rights principles and everyday experiences, individuals aim to spark awareness, inspire confidence and encourage collective action.

Countries across the world observe the ceremony to mark the Human Rights Day on 10 December. It commemorates the anniversary of one of the world's most groundbreaking global pledges: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). This landmark document enshrines the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being, regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. All humans have to safeguard their rights as inborn rights and the Universal Rights of society.

The Power of Journalism

By Ms Monn

JOURNALISM is not only a profession dedicated to gathering and presenting information but also a vital civic duty that helps societies function responsibly. By delivering accurate, timely, and relevant news, journalism equips citizens with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions and engage meaningfully in public life. Through its ability to highlight issues, spark dialogue, and influence public opinion, journalism shapes the direction of national conversations. When carried out with integrity, fairness, and ethical standards, it becomes a powerful force that supports transparency, strengthens democracy, and contributes directly to a nation's progress and development.

Historical Perspective

Throughout history, journalism has evolved from simple information sharing to a powerful institution that shapes national identity and public life. In earlier times, pamphlets, newspapers, and revolutionary writings played crucial roles in awakening public consciousness and mobilizing people toward change. For example, during struggles for independence in many countries, journalists exposed injustices, inspired unity, and encouraged resistance against oppression. In democratic movements, the press has consistently served as a watchdog, challenging abuses of power and promoting transparency. From reform campaigns to nation-building efforts, journalism has always been closely connected to national interests, acting as a driving force for progress and meaningful societal transformation.

Journalism as a Watchdog

One of the most essential roles of journalism is its function as a watchdog, ensuring that governments, institutions, and powerful individuals remain accountable to the public. By monitoring actions, questioning decisions, and exposing wrongdoing, journalists help prevent abuses of power that could harm society. Investigative reporting, in particular, serves as a powerful tool against corruption, uncovering hidden truths and bringing illegal or unethical practices to light. When the press operates freely and responsibly, it promotes transparency across all sectors. This openness strengthens civic trust, as citizens feel more confident that leaders are being scrutinized and that justice and fairness are being upheld in their nation.

Educating and Empowering Citizens

Journalism plays a vital role in educating the public by providing clear information about national policies, individual rights, and civic responsibilities. Through news articles, reports, and analysis, citizens gain the knowledge needed to understand how their society functions and how decisions made by leaders affect their daily lives. This informed awareness is essential for building a responsible and active electorate capable of making thoughtful choices during elections and participating meaningfully in democratic processes. When people are educated through reliable media, they become more empowered to contribute to social, economic, and political progress. In this way, journalism supports sustainable national development by nurturing a well-informed and engaged population.

Promoting Social Cohesion

Journalism also plays an important role in fostering social harmony by connecting diverse communities and encouraging mutual understanding. Through stories that highlight cultural heritage, local traditions, and the voices of different groups, the media helps people appreciate the richness and diversity within their own country. By giving space to marginalized or lesser-heard communities, journalism promotes inclusiveness and reduces misunderstandings that can lead to conflict. When the press presents a balanced and respectful portrayal of all sectors of society, it strengthens national identity and unity. Inclusive reporting reminds citizens that despite differences, they share common goals and responsibilities, contributing to stronger social cohesion.

Challenges and Ethical Responsibilities

Despite its vital role, journalism today faces serious challenges, including the spread of misinformation, increasing censorship, and the rise of sensationalism that prioritizes attention over accuracy. These threats undermine public trust and distort the flow of reliable information. To address these problems, journalists must uphold strong professional ethics, practice careful fact-checking, and remain committed to fairness and integrity in their reporting. By adhering to these standards, the press not only safeguards the truth but also protects the nation's long-term interests. Responsible journalism ensures that citizens receive accurate guidance, enabling healthy public discourse and supporting the overall stability and progress of society.

Journalism in the Digital Age

In the digital era, journalism has transformed dramatically with the rise of social media and online platforms that reshape how information is shared and consumed. These technologies offer unprecedented opportunities for journalists to reach wider audiences and for citizens to participate actively by sharing experiences, reporting local events, and engaging in public discussions. However, the speed and openness of digital communication also bring significant risks, such as increased polarization, echo chambers, and the rapid spread of unverified information. To navigate this environment responsibly, journalists must ensure balanced reporting, uphold accuracy, and provide context that helps audiences interpret information critically and fairly.

Journalism for the Public Good

Journalism ultimately serves a dual purpose: informing citizens so they can actively participate in public life and supporting the nation by promoting transparency, accountability, and shared understanding. To strengthen this mission, collaboration between journalists, educators, and civic leaders is essential. Working together, they can raise media literacy, encourage ethical reporting, and create an environment where truth and public interest guide the flow of information. With such collective effort, journalism can continue to stand as a cornerstone of democracy, empowering citizens, uniting communities, and driving national progress toward a more just, informed, and resilient society.

One notable case of journalism serving national interests in Myanmar is The Global New Light of Myanmar, the country's long-standing English-language newspaper. Established with the aim of presenting Myanmar's perspectives to both domestic and international audiences, it has played a role in reporting government policies, cultural events, and national achievements. By publishing in English, the paper connects Myanmar to the wider world, offering insights into the nation's priorities while also shaping how foreign readers perceive its society and governance. Its longevity reflects the enduring importance of journalism as a bridge between citizens, leaders, and the global community.

In conclusion, this example illustrates how journalism, when aligned with civic and national goals, can become more than a source of information; it can act as a platform for dialogue, identity, and progress. Whether through watchdog reporting or cultural storytelling, journalism remains a vital force in strengthening both freedom and national unity.

I Say What I See: Truth and Its Shadows – Information, Misinformation, and Disinformation

In a world flooded with words, discerning intent is the key to understanding truth.

By @Editor

Introduction

In the age of overwhelming data streams, the words information, misinformation, and disinformation have become more than mere entries in a dictionary; they are markers of how truth and falsehood circulate in our world. Globally, the Oxford English Dictionary defines information as "facts provided or learned about something or someone", while Merriam-Webster echoes this with "knowledge obtained from investigation, study, or instruction". Yet alongside this clarity, both dictionaries acknowledge the shadows: misinformation, described as "false or inaccurate information, especially that which is spread unintentionally", and disinformation, defined as "false information deliberately and often covertly spread to influence public opinion or obscure the truth." Locally, in one of the English-Myanmar dictionaries, information is rendered as သတင်းအချက်အလက်, a term that carries the weight of knowledge as guidance, while misinformation and disinformation are translated with nuances that emphasize error and deliberate deceit, respectively. By placing these definitions side by side – global and local – we begin to see not only the linguistic distinctions but also the cultural resonances that shape how societies perceive truth, mistake, and manipulation. This essay sets out to explore these three words, tracing their meanings and implications in a world where clarity and confusion often coexist.

Origins and Definitions in Context

The journey of these three words begins with their roots in language. Information derives from the Latin informare, meaning "to shape" or "to give form", a reminder that knowledge is not static but something that shapes human understanding. Dictionaries such as Oxford and Webster emphasize their role as factual knowledge, while in Myanmar usage, the translation သတင်းအချက်အလက် carries a sense of guidance and instruction, underscoring its practical value in everyday life. By contrast, misinformation and disinformation are linguistic offshoots that highlight the fragility of truth. Misinformation – with the prefix mis- signalling error – emerged to describe inaccuracies that arise without intent to deceive. Disinformation, however, carries the heavier prefix dis-, denoting separation or negation, and historically has been tied to deliberate campaigns of falsehood, particularly in political and military contexts. In Myanmar dictionaries, the distinction is similarly marked: terms for misinformation emphasize mistake or error, while disinformation is rendered with words that imply intentional deceit. These linguistic nuances reveal how societies across cultures recognize not only the existence of truth but also the forces that distort it, whether by accident or design.

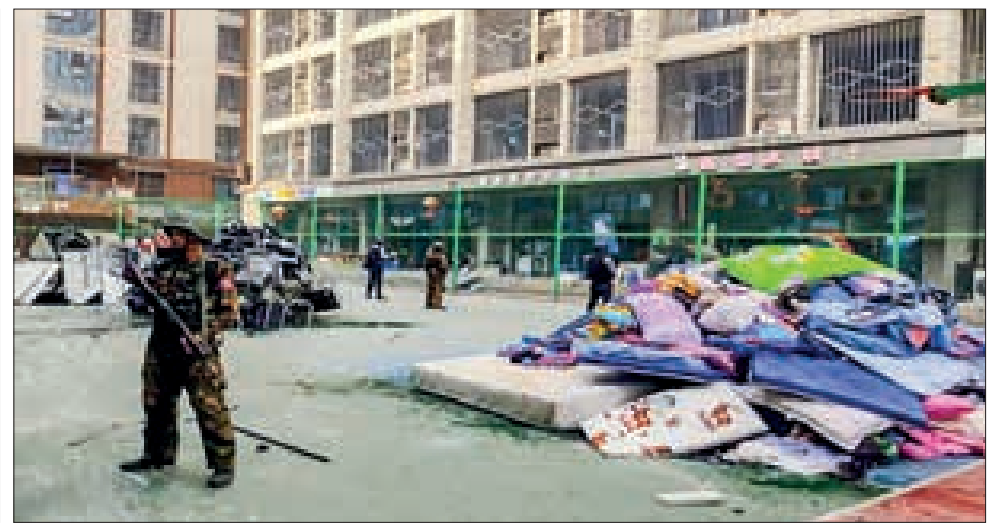
Information as a Social Good

At its core, information is the lifeblood of society, a shared resource that enables individuals and communities to make sense of the world. When accurate and accessible, it empowers citizens to participate meaningfully in governance, strengthens education, and fosters innovation. Public health campaigns, for instance, rely on clear and reliable information to guide communities through crises, whether in combating pandemics or addressing environmental challenges. In democratic settings, information sustains transparency and accountability, allowing people to hold institutions to their promises. In Myanmar, as in many parts of the world, the translation of information as သတင်းအချက်အလက်

SEE PAGE 12

NATIONAL

Online scam hub buildings razed, gambling-related materials burned



Images show the destruction of items and materials linked to online scams in the KK Park area.

THE government of Myanmar manages the combined team comprising security forces, administrative bodies and local authorities to raid illegal buildings in Shwe Kokko and KK Park areas where telecom fraud and online gambling activities are operated, and systematically dismantle the confiscated materials and illegal buildings used in the online scams and gambling activities.

Yesterday, the authorities demolished one four-storey building, one three-storey building and eight two-storey buildings, totalling ten buildings in Area 3, and a total updated number of 351 buildings out of 635 illegal buildings have been demolished in the KK Park area.

To prevent future reuse of the materials in online scams and gambling activities in KK Park and Shwe Kokko areas, the seized materials were incinerated systematically.

Similarly, the officials deported 123 illegal foreign entrants from six countries to their respective countries through the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge II.

The combined team started searching operations in Myawady and its vicinity area starting 8 December, and found 10 illegal buildings used for online gambling out of 121buildings and seized 708 computers used in online gambling to date.

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

Four photos reveal the illegally built two-and thre

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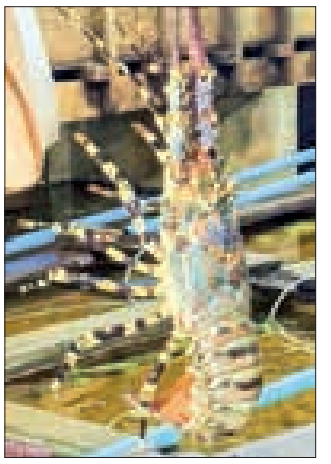
Live prawn shipments lift overseas revenue

Sweeping aerial view showcases Myanmar's local prawn farms. **PHOTO: KANU**



A lobster.

TANINTHAYI Region exports live and boiled prawns, creating new market opportunities from live prawn exports and high foreign incomes, according to the region's fisheries federation.

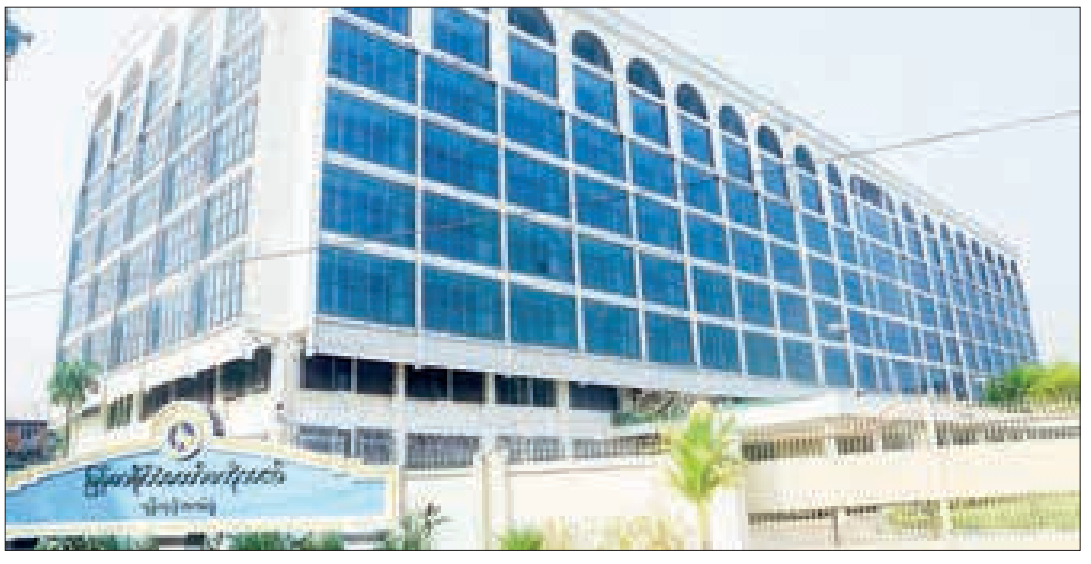
The region generates higher export income from the marine product export sector year by year, and foreign countries purchase live crayfish, lobster and sea snail, and the boiled Litopenaeus vannamei (Pacific white shrimp) are kept in cold storage to export. The live marine products are exported to Bangkok from Kawthoung, to Yangon and Mandalay from Myeik by flights step by step, and so such actions incur a high cost. If the products are exported from Myeik airport to China by a cargo flight directly, it will bring huge benefits for bilateral trade.

After the Myeik Airport is upgraded to allow direct export of marine products, Taninthayi Region's marine export income will increase beyond the current levels. That will generate substantial benefits for fisheries and the country through the value-added exports.

"We can see that the Taninthayi region receives higher income from the marine export sector yearly. Especially, if we can directly export live products to destination countries, it will benefit both business owners and the country. At present, crayfish, lobster and sea snail are exported to China through Yangon, Mandalay and Bangkok, and it can reduce profits and raise costs. There is a Yangon-Chengdu flight, and if the cargo flight operates to Myeik airport, the marine products can be exported in a short while. It can also facilitate the bilateral trade flow. The country of export can earn foreign income, and we can export to a new market, and so it can be said the region is focused on earning foreign income," said U Thet Soe, secretary of the federation.

The region exports its marine products to Thailand, whereas Litopenaeus vannamei is exported to China and Japan, and makes efforts to double export volumes and penetrate new markets in Arab countries and other foreign countries. Exporting only 10 tonnes of live marine products per flight from Myeik airport is not cost-effective for exporters or carriers, and shipping 20 tonnes per flight would be more economical. The region Fisheries Federation is making advanced arrangements to export like that. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH

CBM sells over US$1.66M to importers



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

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold US$1.185 million to edible oil-importing companies and over $481,400 to fuel oil-importing companies on 8 December, along with an injection of $120,000 into the market.

CBM sold $1.69 million to edible oil-importing companies on 5 December.

CBM sold over $902,900, purchased from CMP businesses, to edible oil-importing companies on 4 December.

CBM announced on 3 December that it would sell $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 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

Legal action looms over invoice discrepancy

ACTIONS will be taken against those involved in the invoice discrepancy between an invoice and related documents (sale contract or purchase orders) under the existing laws, the Price Evaluation Task Force notified.

If the companies are found to be intentionally providing incorrect price information on an invoice or sale contract to avoid tax, they would carry severe legal penalties for a deceptive and unscrupulous act. The imported or exported price will be reviewed for the license issued according to the procedures, as per Notification 38/2017 dated 21 June 2017.

When investigation teams report a list of companies detected invoice fraud, the director or officials of those companies will be summoned, and the teams will conduct further inspection (Recheck). Those companies that were inspected are required to provide the necessary documents to verify whether the bank transfer amount matches the price mentioned in the licensing application. If a fake invoice or any fraud activity on an invoice is identified, further actions will be taken against them.

Companies must pay the tax due along with penalties. They will face actions for invoice discrepancy under Sections 463, 464, and 468 of the Penal Code and under the Export/Import Law. Actions for tax evasion will be imposed under Section 22 (B) and Section 27 (A) of the Commercial Tax Law. — NN/KK

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NATIONAL
ESSAY

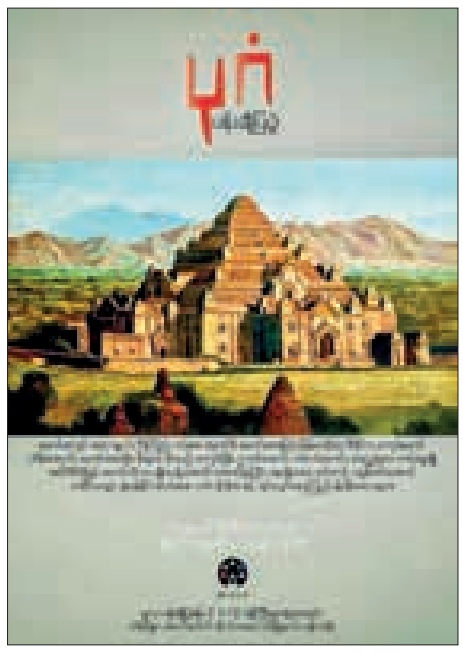
Leading Myanmar artists present diverse works at Bagan Group Exhibition

THE group art exhibition entitled "Bagan" will be held from 12 to 16 December at the Mula Art Gallery and the Brick Studio Art Gallery, both located at The Secretariat, Yangon, in Botahtaung Township, Yangon Region, according to Pachi Myo Swe Than, the exhibition's organizer.

He said, "Bagan is Myanmar's foremost cultural heritage site. By photographing and painting images of Bagan and displaying them in public spaces, we aim to pass on awareness of this heritage to future generations as part of the wider heritage-preservation effort. For that reason, we are exhibiting only those paintings of Bagan from our collection that best reflect its grandeur and convey a meaningful message to the next generation.

"The paintings are from the collections of Ko Aung Soe Min, Ko Pye Zinn, Ko Nyi Nyi Tun, Ko Naing Naing Aung, Ko Arkar, and me. The exhibition will run from 12 December to 16 December. It will take place simultaneously at Ko Arkar's Mula Art Gallery and Bunny Phyo's Brick Studio Art Gallery inside The Secretariat Yangon, and will be open daily from 10 am to 5 pm. We warmly invite friends and art lovers to come and appreciate Bagan".

At the Bagan Group Art Exhibition, works by a wide range of artists, including Maung Kyaw, Saya Nwe, U Kyi, Win Htay, Maung Di, Maung Aye Myint (Myanmar Traditional Design), Kyaw Maung, Thein Aung, Maung Say Yoe, Pho Shar, Moe Yin, Kyaw Shein, Pa Nyan Aung, Aung Maung, Pe Nyunt Wai, Pa Tin Shwe Cho, MPP Ye Myint, Maung Thiha, Myo Thant Aung, Aung Myint Oo, Nay Myo Say, Win Tint, Tun Win Aung, Ba Sai Wunna, Zwe Yan Naing, San Win Htay, Bagan, Soe Soe San and members of the Chindwin Yekyi Art Group, will be on display. Visitors will be able to view a diverse collection of watercolour, oil paintings, acrylic works and charcoal drawings, covering a wide range of themes. — ASH/KZL



This image displays a promotional poster for the BAGAN Group Art Exhibition.

I Say What I See: Truth and Its Shadows – Information,...

FROM PAGE 9

reflects not only knowledge but also guidance – an acknowledgement that information is meant to illuminate paths forward. Yet the value of information is not merely practical; it is ethical. To share truth is to build trust, and to withhold or distort it is to weaken the bonds that tie societies together. Thus, information stands as a social good, a common inheritance that must be protected and nurtured if communities are to thrive in an age of complexity.

Misinformation in Everyday Life

If information is the lifeblood of society, then misinformation is the unintended impurity that enters the stream. Unlike disinformation, which is crafted with intent, misinformation often arises from human error, misunderstanding, or careless repetition. It can be as simple as a rumour passed along without verification, or as complex as outdated medical advice circulating on social media long after guidelines have changed. In everyday life, misinformation slips easily into conversations, news feeds, and community networks, often carried by people who believe they are helping rather than harming. Its danger lies not in malice but in scale: a single mistaken post can reach thousands, shaping perceptions and decisions in ways that ripple far beyond the original error. In Myanmar, as in many societies, misinformation spreads quickly through word of mouth and digital platforms, sometimes fueled by the urgency of crises or the trust placed in familiar voices. Though unintentional, its effects can be profound, confusing communities, eroding confidence in institutions, and complicating collective responses to challenges. Misinformation reminds us that truth is fragile, and that vigilance in checking and sharing knowledge is as important as the information itself.

Disinformation as a Tool of Manipulation

If misinformation is the accidental distortion of truth, disinformation is its deliberate weaponization. Unlike the casual rumour or mistaken post, disinformation is carefully constructed with the intent to deceive, often orchestrated to achieve political, financial, or social objectives. Historically, the term gained prominence during the twentieth century, when state actors used propaganda campaigns to manipulate public opinion and destabilize rivals. Today, disinformation has evolved into a sophisticated tool, amplified by digital platforms where falsehoods can be engineered to look authentic and spread at lightning speed. Its impact is profound: coordinated disinformation campaigns can undermine elections, erode trust in science, or inflame divisions within communities. In Myanmar, as elsewhere, disinformation has appeared in the form of fabricated news stories or manipulated images designed to provoke fear or mistrust, showing how intentional deceit can fracture social cohesion. Unlike misinformation, which may be corrected through education and awareness, disinformation thrives on strategy and persistence, requiring vigilant countermeasures. It is not merely falsehood; it is falsehood with purpose, a reminder that truth itself can be targeted as a battleground in the struggle for influence.

Technology's Role in Amplification

The distinctions between information, misinformation, and disinformation become sharper when viewed through the lens of modern technology. Digital platforms have transformed the speed and scale at which messages travel, turning every individual into both a consumer and a potential broadcaster of content. Algorithms designed to maximize engagement often amplify sensational or emotionally charged material, regardless of its accuracy, allowing misinformation to spread unchecked and disinformation to flourish strategically. Social media networks, messaging apps, and even search engines have become battlegrounds where truth competes with distortion, and where the line between error and intent is easily blurred. In Myanmar, as in many societies, the rapid adoption of smartphones and social platforms has created new opportunities for access to information, but also new vulnerabilities to falsehoods that can ripple through communities in minutes. Technology magnifies both the promise and peril of these three words: it democratizes knowledge while simultaneously enabling manipulation. The challenge, therefore, is not only to harness technology for the dissemination of reliable information but also to build resilience against the distortions it can so effortlessly amplify.

Cultural and Local Perspectives

While the global discourse on information, misinformation, and disinformation often centres on Western contexts, local perspectives reveal unique nuances. In Myanmar and across South-East Asia, the translation of these terms into native languages carries cultural weight, shaping how communities perceive truth and falsehood. Information as သတင်းအချက်အလက် is not only knowledge but guidance, often tied to communal trust and respect for authority. Misinformation in local usage emphasizes error or misunderstanding, reflecting the everyday reality of rumours passed through oral traditions or rapidly shared on digital platforms. Disinformation, however, is understood as intentional deceit, often associated with political manipulation or social division. These distinctions resonate deeply in societies where oral storytelling, communal bonds, and rapid technological adoption intersect. The cultural lens reminds us that the battle between truth and falsehood is not fought in abstract terms alone; it is lived in the rhythms of daily communication, where language, trust, and context determine how communities respond to the flood of words that shape their realities.

Conclusion

From dictionaries to daily life, the words information, misinformation, and disinformation reveal a spectrum of truth and falsehood that shapes our modern world. Globally, Oxford and Webster remind us that information is knowledge grounded in fact, while misinformation is error without intent, and disinformation is falsehood with purpose. Locally, in Myanmar, the translations carry cultural resonance – information as guidance, misinformation as mistake, and disinformation as deliberate deceit – showing how language itself encodes societal values. Across contexts, the differences among these words are not merely academic; they are lived realities that influence how communities trust.

Airlines expect record passenger numbers in 2026: IATA

INTERNATIONAL airlines expect to transport a record 5.2 billion passengers in 2026 despite global headwinds affecting the sector, the industry's trade association said on Tuesday.

Carriers are also now expecting higher profits than previously forecast for 2025, and predict earnings to come in at a comparable level next year, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) added.

IATA, which groups around 360 carriers representing 80 per cent of global air traffic, said 2025 profits are projected to reach $39.5 billion, up from the $36 billion they predicted at the body's annual general meeting in June.

IATA's Director General Willie Walsh attributed the improved outlook to air freight's better performance, achieved despite trade disputes triggered by the United States.

Profits in 2026 are projected at $41 billion, with persistent aircraft availability problems putting a cap on performance, IATA said.

Passenger numbers this year are expected just shy of the five-billion figure, at 4.98 billion, up from 4.77 billion in 2024 the previous record figure. — AFP

A passenger pushes a baggage cart loaded with suitcases past a Delta Air Lines check-in counter at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) in Los Angeles, on 26 November 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

Yen falls to 156 vs dollar as quake hits Japan, BOJ chief remark awaited

THE yen weakened to the lower 156 range against the US dollar on Tuesday after a powerful earthquake in northeastern Japan the previous night temporarily dented expectations that the Bank of Japan will raise interest rates next week.

The Japanese currency's further slide was averted, however, and investors still project a rate hike by the central bank, ahead of remarks by BOJ Governor Kazuo Ueda to be made available later in the day.

"There is a possibility that the earthquake led to the view that there could be a delay in the BOJ's rate increase," said Maki Sawada, a strategist in the Investment Content Department of Nomura Securities Co.

"Unless the damage turns out to be more severe than expected, its impact on the BOJ's rate hike path is likely to be limited," Sawada added.

The yen has been also depreciating against other currencies such as the Australian and Canadian dollars, as speculation has emerged that central banks in those countries could start raising interest rates next year, analysts said. —— Kyodo

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Changing Trade Name For Registered Pesticide

The pesticide manufactured by **ICP Ladda Co., Ltd** and distributed by **ICP Shwe Me Fertilizer Co., Ltd** is chaging trade name as follow. Any Objection regarding to this transfer can notify to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon within (14) days from the publication of this notice.

No	Previous Name	New Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No
1	Rozer	Razor	Acetochlor 500g/l EC	P2024-6308

NOTICE FOR CHANGING OF PRODUCT TRADE NAME

The following herbicide distributed by **Myanma Shwe Nagar Agricultural Group Co., Ltd** has been registered under Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar. **Myanma Shwe Nagar Agricultural Group Co.,Ltd** is now would like to change its product trade name as mentioned below. Any objection regarding to this trade name changes can notify to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon within a period of fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice.

No	Old Trade Name	New Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type and Number
1.	Maw Kun 30% WP	Paung Thet Super	Bispyribac-sodium 20% + Pyrazosulfuron-ethyl 10% WP	Provisional P2023-5230

Myanma Shwe Nagar Agricultural Group Co.,Ltd
No-402, U Phoe Hlaing Street, Shwe Lin Pan Industrial Zone, Hlaingthayar Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Ph - 09 970545006

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M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3507S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BLPL FAITH VOY.NO. (3507S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-12-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE

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

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

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Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

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SPORTS/NATIONAL

SEA Games traditional Chinlone, cricket group events begin

THE 33rd Southeast Asian Games began yesterday with group events in traditional Chinlone, sepak takraw, and men's and women's cricket competitions. The events were held yesterday morning at the respective sports stadiums and arenas in Bangkok, Thailand, with the participation of Myanmar officials and athletes.

Attending the opening events were Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Jeng Phang Naw Taung, Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Tint, Yangon Region Minister for Social Affairs U Thein Aung, Myanmar sports federation officials, and responsible personnel from the Myanmar Sepak Takraw Federation.

In the women's traditional sepak takraw group event, held at the Nakhon Pathom Sports Centre, Myanmar athletes Mya Aye Aye Than, Ma Thae Thae, Ma Su Twal Tar, Ma Mone Nan Thar, Ma May Oo Khin, Ma Yin Min Thwe, Ma Hnin Eain Si, and Ma Khine Thazin Phyo competed. In the men's group event, Myanmar was represented by Mg Min Thitsa Aung, Mg Aung Myint Myat, Mg Khant Win Hein, Mg Wai Yan Phyo, Mg Yawai Aung, Mg Zaw Lin Maung, Mg Duwun Kyaw, and Mg Aung Pyae Phyo Oo.

In the women's group event, teams from Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, and Laos competed. The Myanmar women's team achieved the highest score with 461 points, followed by Laos with 317 points, Malaysia with 118 points, and Thailand with 94 points.

In the men's group event, teams from Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Laos, and East Timor competed. Myanmar secured the highest score with 545 points, followed by Thailand with 501 points, Laos with 410 points, Malaysia with 167 points, and East Timor with 68 points.

This photo captures traditional Myanma Chinlone players in skilful action during their SEA Games match, with Union Minister Jeng Phang Naw Taung, Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Tint,and officials attending the opening events.

The Union minister encouraged the Myanmar sepak takraw teams, including officials, coaches, and athletes, to continue performing at their best in upcoming competitions. He also presented honorary awards and cash prizes to the Myanmar men's and women's teams for achieving the highest scores in the group events.

Meanwhile, the women's T10 cricket group events were held at the TredThai Cricket Grounds, Asian Institute of Technology, in Bangkok. On the first day of the competition, Myanmar faced the Philippines. Myanmar scored 99 runs in 10 overs, while the Philippines managed 59 runs in their 10 overs. Myanmar won the match by 40 runs. — MNA/KZL

K2.751B rural income project to reach 197 villages in 2025-2026

This photo captures an educational session on small-scale manufacturing.

IN the 2025-2026 financial year, a project to increase rural family income is being implemented in 197 villages across the country, with funding of K2.751 billion, according to Daw Yi Yi Hlaing, Director of the Department of Small-Scale Industries.

The Rural Family Income Growth Project is being implemented in 197 villages across 15 regions and states, including the Nay Pyi Taw Council area, and has facilitated the establishment of small-scale manufacturing businesses.

"The project has enabled people to establish their own businesses; to increase family incomes through the emergence of manufacturing industries; to promote import substitution by producing finished goods based on local raw materials; and to reduce transportation costs, allowing local consumers to purchase goods at lower prices," Daw Yi Yi Hlaing continued.

The project covered 151 villages across the country in the 2023-2024 financial year and 193 villages in the 2024-2025 financial year. — ASH/TH

'December To Remember' concert coming to Mandalay on 18 Dec

SINGER Nini Khin Zaw announced that her musical performance titled "December To Remember" will be held at The Square Theatre Bar in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Region, at 7:00 pm on 18 December.

Singer Ni Ni Khin Zaw said, "On the night of 18 December, I will be at The Square Theatre Bar in Mandalay. I will be performing more than 20 songs for my Mandalay audience, so let's meet at The Square Theatre and share an evening of heartfelt music and emotion."

The renowned Daily Gita Band will provide musical accompaniment at the concert. — ASH/KNN

This image showcases an advertisement poster for Nini Khin Zaw's musical performance.

Myanmar film to premiere in 21 cinemas across Cambodia on 19 Dec

'THU Kyauk Ko Kyauk', the first film produced by Kumudra Film Production, will be released in major cinemas across Cambodia commencing on 19 December.

The screenplay and story of this Myanmar film were written by Didi Htet Aung, and Nora Ko directed the film for Kumudra Film Production.

Director Nora Ko said, "This film was previously screened in cinemas last June. Starting from 19 December, it will be shown in 21 cinemas across Cambodia with Cambodian-language dubbing. It is also the first Myanmar film to be granted a theatrical release in Cambodia."

The cast of 'Thu Kyauk Ko Kyauk' includes Academy Myint Myat, Phyo Ngwe Soe, Charlie, Ah Yine, Khine Hlaing, Tin Maung San Min Win, Nay Thit Aye Aung, Yamon Myint Myat, Academy Tekkatho Gwam Pon, Lynn Lynn, K Nyi, and many other actors. — ASH/MKKS

THAILAND 2025 XXXIII SEAGAMES 2025

SPORTS

Myanmar athletes vow their best ahead of SEA Games

U Kyaw Htoo Aung

U Maung Maung Htwe Oo

Ma Aye Aye Aung

Maung Htet Aung

U Kyaw Kyaw Moe

MYANMAR athletes representing the country at the Southeast Asian Games have continued departing for Thailand. Thailand is hosting the XXXIII South-East Asian Games, and Myanmar athletes have been leaving in groups since 30 November. Yesterday morning, track and field athletes flew to Bangkok, while judo and karate athletes travelled to Songkhla with their officials and coaches. Before their departure, the athletes and team officials spoke about their preparations.

Ma Aye Aye Aung, judo athlete, said: "I went to Japan in September and trained for a month with Japanese judo athletes. I have prepared by analysing my opponents' styles and techniques. I will compete in the under-28-kilogramme category. I especially studied videos of the Thai judo athlete I usually meet in the semi-finals and finals, focusing on how to counter her strengths and weaknesses. This will be my last competition, so I will give everything to win a gold medal."

Maung Htet Aung, judo athlete, said: "I have trained to achieve the best possible result. I have been in a training camp for two and a half years and have competed in several events during that time, so I expect a strong performance this year. Thailand is the main opponent and the defending champion. I studied their previous matches and will compete at my best to win a gold medal. Please support us".

U Maung Maung Htwe Oo, judo team administrator, said: "We selected five female and eight male athletes for the 33rd South-East Asian Games. They are reliable athletes. This year, only four female weight categories were included. For individual events, there will be four female categories and five male categories, nine in total. For kata, there will be one female and one male category. The kata events will take place on the tenth, the individual events on the twelfth and thirteenth, and the final event on the fourteenth. We especially expect medals from the women".

U Kyaw Htoo Aung, track and field team leader, said: "Twenty-one people, including officials, coaches, and athletes, will take part. We have continued training since the Cambodia Games. We will compete in the decathlon, marathon, race walk, and all other track and field disciplines. The competitions will be held from 10 to 16 December, and we will compete in twenty-two men's and women's events. Track and field is a sport where new records matter, and we selected those who won first, second, and third places at the 32nd Cambodia Games, along with promising athletes. I believe we will achieve strong results".

U Kyaw Kyaw Moe, karate team administrator, said: "We began training under the national programme on 1 June 2024. Promising athletes were selected again through the National Sports Festival, and training continued. After the selection stages, nine final athletes were chosen. Our team includes one official, three coaches, five male athletes, and four female athletes. Three male athletes will compete in team kata; two male and four female athletes will compete individually according to their weight categories; and the four women will also compete in the team event. The competitions will begin on the eleventh.

"Karate is not a record-based sport, so it is difficult to predict medals. However, based on the draw and the athletes' training experience, I believe medals are possible. The main opponents are the host, Thailand, as well as Malaysia, Indonesia, and Vietnam. Laos and Cambodia have similar levels to us. We will compete in accordance with the State's policy of achieving international success. Under the federation president's guidance, the athletes have received continuous training, international exposure, and coaching from foreign trainers. We made special preparations for these Games. The athletes are confident, and we hope to bring back the best results". — Zaw Min Latt & Thiha/KZL

Members of the Myanmar sepak takraw team engage in intense action during their SEA Games match.

Myanmar teams advance to finals in men's and women's sepak takraw

THE first day of the sepak takraw competition at the 33rd Southeast Asian Games was held on 9 December at the Nakhon Pathom Sports Centre. Myanmar's men's and women's teams competed in both events and advanced to the finals.

On the first day, matches were played in a round-robin format. In the men's event, Thailand scored 900 points, Myanmar 670, the Philippines 660, Brunei 480, and Timor-Leste 120. In the women's event, host Thailand scored 970 points, Myanmar 850, the Philippines 600, and Laos 340. Based on these results, the teams with the highest points in both the men's and women's events – Thailand and Myanmar – will face each other in the finals on 10 December.

Following the round-robin stage, the Myanmar sepak takraw team will also compete in additional events, including men's and women's three-player team events, men's and women's four-player team events, and mixed four-player events combining male and female athletes. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

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Airlines expect record passenger numbers in 2026: IATA
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Successful legislature election heralds brighter future for Hong Kong (SAR)

HONG Kong's Legislative Council (LegCo) election concluded on Sunday, marking another successful implementation of the region's new electoral system and a significant milestone in advancing high-quality democracy tailored to Hong Kong's realities.

With all 90 members of the new-term LegCo of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) now officially announced, the city is poised to pool collective efforts in driving reforms and forging a brighter future.

It was the second LegCo election conducted under the improved electoral system, which fully aligns with the principle of "patriots administering Hong Kong". The election took place against the backdrop of a major fire in a residential complex in Hong Kong's Tai Po.

It stood as a testament to Hong Kong's resilience and unity in overcoming adversity, as well as its unwavering resolve to forge ahead towards stability and prosperity.

The HKSAR government organized the polling in a comprehensive, thorough and law-based manner, while candidates and their teams were engaged in full-fledged and fair competition. A large number of voters turned out to cast ballots for candidates they trust, reflecting a vibrant democratic process.

In response to the fire disaster, candidates took the lead on the frontlines -- serving as volunteers, identifying fire hazards and mobilizing emergency supplies. These actions demonstrated to the public their unwavering commitment to serving Hong Kong, their problem-solving capabilities and their courage to act decisively in crises, offering a far more compelling testament than any campaign slogans.

The election outcome has underscored that with the continuous refinement of systems for implementing the "one country, two systems" policy and the robust safeguards provided by the Hong Kong national security law, the consensus among Hong Kong residents to prioritize stability and pursue development has been further solidified.

As the legislative body of the HKSAR, the LegCo plays a pivotal role in the region's governance. While the reform agenda remains formidable amid multifaceted challenges, it also presents significant development opportunities. Hong Kong now needs a high-caliber legislature more than ever.

Citizens arrive at a polling station in Tai Po of Hong Kong, south China, 7 December 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

HKSAR Chief Executive John Lee emphasized that the newly-elected LegCo members shoulder an irreplaceable historic mission. Hailing from diverse backgrounds spanning science and technology, think tanks and grassroots community engagement, these new lawmakers are entrusted with the task of delivering on public expectations to further bolster economic growth and enhance local governance.

Having demonstrated their resilience through recent challenges, Hong Kong people place high expectations on their new legislators. Endowed with public trust, the new-term LegCo members are expected to collaborate closely with the HKSAR government to steer the region toward a brighter future. — Xinhua

Asia, Pacific lifts 2.7 bln people from water insecurity, but ecosystem decline threatens progress: ADB report

MORE than 60 per cent of Asia and the Pacific's population, about 2.7 billion people, has been lifted from extreme water insecurity over the past 12 years, but these hard-won gains are threatened by accelerating environmental decline and a major financing gap, according to a new Asian Development Bank (ADB) report.

A woman walks past the logo of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) outside the bank's headquarters in Manila on 15 April 2025. **PHOTO: AFP**

The Asian Water Development Outlook (AWDO) 2025, published on Tuesday, finds that renewed political commitment, targeted investments, and governance reforms since 2013 have driven this progress.

But ecosystem decline, climate risks, and funding shortfalls for water investments threaten to plunge billions back into water insecurity.

Wetlands, rivers, aquifers, and forests that sustain long-term water security are deteriorating fast. Extreme weather events threaten a region that already accounts for 41 per cent of the world's floods. In recent weeks, parts of Southeast and South Asia have been hit by devastating floods.

The AWDO estimates that US$4 trillion through 2040, or $250 billion a year, is needed to meet the region's water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs alone. — Xinhua

Building fire kills 22 in Indonesia's capital: police

A fire tore through a seven-storey office building in Indonesia's capital on Tuesday, killing at least 22 people, police said.

Police said a battery that exploded on the first floor had ignited the fire, which spread to the upper levels of the building in central Jakarta before being put out.

Susatyo Purnomo Condro, the Central Jakarta police chief, told reporters that "the number of victims who died is 22", updating an initial toll of 17. Most of the dead were women, including one who was pregnant, he said. But the toll could still rise as emergency workers search the scene for people possibly trapped inside the building or more victims. — AFP