

The **Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR**

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

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

Voting Upholds Democratic System

The government's responsibility is to ensure that all citizens are able to cast their votes.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing urged that everyone has to work together for the development of the region and the nation for the benefit of their region and the State. Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said so at a meeting with departmental officials, town elders, and businesspersons of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) at Minbu U Obhasa Hall of Sasana Beikman in Minbu yesterday morning to discuss regional development measures. In his speech, the Senior General stated that polling will be held on 28 December



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing observes the exhibition to showcase the products of MSME businesses in Minbu, Magway Region, yesterday.

Salient points from the speech delivered by the Senior General at the meeting with residents in Minbu

- 1. Whether or not to vote is the choice of each voter, while the responsibility of the government is to ensure that people can cast their votes.
- 2. Minbu District alone faces a decrease in income amounting to more than K500 billion due to a lack of meeting the target cultivation.
- 3. If local farmers are capable of boosting the per-acre yield of cotton, it will contribute to raising the yarn and fabric production at home.

and it will be conducted in three phases. Whether or not to vote is the choice of each voter, while the responsibility of the government is to ensure that people can cast their votes. He added that casting a vote in the election signifies support for the democratic system, while not voting means not supporting the continuation of the democratic path. Therefore, he urged that everyone in the Minbu region should work together to ensure the successful holding of the election. Due to the lack of meeting the target cultivation, the Senior General revealed that Minbu District alone faces a decrease in income amounting to more than K500 billion. Hence, he urged all to strive to meet the target cultivation to notably improve the regional economy. **SEE PAGE 5**

The Best Quality Tyre

TRISTAR

TYRE

CYCLE TYRE

CAR TYRE

ပင်လယ်အော်လမ်းညွှန်-ရန်-ဝါး-ဝါးလမ်းဝင်

STARMART nine mile Showroom -(၉)ရပ်၊ပြည်လမ်း၊ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ရန်-ဝါး-ဝါးလမ်းဝင်

KHA YAE PIN MART-မင်္ဂလာဒုံ၊ပြည်လမ်း၊ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ရန်-ဝါး-ဝါးလမ်းဝင်

STARMART MANDALAY Wholesale-မြင်းလမ်း၊ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ ရန်-ဝါး-ဝါးလမ်းဝင်

STARMART Nay Pyi Taw-ရန်ကုန်-မန္တလေးလမ်းမတန်း၊ ရွာတောင်ရပ်၊ ပျဉ်းမနား၊ ရန်-ဝါး-ဝါးလမ်းဝင်

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

MPT launches yoga for physical and mental health



MPT hosted a yoga training session for physical and mental health for staff nationwide on the morning of 20 December at the townships where MPT offices are located, to promote a healthy lifestyle and a healthy society, the MPT Head Office in Yangon announced.

Over 300 staff from various branches nationwide participated in the health programme both in person and online, helping to improve employees’ physical and mental well-being.

“This programme is not a one-time health campaign but focuses on staff health, and it is now in its third year. The yoga health programme is designed to assist all staff in achieving a healthier and more active lifestyle, so all staff nationwide can participate simultaneously,” said Mr Hiroyuki Okai, Operations Department, MPTJO.

MPT has implemented yoga and relaxation activities as a regular part of its wellness programme, helping staff stay energized, focused, and mentally active in the fast-paced

digital era.

“Participating in the yoga class has refreshed my spirit and improved my focus and work performance. I am grateful to MPT for not only focusing on our physical health but also on our mental health,” said a staff member who participated in the yoga wellness programme.

MPT is also organizing physical activity programmes in regions and states to keep employees healthy and fit during the December Sports Month. — Oktha/MKKS

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Saturday, 20 December 2025)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is a few clouds over the Andaman Sea and Eastcentral Bay, and partly cloudy elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 21 December 2025: Weather will be partly cloudy in Yangon, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayin and Mon states and generally fair in the remaining regions and states.

STATE OF THE SEA: The sea will be slight to moderate in the Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 3-5 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS: The weather will be generally fair in the whole country.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 21 December 2025: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 21 December 2025: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 21 December 2025: Generally fair weather. — DMH

NATIONAL

For a nation to achieve development and stability, it is essential that every citizen be fully equipped with knowledge, skills and critical thinking. In particular, for a country like Myanmar undergoing a democratic transition, it is crucial for all of our national brethren to think critically, discern right from wrong and work together for the benefit of the nation.

(Excerpt from the speech delivered by Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the opening ceremony of Dawei City Hall held on 18 September 2025)



Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivers the speech at the meeting with officers, other ranks, and family members of the Magway Station in Magway yesterday.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing highlighted that Hluttaw candidates should have political, administrative, economic, security, and rule-of-law perspectives.

Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met officers, other ranks and families of Magway Station under the Central Command at Thiha Thura Kyin San Hall of the local battalion headquarters in Magway yesterday afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, the Senior General revealed that a multiparty democratic general election will be held in the coming days, and once the election is completed, national responsibilities will be handed over to the winning party.

He urged all Tatmadaw members to work together to ensure the successful holding of the election.

With regard to voting, the Senior General noted that people should choose candidates who can genuinely work for the benefit of the country and the region; who possess political, administrative, economic, security, and rule-of-law perspectives; who can cooperate sincerely with the Tatmadaw, which has steadfastly existed

Election candidates urged to prioritize national and regional interests

State responsibilities will be transferred to the winning party after the election is completed.

since independence; who can uphold the Our Three Main National Causes; and who have knowledge of legal matters.

The Senior General explained the participation of the Tatmadaw in the national political leadership role, conducting the anti-insurgent operations by the Tatmadaw against the internal conflicts and external invasions amid the difficulties, the experience of the Tatmadaw in the political systems exercised by the State in successive eras, and paving the way for the multiparty democratic system for the country aspired by the entire people.

He continued that the Tatmadaw has been the institution that led the establish-

ment of the multiparty democratic system desired by the people and has continued to work impartially to strengthen Myanmar's democratic system.

He suggested that during the upcoming election period, voters should choose candidates who can cooperate with the Tatmadaw, who can uphold the Our Three Main National Causes, and who possess political, economic, and defence perspectives.

The Senior General noted that the Tatmadaw is one of the strongest institutions carrying out national defence duties, and that since independence, the Tatmadaw has continued up to the present day

to suppress internal insurgencies that have arisen.

He stressed that the Tatmadaw is working to improve the welfare of Tatmadaw members. If military-owned and independently operated agricultural and livestock projects are carried out properly, they will provide significant support for the welfare of Tatmadaw members.

The Senior General urged all Tatmadaw members to diligently serve the assigned duties, urging that if something is beneficial for themselves, the Tatmadaw and the State, they have to work these duties successfully.

The Senior General presented food-stuffs for officers, other ranks and families of the station through the station commander, while the wife of the Senior General gave financial assistance for the station's maternal and child welfare association through the wife of the station commander.

SEE PAGE 4

NATIONAL

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and SSPC Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla visit Shwehsandaw Pagoda, Strand Road in Pyay

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing yesterday evening paid homage to the Shwehsandaw Pagoda in Pyay, Bago Region.

The Senior General and his wife enjoyed the sunset scenic beauties of Pyay after visiting the pagoda.

The Senior General and his wife, together with his entourage, offered flowers and water to the pagoda.

An official reported to the Senior General on the arrangement of the pagoda digital directory online website at the Buddha Museum of the pagoda. The Senior General stressed that historical evidence of the pagoda must be firm in the presentation on the online website. Photographs must be suitable for the current era, and these must be quality.

The Senior General viewed round Buddha images cast in successive eras and historical evidence.

The Senior General donated



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits the Shwehsandaw Pagoda in Pyay, Bago Region, yesterday.

cash to the fund for the overall renovation of the pagoda to the pagoda board of trustees.

Moreover, the Senior General

al, his wife and entourage viewed around the sale of traditional foodstuffs at the shops of the Khittaya night market along the

Strand Road in Pyay and cordially greeted vendors and consumers.

The Senior General gave guidance on needs to carry out

the beautification process along the Strand Road and the systematic arrangement for the car park.

— MNA/TTA

Election candidates urged to prioritize national and ...

FROM PAGE 3

Also, present at the meeting were Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, the wife of the Senior General; Commission Secretary General Ye Win Oo and his wife, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Htein Win and his wife, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Aung and his wife, sen-

ior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, and the commander of Central Command.

At the local Tatmadaw hospital in the station, the Senior General warmly comforted officers, other ranks and People's Military Servants receiving

medical treatment for their injuries sustained in serving defence and security duties of the State and cordially asked about their health conditions. The Senior General fulfilled the requirements submitted by those officers and other ranks. The Senior General also asked about the needs of the hospital and at-

tended to the needs.

The Senior General and the party inspected the war veterans' housing in Magway by car. After cordially asking about the requirements of war veterans who are residing at the housing, the Senior General coordinated with officials to fulfil the needs. — MNA/TTA

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

NATIONAL

General Aung San Declares Firm Stand Against Election Disruption

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

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



Voting Upholds Democratic System

FROM PAGE 1

He emphasized that it is necessary to meet the target cultivation of cotton per acre. There are some 500,000 acres of cotton across the nation. If local farmers are capable of boosting the per-acre yield of cotton, it will contribute to raising the yarn and fabric production at home.

He revealed that there are nine kinds of crops planted in the Minbu region. Hence, he urged local farmers to use modern agricultural techniques so as to increase the per-acre yield of crops.

He underlined that if local farmers make efforts to develop domestically agricultural product-based industries, they will have a better socioeconomic life.

In the livestock breeding sector, the Senior General highlighted that everyone has to ensure local food security. They need to use domestic agricultural products as raw materials for the necessary feeds for livestock breeding activities.

He noted that agriculture and livestock breeding projects need well-rounded human resources to achieve success. Hence, the government establishes industrial, agricultural, and livestock basic education high schools in order to produce qualified human resources.

The Senior General called for the extended cultivation of trees in relevant villages in order to reduce the heat of the region and ensure improvement of climatic conditions.

At the meeting, the district administrator reported on efforts to increase the per-acre yield of major crops, implementation of ensuring rice and cooking oil sufficiency, agriculture and livestock based production, development of education sector, opening of industrial, agriculture and livestock basic education high schools, progress of development activities, preparations to successfully hold the election in townships of Minbu District, and production of oil, natural gas and coal in Minbu District.

Magway Region Chief Minister U Tint Lwin presented the supplementary reports on the success of agriculture and livestock activities, efforts to ensure rice sufficiency in Magway Region, achieving more success in the cultivation of crops than in the past due to using solar-powered river water pumping process, an increase in the regional GDP, and working to grow cotton and oil crops in the region.

Town elders reported on the needs of school buildings at the Basic Education

High School Branch in Kaungthayway Village of Minbu Township, and further extension of solar-powered river water pumping works to sufficiently irrigate the crop plantations.

Union Ministers Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, U Min Naung, U Hla Moe and U Khin Maung Yi discussed efforts to ensure stability, peace and the rule of law across the nation, preparations to ensure correct voter lists and successfully hold the multiparty democratic general election, drug eradication measures, combating telecom fraud and online gambling activities, repatriation of illegal foreign nationals to relevant countries, needs of people to join hands with the government in eradicating telecom fraud and online gambling activities, implementation of projects for relevant villages to operate solar-powered river water pumping works, year-wise forest coverage of Magway Region and Minbu District yearly, and greening activities across the nation.

After the meeting, the Senior General viewed the products manufactured by MSME businesses in Minbu District and gave necessary guidance to officials.

Also, present at the meeting were Commission Secretary General Ye Win

Oo, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of Central Command, regional ministers and officials.

The Senior General inspected the upgrading of the district sports ground in Minbu and gave guidance to officials for building the stand for spectators and the construction of the systematic drainage facilities.

At the Minbu General Hospital, the Senior General, his wife and party visited the medical departments and the laboratory and inspected healthcare services for the people. The Senior General and his wife donated cash for the hospital through the medical superintendent and officials.

Yesterday morning, the Senior General inspected the upgrading of Magway-Minbu road at the viewpoint of Minbu and gave guidance that roads must be maintained systematically as designated, and since there have been cases of improper land use along some roads, action will need to be taken in accordance with the highways law. He noted that when upgrading roads, the entire road alignment must be developed systematically. — MNA/TTA



Myanmar Anti-Corruption Commission Member U Toe Yi attends the 11th Session of the Conference of the States Parties (COSP11) to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Doha, Qatar, from 15 to 19 December.

Myanmar attends UNCAC States Parties' 11th Session of Conference

A Myanmar delegation led by Myanmar Anti-Corruption Commission Member U Toe Yi attended the 11th Session of the Conference of the States Parties (COSP11) to the United Nations Convention against Corruption held in Doha, Qatar, from 15 to 19 December.

The conference was an important international conference focused on reviewing the implementation of the provisions of the Anti-Corruption Convention and setting directions for global anti-corruption efforts. During the conference, the delegates from member states around the world gathered to review the status of implementation of

the convention's provisions, exchange experiences and best practices, and formulate strategies to enhance international cooperation.

The Myanmar delegates actively participated in the discussions, presenting anti-corruption activities, strategic measures and outcomes of the country, and studied evolving international anti-corruption methods and practices.

Myanmar's participation in this conference demonstrates ongoing engagement and cooperation with other countries to further strengthen the country's anti-corruption efforts in line with international standards. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

Artistes continue performing for locals in Kyaukme and Hsipaw

THE artistes continued their entertainment for residents of Kyaukme and Hsipaw in Shan State (North) with the attendance of Union Minister for Information U Maung Maung Ohn, who is also Chairman of the Working Committee on Information and Development of a Resilient and Strong Social Community, yesterday.

The Union minister and party left Kyaukme yesterday morning, and they were welcomed by the locals and staff at the entrance to Hsipaw. They also had a documentary photo taken together with the artistes.

A meeting was then held at the Hsipaw Township Hall to discuss the Information and Development of a Resilient and Strong Social Community, and the video clip "Moving Forward to the Goal" was shown.

Speaking at the meeting, the Union minister appreciated the empathy, understanding, and mindfulness through thick and thin with locals of northern Shan State, and expressed delight at seeing that Hsipaw has now returned to normal conditions. He



This photo shows the venue packed with local spectators at an entertainment programme in Hsipaw yesterday, attended by Union Minister U Maung Maung Ohn.

continued that a multiparty general election will be held in Hsipaw soon, and the voters need to carefully choose and cast their vote for those who are capable of working for the welfare of the region to ensure a better future for Hsipaw.

North-East Command Commander Brig-Gen Aye Min Oo clarified the complete control over the townships in the north-

ern Shan State, urged the people to continue cooperating and expressed gratitude for entertainment programmes.

The Union minister presented Buddha images, 30 MRTV DTH receivers and accessories, and 20 MRTV DVB-T2 set-top boxes for Hsipaw Township to the Hsipaw Township Administrator.

The entertainment pro-

gramme continued with performances by film stars and singers, and the locals participated in the event happily.

After the programme, the families of North-East Command and administrative officials of Kyaukme District and Hsipaw township awarded the artistes.

The Union minister and party went to Hsipaw Myoma Market and Kyaukme Myoma

Market and cordially greeted the buyers and sellers.

At noon, the Union minister and party visited the historic Pawkyo Mutthaw pagoda in Bawkyo village of Hsipaw township, and donated cash.

In the evening, the artistes performed for Tatmadaw members, police, departmental staff and families at the City Hall of Kyaukme.

Before the concert, the Union minister made a greeting speech and donated Buddha images, 30 MRTV DTH receivers and accessories, and 20 MRTV DVB-T2 set-top boxes for Kyaukme station.

He also handed over the foodstuffs donated by the ministry for frontline Tatmadaw members.

The relevant officials then presented cash awards to the artistes who participated in the entertainment programmes in Kyaukme, Hsipaw and Naung-hkio townships.

A total of 2,000 Tatmadaw members, police and families joined the event actively and happily. — MNA/KTZH

CBM, tech partners explore AI solutions to curb online fraud

A discussion on the role of artificial intelligence in preventing online fraud and financial crimes was held yesterday afternoon at the Learning and Training Centre of the Yangon Branch of the Central Bank of Myanmar.

At the discussion, the Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar said the Central Bank has been cooperating with relevant organizations to address financial fraud by applying technology in banking and mobile financial services. She added that the Central Bank also participates as a member of the Central Committee for Supervision and Combatting Telecom Fraud and Online Gambling. She noted that in the current era, technology-based financial fraud poses serious threats to banking and financial sectors across all countries.

She stressed that, at a time



The Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar speaks at the meeting on the role of artificial intelligence in preventing online fraud and financial crimes in Yangon yesterday.

when human resources are becoming scarce, it is necessary to utilize technological resources to prevent and protect against online fraud and financial crimes. She explained that the discussion aimed to identify measures needed to address existing challenges and to promote technological and infrastructure development within banks

and financial institutions. She further said the event sought to encourage the effective integration of artificial intelligence technology into the financial sector so that Myanmar can utilize it efficiently to counter financial crime risks, similar to practices widely adopted in developed countries.

She urged participants to

engage in discussions on how artificial intelligence systems can be used for data analysis, accurate crime detection, early prevention, monitoring, investigation and enforcement, so that such technologies can be effectively applied in the financial sector.

During the discussion, officials from Huawei explained

how artificial intelligence technologies are being used internationally to support monitoring and protection in the banking sector. Participants also raised questions related to their respective fields.

The discussion was attended by the Deputy Governors of the Central Bank of Myanmar; members of the Mobile Financial Services Supervisory Committee; members of task forces responsible for timely prevention and swift action against financial fraud; members of investigation teams addressing illegal online financial activities; and representatives from state-owned banks, private banks, foreign bank branches and subsidiaries, mobile financial service providers, payment service operators, technology experts and officials from Huawei and its partner company, TrustDecision. — MNA/KZL

NATIONAL

Building a democratic federal nation must align with foreign policy

❖ “Our country’s foreign policy is a non-aligned policy, based on maintaining friendly relations with all countries. With this principle in mind, careful consideration should be given to the building of a democratic nation and the establishment of a federal state.”

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission, Chairman of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Central Committee, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the ceremony to mark the 10th Anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement-NCA on 15 October 2025)

Weekly Roundup

14 December

The State’s second chapter to begin after the election

State Security and Peace Commission Chairman and Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met Tatmadaw members and families from relevant stations under the Yangon Command, highlighting that the State’s second chapter will begin after the election.

15 December

State opens path to peace through dialogue

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Thadue Maha Thray Sithu Thadue Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing sent a message to the ceremony to mark the 51st Anniversary of Rakhine State, which falls on 15 December 2025.

PM-led Myanmar delegation arrives back in Yangon

A Myanmar delegation led by Prime Minister U Nyo Saw, who attended the International Forum dedicated to the International Year of Peace and Trust and the ceremony to mark the 30th Anniversary of the Permanent Neutrality of Turkmenistan held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, arrived back in Yangon.

16 December

Tatmadaw (Air) celebrates 78th anniversary

State Security and Peace Commission Chairman and Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the ceremony to mark the 78th Anniversary of Tatmadaw (Air) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the Nay Pyi Taw Airbase.

DSINPS concludes training of 10th intake of female nursing

On behalf of State Security and Peace Commission Chairman and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Thadue Maha Thray Sithu Thadue Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing, SSPC Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Thiri Pyanchi Maha Thray Sithu Soe Win delivered a speech at the passing out parade of the 10th intake of the female nursing and paramedical science course at the parade ground of the Institute in Yangon.

SSPC Vice-Chair inspects Tatmadaw Hospital, War Veterans’ Housing

State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army)

Vice-Senior General Soe Win visited the Defence Services Orthopaedic Hosiptal (500-bed) and the Defence Services General Hospital (1,000-bed) in Mingaladon Township of Yangon Region and comforted Tatmadaw members receiving medical treatment at the special care centres of the hospitals and inspected Myanmar Thakaung Advanced War Veterans’ Housing (Laydauntkan).

17 December

Head of State sends video message

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing sent a video speech in honour of the opening of the 24th Myanmar Traditional Medicine Practitioners Conference and Myanmar Traditional Medicine Symposium on 16 December 2025.

Head of State accepts Credentials of Brunei Ambassador

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing accepted the Credentials of Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam to Myanmar Haji Mohamad Sarif Pudin bin Matseru, at the Credentials Hall of the Office of the National Defence and Security Council in Nay Pyi Taw.

Pakistan to send election observation team to Myanmar

Ambassador of Pakistan to Myanmar Mr Tariq Karim presented his Credentials to Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the Credentials Hall of the Office of the National Defence and Security Council in Nay Pyi Taw.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets Tatmadaw members

State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, met officers and other ranks of Myitkyina Station at Bala Min Htin Hall of Northern Command Headquarters.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets Kachin State officials and university leaders

State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win met members of the Kachin State government, departmental officials, town elders, administrators, teachers, staff, and students of Myitkyina University, the Education Degree College, and the Polytechnic University at designated locations, and met members of the Kachin State government and departmental officials at the Kachin State Government Office.

18 December

Myanmar, Nigeria agree to enhance trade, economic and tourism ties

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing accepted the Credentials of Ambassador of the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria to Myanmar Mr Azeddine Bechka at the Credentials Hall of the Office of the National Defence and Security Council in Nay Pyi Taw.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets departmental officials, ethnic, and town elders in PutaO

State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win met PutaO district and township level district officials, ethnic literature and cultural committee members and town elders.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win meets Tatmadaw members at PutaO Station

State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win met officers, other ranks, and family members of the PutaO Station.

19 December

Vice-Senior General Soe Win visits Kaunghmulon Pagoda, local battalions

State Security and Peace Commission Vice-Chairman and Defence Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win paid homage to Kaunghmulon Pagoda in Machanbaw Township of PutaO District and local battalions in Machanbaw and PutaO stations.

Head of State sends message to Kayin National New Year Day

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Thadue Maha Thray Sithu Thadue Thiri Thudhamma Min Aung Hlaing sent a message to the ceremony to mark the Kayin National New Year Day on 19 December 2025.

NPT Council member appointed

The National Defence and Security Council issued Order 53/2025 on 18 December 2025 to appoint U Win Moe Khaing to the duties of a member of the Nay Pyi Taw Council under Subsection (b) of Section 427 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Tatmadaw columns take control of Singu, Letpanhla Village

Tatmadaw columns reoccupied Singu Town and Letpanhla Village, temporarily controlled by PDF terrorist groups. — GNLM/TTA

Shape a prosperous society with corruption free

CORRUPTION poses a major obstacle to reform and development efforts aimed at advancing national development. Therefore, with national interests as a priority and with the aim of building a democratic State, the government is undertaking anti-corruption measures with strong political will and concerted efforts, seeking to further strengthen positive practices such as responsibility, accountability, transparency, integrity, fairness, and the rule of law.

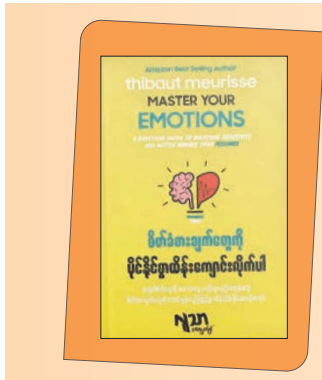
In building a democratic country, a clean government and good governance are essential. To establish good governance, it is necessary to be free from corruption, as corruption poses an obstacle to effective governance. Therefore, only by building a corruption-free and sound governance system will the nation achieve overall development, and the social lives of the people become more equitable and prosperous.

To foster a culture that does not tolerate corruption and to prevent unethical practices, it is essential to place balanced emphasis on the most fundamental measures - public awareness-raising and preventive initiatives - and to pursue them systematically. In addition, anyone who commits corruption in deviation from the State's established objectives must be dealt with effectively and in accordance with the law, without favouritism or discrimination.

ethical integrity.

To build a corruption-free society, it is necessary not only to investigate and combat existing cases of corruption to reduce their prevalence, but also to make the required reforms, planning, and sustained efforts to eradicate corruption in the future. In particular, efforts must be made to eliminate all underlying root causes that give rise to corruption. This includes, among other measures, reforming complex laws, by-laws, orders, directives, rules, and regulations that are difficult for the public to understand and that can be selectively interpreted or exploited by those who apply them, so that they are presented in a clear and accessible manner for public understanding.

To foster a culture that does not tolerate corruption and to prevent unethical practices, it is essential to place balanced emphasis on the most fundamental measures – public awareness-raising and preventive initiatives – and to pursue them systematically. In addition, anyone who commits corruption in deviation from the State's established objectives must be dealt with effectively and in accordance with the law, without favouritism or discrimination.



Book Title	-	Master Your Emotion by Thibaut Meurisse
Translator	-	Luthar (Opinion)
Publishing House	-	Saryeikmyaing
Publication Date	-	November 2025 (1 st Edition)
Price	-	K17,500

Master Your Emotions

THIS week’s pick is a Myanmar-translated book of Master Your Emotions by the author Thibaut Meurisse that offers profound insights into understanding and coping with negative emotions and stress, and helps you better manage your feelings.

Our emotions are indeed powerful motivators that directly drive behaviour, motivation, decision-making and personal achievements. Nonetheless, only a handful of people understand and control negative emotions. The author Thibaut Meurisse wrote this personal workbook to improve our emotional state. This book illustrates in a clear, simple and direct way: what emotions are, how they arise and how they have an impact on us. The author combines psychology, neuroscience and practice strategies to guide readers toward a practical approach in observing, analyzing and managing their own emotions.

What a distinct feature this book is, not just a merely theoretical disquisition, yet emphasizes practical value and real-world application. This book gives a detailed explanation, particularly how to disrupt the negative cycle by understanding connections

between thoughts, feelings and behaviours to cultivate healthier and improve emotional well-being. It also sheds light on applicable methods such as emotional journaling and emotional labelling to manage strong emotions and reduce the influence of negative feelings in our daily lives.

The Chapter “To Sleep Well and Fall Asleep Fast” pointed out how sleep shapes your mood and emotional health. Adequate sleep is quite essential for physical and mental health. There are many things that one should do, avoid and follow to get good sleep. One can create an environment and setting that signals that it is time to wind down to improve sleep quality; by making your bedroom dark, arranging the light and turning off devices like phones, tablets and TVs that can interfere with sleep. The darker the room, the faster you can fall asleep and the greater the chance of sleeping well. (Excerpting from Page 87)

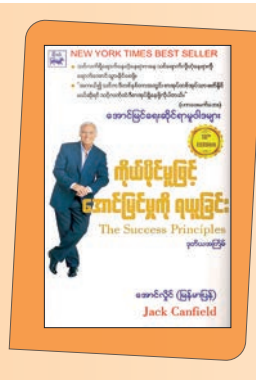
One needs to release tensions from their body by creating a calming routine so they can sleep faster. Whoever lies down in bed unless they are intoxicated or physically tired is likely to experience a whirl of thoughts unless they

fall asleep immediately. (from Page 88).

One must drink less water one to two hours before sleep to prevent waking up for bathroom trips that can disrupt deep sleep. Cultivating personal evening routines like taking a warm bath, keeping your body warm, hydrating (a small slip), and mindfulness activities (meditating, saying prayers) will help you have a cosy and deep sleep. (from Page 89)

Many exercises with gentle movement can help you fall asleep faster. Each person has a different temperament and nature, as everyone uniquely responds to the same exercise. One can find the best exercise that matches your personality. (from Page 90)

The author’s methods are simple and can be applied immediately. This book is suitable for those readers exploring emotional self-help books and regaining control over emotions to become happier and more optimistic. This is the must-read for anyone whose life is troubled by emotions, who is experiencing stress or who wants to be more composed. This is the perfect companion to master your emotions, which can be helpful for young people and those in leadership roles.



Book Title	-	The Success Principles by Jack Canfield
Translator	-	Aung Hlaing (Myanmar Pyan)
Publishing House	-	Soe San
Publication Date	-	September 2025 (2 nd Edition)
Price	-	K19,000

Achieving Success with Own Principles The Success Principles by Jack Canfield

THIS week, we pick a book with a testimonial of Harvey Mackay, “How to Get from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be” and “If you could read only one book this year, you have it in your hands”.

The original author of The Success Principles is Jack Canfield, who is a highly experienced success coach with over 40 years of experience advising people who aspire to grow and succeed in life. This book systematically presents a total of 65 success principles that have been personally practised and followed by successful men and women throughout history.

Moreover, the book explains essential practices that anyone seeking success should follow, such as taking full responsibility for one’s life, setting clear and precise goals, overcoming obstacles, and implementing practical, actionable strategies that can be applied in real life.

This book also transforms the ideas of success into practical and step-by-step methods, and has been captivating readers around the world for many years.

The Success Principles: How to Get from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be by Jack Canfield clearly explains, in simple language, how to unlock and utilize the potential for success that already exists within every individual.

These include “Take 100 per cent responsibility for your life”, “Set big goals”, and “Reject complacency”. Canfield combines his theories with personal experiences, stories of successful entrepreneurs, and practical exercises. In this way, the book is designed so that readers can begin applying what they learn immediately in real life, starting from the very first pages.

The book breaks down complex concepts into simple and manageable steps. It also includes daily tasks and lists of questions that invite readers to actively participate in their own growth. Canfield’s writing style is motivational and encouraging, while also challenging readers to break free from limiting and useless beliefs.

For those who are already fond of

success books, the content may not feel entirely new. However, because of its comprehensive structure and strong practical applicability, it stands out as a book worth reading for anyone interested in this field.

To sum up, “The Success Principles” remains a solid foundational work among self-help books. For those with big ambitions, those who want to change their lives, or anyone seeking more meaningful success, this book serves as an excellent starting point on the journey toward achievement.

Moreover, the book explains essential practices that everyone who wants to be a successful person should follow, such as taking responsibility for one’s own life, setting clear goals, overcoming obstacles, and implementing practical strategies effectively. As it is also grounded more in practice than theory, the book can be applied across fields such as education and the economy. With roughly 520 pages, it stands as a valuable guidebook for anyone who truly wants to create real success.

Shwe Mun May

by Mya Thae (Research)

Shwe Mun May, damsels, are charming. Their smiles are sweet and loving. They also like to wear jewels neatly. Besides, they speak sweetly. Most of the damsels from Mandalay ride bicycles nicely. They love Myanmar culture wisely. Moreover, they are generous and welcome to visit Mandalay heartily.



The Creek

Translated By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

Rising in the mountain ranges, With the lively and steadily flowing water, For the whole village's benefits, It is the creek to its user.	If flotsam and jetsam float downstream, In order not to get shallow, bank it up, So that the creek bank will not collapse, We should all gather for labour.
Fish in the creek; we eat them.	
Water drops in the creek; we drink them.	Whether it's the beginning or end, Not segregating in any sense, The creek is in danger, and we must prevent.
Of the creek in full spate, on soils silty, We cultivate crops - a variety.	
The creek is, of all our villages, A dependence-worthy benefactress.	As to the matters of the creek, Risk life and limb; quite unhesitatingly _ Day and night, solve all of these.

ချောင်းကလေး

တောင်ရိုးတော်၊ အခြေစ၍ နိုးထဆင်းလာ၊ ရေစီးသာနှင့် ရပ်ကျိုးရွာကျိုး၊ ဆောင်သယ်ပိုးသည့် အဖိုးတန်သောချောင်းကလေး။	အားထားဖွယ်ရာကျေးဇူးရှင်၊ ဒိုက်နှင့်သရော၊ ရေစုန်မျောက် မကောရန်ဆယ်၊ ကမ်းစွယ်ကမ်းပါး ပြိုမသွားအောင်၊ လုပ်အားကိုသုံးတို့စုရိုးမည်။
သည်ချောင်းကငါ၊ ငါတို့ဘေး၏။	ချောင်းဆုံး ချောင်းစ မခွဲကြဘဲ၊ ဖွိုကြဆည်ကြ တားဆီးကြမည်။
သည်ချောင်းရေပေါက်၊ တို့သုံးသောက်၏။	သည်ချောင်းအရေး အသက်ပေး၍၊ တုံနှေးမဆ ပြေရှင်းကြမည်၊ ညနေချိန်ခါ မဟူတည်း။
သည်ချောင်းရေလျှံ၊ နုန်းတင်ကျန်တွင် သီးနှံမျိုးစုံ၊ တို့စိုက်ကုန်၏။	သည်ချောင်းငယ်ကား၊ တို့ရွာများ၏
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Hearts That Heal the Nation

By Min Min Zan

Health is the wealth that all lives depend, From home to nation, it helps us mend. With mindful habits and timely care, Strong bodies grow when hearts are aware.

Through clinics near and distant lands, Skilled doctors serve with caring hands. In peace or need, by road or sea, They guard the health of the community.

From halls of learning, healers rise, With knowledge trained and gentle eyes. With goodwill, kindness, courage true, They ease the pain and teach us too.

So may these paths of mercy flow, Where service leads, and people grow. For when a nation stands healthy and strong, Its future shines, steadfast and long.

“Dedicated to the heroes who are serving in public health care services.”

NATIONAL

Entertainment



Nay Myo Aung
ACTOR Nay Myo Aung plays a distinctive supporting role as Mya Saung in the film 'Myit Lattat Pae Mae Yay See Ka Kyan Tal'. The films which as screened on 26 December received organic views of one million within 24 hours after their official teaser. Owing to his outstanding acting skills, Nay Myo Aung is widely expected to rank first in the academy.

Chuu Sitt Han
ACTRESS Chuu Sitt Han is currently acting in a new TV series titled 'Atta Hnaung Kyo', where she takes on the role of a character named Wutt Hmone. The launch ceremony for the series was held on 15 December at Kyaikkasan Pagoda in Yangon. The series is directed by Kyaw Za, and the cast includes Sit Naing, Htoo Cha, Daung Wai, Myo Ko, Mummy Thet, and Chuu Sitt Han, among others. In November, the actress participated as a flower girl at the Buddha Pujaniya rice donation ceremony at the Moegaung Pagoda.



Aye Myat Thu
ACADEMY Aye Myat Thu shared some charming, traditional-style photos on social media with a well-wishing caption. She also shared photos taken for the Poe Htike Mahi Silk & Cotton House, wearing a traditional Myanmar outfit, with the caption "Her and Tree of Love". Currently, the actress is appearing as Ma Nilar in the TV series 'Kan Set Kan', which is airing on CANAL+.



Ayine
COMEDIAN Nyaung Nyaung (aka) U Nyi Nyi Hlaing passed away on the night of 17 December at the OSC Hospital in North Okkalapa Township. His colleague comedian Ayine wrote on his social media page while at a filming location in Pindaya, "Nga Nyi (Nyaung Nyaung), you have gone. Kin Kaung (Nga Myo), Phoe Phyu, Ko Kutho (Ko Myint Thein), Ko Myitta (Ko Khin Maung Myint), and Ko Tar Too (Ko Yan Paing Soe) have all left us before you. Let it end with this life and this body. May you be free from the cycle of rebirth, you stubborn old dude".



Nan Sandar Hla Htun
ACTRESS Nan Sandar Hla Htun, after getting married, has temporarily paused acting in films and video production. However, she continues to do photo shoots quite frequently. The photos are not taken by herself alone, but she is shooting together with her adorable little son. On 18 December, she shared Christmas-themed photos with her son on social media, captioned "Mom's Christmas Santa little boy". The photos were taken at the THZ Photo Studio.



Wai Lar Yi
ACTRESS Wai Lar Yi informed her fans by saying, "A series coming at the beginning of 2026 for Wai Lar is 'Ah Hnyo'. In the series, she portrays a gentle tailor named Htar, who marries a wealthy man, Kaung Hmue, played by Sai Si Tom Kham, and quietly stands up against the villain. Actress May Myint Mo will also star alongside her. For May Myint Mo, this series marks a comeback project and her first collaboration with Mahar. — Htun Htun/KTZH

Artistes to perform for New Year Mingala Anyeint

A New Year Mingala Anyeint concert featuring special dancing performances by film actors and actresses will be staged at the National Theatre in Yangon on 30 and 31 December, according to actor Tyron.

"Paying respect to all the senior masters of comedy... I have brought to life a tiny dream of mine together with brothers whom I love like real siblings. We will do our very best to present a wonderful performance for our beloved audience. Please come and support us. I would like to express my special thanks to each and every person who helps and supports us," he said.

The event will be led by director Khin Hlaing (Nyan Gyi Shin), and the female dancers are Aye Myat Thu, Aye Mya Phyu and Yamone Myint Myat. The comedians are Tyron, Htoo Aung, Thein Lin Soe and Joker. It will be sponsored by Marlar Myaing and aired on MRTV-4, HAY PLAY. — Htun Htun/KTZH



NATIONAL

Gambling materials burned, undocumented foreign entrants arrested in Myawady

THE government continues to conduct joint operations in the Shwe Kokko area and the KK Park area, where suspects commit telecom fraud and on-line gambling activities. The combined teams comprising security personnel and administrative bodies are involved in these operations, which include entering the areas, dismantling and removing illegal buildings, and taking further action in accordance with the law.

Yesterday, the authorities found five one-storey buildings and arrested 15 Chinese nation-

als at the unoccupied guest-house in Myawady and also seized 200 (TX60) tyres, 3,000 rolls of green tarpaulins, 20 large paper rolls, 20 air filters (large), 30 air filters (small), 16 battery-powered bicycles, 100 (1.5 horse power) water pumps, 25 backhoe wheel rims, 3,000 tissue paper cartons, 1,000 packs of stationery, 250 packs of cosmetics, 1,800 packs of silicone sealant, 20 bicycles, 15 baby strollers, totalling 14 illegal products, at two warehouses.

The seizures will be man-

aged in accordance with the procedures, and the measures will be conducted to deport the arrestees to their countries.

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. 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



Illegal materials are seized by authorities during operating anti-online scams and gambling activities in Myawady Township, Kayin State.



Images depict scam related materials and items being razed by fire in KK Park and Shwe Kokko areas in Myawady Township, Kayin State.

Handover ceremony held for one-storey vocational training building for women in Mandalay

A handover ceremony was held for a one-storey dormitory for trainees of the Vocational Training Centre for Women (Mandalay), donated by the Government of India under the Mekong–Ganga Project, at 9:00 am yesterday at the training centre.

The ceremony was attended by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Than Soe, Ambassador of India to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur, and relevant officials.

At the ceremony, the Mandalay Region chief minister, the deputy minister, and the ambassador of India to Myanmar cut the ceremonial ribbon to inaugurate the building and sprinkled fragrant water on the monument.

Following the ceremony,



Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Myo Aung and dignitaries cut the ceremonial ribbon to inaugurate one-storey dormitory for trainees of the Vocational Training Centre for Women (Mandalay).

the deputy minister delivered an opening speech, and the Ambassador of India to Myanmar delivered a welcome address.

Afterwards, the deputy minister visited the Mandalay Youth Training School to inspect food conditions, health-care services, and vocational training for students, and to provide the necessary facilities.

The deputy minister and his delegation then met with staff and students at the training school and instructed them to make effective use of their time at the school, enhance vocational training, plant fruit trees on the campus, ensure benefits for the community, and develop human resources that contribute to the State and society. — MNA/MKKS

Informant tips lead to arrests and seizures in illegal trade crackdown

SUPERVISED by the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, inspection teams under the state and regional illegal trade eradication special task forces, along with One-Stop Services led by the Customs Department, are consistently and effectively cracking down on illegal trade. These efforts take place at border trade offices and stations, permanent checkpoints along land and sea trade routes, and at ports and airports. Accurate information is crucial for these operations.

In November 2025, responsible citizens submitted 30 reports. Authorities seized 57 cases of illegal goods with an estimated value of K2,998.03 million. Vehicles and unregistered motorbikes were also confiscated.

Whistleblowers will be



A confiscated vehicle.

awarded 20 per cent of the estimated value of the seized items. Accordingly, departmental officials are arranging to distribute K599.606 million as informing rewards for November 2025. Responsible citizens can report illegal trade by contacting the following numbers 09 9699611116 and 067 409883, or by emailing antiillegaltradeinfo@gmail.com. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

BUSINESS

1,847 companies and factories seek GACC certification

A total of 1,847 Myanmar food processing companies and factories have submitted 3,837 applications to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) as of 12 December 2025, according to the Domestic Trade Division (GACC team) of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization under the Ministry of Commerce. According to GACC Decrees 248 and 249, GACC registration is mandatory for food exporters starting from 1 January 2022. Those individuals executing edible oil, oilseeds, stuffed pastry products, edible bird's nest and related products, edible grains, grains milling industrial products and malt, fresh and dehydrated vegetables, dried beans, plant species, nuts and seeds, dried fruits, unroasted coffee and cocoa bean, special dietary food excluding milk-based formula, functional foods, bee products, aquatic products including farm products, animal products and animal feed and livestock animal businesses need to ap-



Workers diligently operate the fishery production line at the cold storage facility.

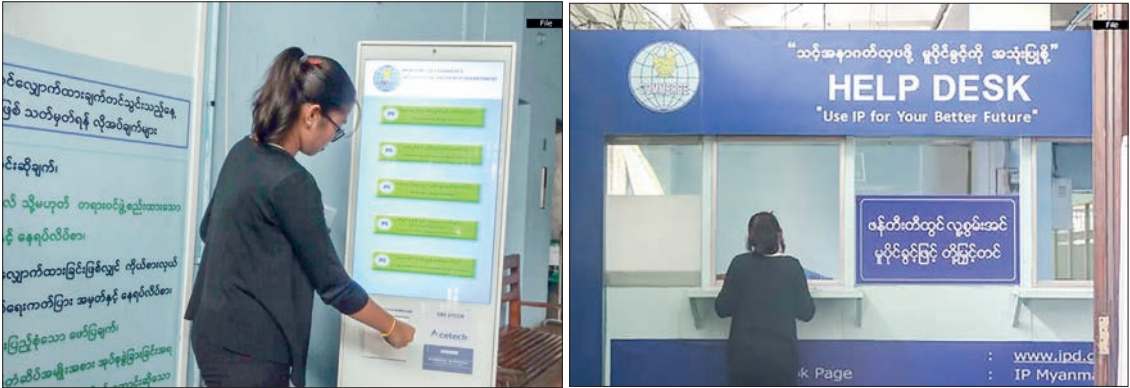
ply for GACC license to place their goods in China's market. The relevant authorities for the registration with GACC are the Agriculture Department, the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, the Fisheries Department and the Food and Drug Administration Department. Exporters can directly access the China International Trade

Single Window through <https://cifer.singlewindow.cn> by creating accounts for those food groups which are not listed in the aforementioned 18 groups. Between 1 December 2021 and 12 December 2025, 3,837 applications by 1,847 factories have been forwarded to the GACC through the Agriculture Department (3,661 applications), the Fisheries Department (153), the

Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (14) and the Food and Drug Administration Department (nine). Regarding the registration of the importing companies, the Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine under the GACC will check quarantine access for the imported grains (unroasted coffee bean, cocoa beans, fresh and dehydrated

vegetables, plant seasonings (plant spices), edible grain, dried beans, oil seeds (oil plant) and herbal animal products and plant for their origins. The companies cannot directly proceed with registration, and they need to carry out this step through competent authorities and departments concerned by sending an email to dapq@customs.gov.cn or submitting a letter to the Chinese Embassy to Myanmar or the Myanmar Embassy to China. As of 12 December 2025, a total of 1,229 applications have been successful in registering with the GACC with the approval of the competent authority. Additionally, a manual registration list of overseas manufacturers of imported foods with the GACC has been uploaded on <http://dzs.customs.gov.cn/>. Individuals can enquire further information through the contact numbers of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization at 067 3408605 and 067 3408617, and email myantrade.domestic@gmail.com. — NN/KK

IPD accepts trademark applications from Myanmar MSMEs



Images illustrate the process for applying for trademarks for products and services.

THE Intellectual Property Department (IPD), under the Ministry of Commerce, has announced that MSMEs in Myanmar can apply for trademarks for their products and services at the department in accordance with the Trademark Law and the Copyright Law. It is also reported that 11,708 trademark registration certificates have been issued so far for the products and services of MSME businesses.

In addition, trademark registration applications were accepted from 1 October 2020 to 26 October 2023, and a total of more than 60,000 trademark registration applications are currently being processed. These applications are reviewed on an annual basis, and notices inviting objections to individual trademark registration applications are issued on the first day of each month. Notices of approval for

trademark registration have been issued 12 times since 1 December 2024. The Ministry of Commerce has also announced that entrepreneurs investing in and conducting business in Myanmar, including micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, can apply for copyright protection with priority rights to use their business trademarks under the Trademark Law and the Copyright Law. — ASH/TH

Companies invited to establish private specialist hospitals under BOT scheme

A committee implementing the establishment of private hospitals in PyinOoLwin invited companies to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to set up a private specialist hospital of international standard, under the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) system. The project will be located on the State-owned land in PyinOoLwin Township, Mandalay Region. This project aims to support private health sector development and provide comprehensive healthcare services for people, prioritizing chronic kidney disease,

eye diseases, cancer, kidney surgery and primary care. Those citizens who would like to invest and establish a private hospital with at least 100 beds focusing on the aforementioned health problems on the State-owned land are invited to submit the EOI to the Department of Medical Services under the Ministry of Health in Nay Pyi Taw by 4 pm on 19 February 2026. Interested companies can enquire about details through 067 4311069, 067 3411630 and the division's email privatehealthdivision@gmail.com. — NN/KK

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47 Nepali tourism professionals awarded Chinese language certificates

A total of 47 Nepali tourism professionals received certificates at the conclusion of a Chinese language training session in Kathmandu on Friday. The training was conducted under a six-month programme organized by the Chinese Embassy to Nepal, in co-operation with the Nepal Tourism Board and the Nepal China Cultural and Educational Council. The seven training sessions held under the program have equipped nearly 300 Nepali tourism professionals with Chinese language skills. — Xinhua

BOJ lifts policy rate to 30-yr high 0.75%, flags more hikes amid inflation

THIS was the first rate increase since January. The Bank of Japan on Friday raised its policy rate to a 30-year high of around 0.75 per cent from around 0.5 per cent, signalling that more hikes may be in the offing amid growing confidence that it can attain both steady wage growth and its inflation target. The unanimous decision by the Policy Board marked the first interest rate increase since January by the central bank long known for its dovish stance, as uncertainty recedes over the economic impact of higher US tariffs and the yen's

weakness raises inflationary risks. After a two-day policy meeting, however, Governor Kazuo Ueda left markets guessing as to when and how high the policy rate can be raised, saying that the central bank will examine the impact of the latest rate decision on the economy and make a judgement as appropriate. The yield on benchmark 10-year Japanese government bonds spiked to levels unseen since 1999 amid expectations of more rate hikes and concerns about the fiscal health of debt-ridden Japan, analysts said. — Kyodo



The Bank of Japan hiked interest rates to a 30-year high as it looks to quell inflation, which has been partly fuelled by a surge in rice prices. PHOTO: AFP

Mercosur meets in Brazil, EU eyes 12 Jan trade deal

REPRESENTATIVES of the South American Mercosur bloc met in Brazil Friday, as EU diplomatic sources said a long-delayed trade deal may now be signed on 12 January. Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay had hoped they would on Saturday finally seal a deal with the EU to create the world's largest free trade zone. However, the deal,

which has been under negotiation for more than 25 years, met with fierce opposition from farmers, notably in France and Italy, and has now been postponed to January. Several diplomats in Brussels told AFP the EU was working towards a signature on 12 January in Paraguay, which is set to take over leadership of Mercosur from Brazil in 2026. — AFP



Farmers dump tires on a roundabout as they gather with tractors to protest against the EU-Mercosur deal that would create the world's biggest free-trade area, in Alencon, northern France on 19 December 2025. PHOTO: JEAN-FRANCOIS MONIER / AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V VIMC DAIMOND VOY.NO. (0UVGZS1NC)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V VIMC DAIMOND VOY.NO. (0UVGZS1NC)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **20-12-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/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.
Phone No: **2301185**
**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**
Agent For:
M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (005)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V RANONG MOE VOY.NO. (005)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **20-12-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 A.M to 11:20 A.M and 12 NOON to 4 P.M to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**
**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**
Agent For:
M/S ADMAN SEA GATEWAYS GROUP OF COMPANIES LIMITED

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MSC QINGDAO F VOY.NO. (SB550A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC QINGDAO F VOY.NO. (SB550A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **21-12-2025** 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.
Phone No: **2301185**
**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**
Agent For:
M/S MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V TC MESSENGER VOY.NO. (157N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TC MESSENGER VOY.NO. (157N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **21-12-2025** 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.
Phone No: **2301185**
**Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority**
Agent For:
M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST

Macao SAR holds flag-raising, reception to mark 26th anniversary of return to motherland

20 December

THE Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) government held a flag-raising ceremony and a reception on Saturday to celebrate the 26th anniversary of its return to the motherland.

Speaking at the reception at the China-Portuguese-speaking Countries Commercial and Trade Service Platform Complex, Chief Executive of the Macao SAR Sam Hou Fai vowed to further align Macao with national development strategies, formulate

and implement better policies for the Third Five-Year Plan for Social and Economic Development of the Macao SAR, embark on a new journey of building a great country and advance national rejuvenation, and strive for greater achievements for Macao. Senior officials, together with approximately 1,000 guests, attended the reception. — Xinhua

A flag-raising ceremony marking the 26th anniversary of Macao's return to the motherland is held at the Golden Lotus Square in Macao, south China, 20 December 2025. **PHOTO: CHEONG KAM KA/XINHUA**



19 DECEMBER

Norway crown princess likely to undergo lung transplant

NORWAY'S 52-year-old Crown Princess Mette-Marit will likely need to undergo a lung transplant following a deterioration in her chronic lung condition, the palace said on Friday.

The princess announced in October 2018 that she had been diagnosed with a rare form of pulmonary fibrosis, an incurable disease that causes scarring of the lungs and shortness of breath.

"We are approaching the time when a lung transplant must be carried out, and we are making the necessary preparations so that it will be possible when the time comes," Are Martin Holm, head of pulmonary medicine at Oslo University Hospital, said in a statement from the palace. — AFP

18 December

France denies it plans to cede Pacific islands

FRANCE on Thursday denied it was planning to cede sovereignty over two uninhabited islands in the Pacific after far-right figurehead Marine Le Pen accused President Emmanuel Macron of seeking to give up overseas territories.

The volcanic islands of Matthew and Hunter lie several hundred kilometres east of the French overseas territory of New Caledonia but are also claimed by the island nation of Vanuatu, which won independence in 1980.

Modern France still has overseas territories across the globe, from the Caribbean to the Indian Ocean and Pacific, legacies of the colonial era that are now vital strategic footholds for Paris.

Le Pen had reposted on X an article speculating that the two islands could be ceded to Vanuatu. — AFP

17 December

Trump imposes travel bans on countries, Palestinians

US President Donald Trump sharply expanded a travel ban by barring people from seven more countries including Syria, as well as Palestinian Authority passport holders, from entering the United States.

The latest move brings to nearly 40 the number of countries whose citizens face restrictions in coming to the United States solely by virtue of nationality, with Trump also tightening rules for routine travel from Western nations.

It comes as Trump, who has long made hostility to immigration a signature issue, orders mass deportations and takes an increasingly strident tone against non-white new Americans. The White House in a proclamation said it was banning foreigners who "intend to threaten" Americans. Trump also wants to prevent foreigners in the United States who would "undermine or destabilize its culture, government, institutions or founding principles," the proclamation said. — AFP

16 December

Ghana's Highlife finds its rhythm on world stage

ON a humid Tuesday night in Accra, Zen Garden is alive with sound, movement and memory as Highlife melodies spill into the open air, drawing families, friends and office workers who sway long past midnight as if the weekend has come early.

Under soft lights, the four young men of the Kwan Pa band strike layered guitar lines and lilting rhythms, their live performance pulling cheers and applause from a crowd visibly elated, white handkerchiefs twirling above heads as revellers dance, sing along and clink glasses between bites of food.

"It's like therapy," one patron said, laughing as couples glide across the floor and strangers dance together, united by a sound that has shaped Ghanaian life for generations.

That charged ambience has taken on new meaning after Ghana's famed Highlife music was inscribed this month on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list, a major international recognition of one of West Africa's most influential musical traditions. — AFP

15 December

South Korea raids religious group's headquarters

SOUTH Korean police raided the headquarters of the cult-like Unification Church on Monday and named its leader as a suspect in the bribery of several high-profile politicians.

The church is at the centre of a mounting scandal in South Korea over alleged payments to lawmakers from both ruling and opposition parties.

Prosecutors raided the church's headquarters in Seoul on Monday as well as the imposing countryside residence of leader Han Hak-ja, who is already on trial for allegedly offering bribes to the former first lady.

Its president said last week the church felt "deeply responsible for having caused concern to the public" and acknowledged "its failure to detect misconduct within the organization at an early stage". — AFP

14 December

Remains of former Chinese leader Wang Bingqian cremated

THE remains of former Chinese leader Wang Bingqian were cremated in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong Province, on Sunday.

He died of illness on 8 December in Guangdong at the age of 100.

Wang had served in various posts including state councilor and vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC).

Xi Jinping, Li Qiang, Zhao Leji, Wang Huning, Cai Qi, Ding Xuexiang, Li Xi, Han Zheng and Hu Jintao, among others, had either visited Wang when he was in hospital or expressed condolences over his passing and offered sympathies to his family through various means. — Xinhua

THAILAND

XXXIII SEAGAMES 2025

9th - 20th December 2025

2025

SPORTS

33rd SEA Games ends with dazzling closing ceremony at Rajamangala Stadium

The 90 minute event opened with “The Sound of Whistle”, showcasing performances by local pop stars, dancers, and a marching band, before the traditional parade of athletes brought the festivities to a close.

THE closing ceremony of the 33rd SEA Games took place at Rajamangala National Stadium on 20 December 2025. The event was officially declared closed by Thailand’s Deputy Prime Minister Thamanat Prompow.

The hour-and-a-half ceremony began with a segment titled “The Sound of Whistle”, featuring local pop stars, dancers, and a marching band, followed by the traditional athletes’ parade. Thailand’s Minister of Tourism and Sports, Atthakorn Sirilattthayakorn, delivered a speech praising the collective efforts of all sectors and emphasizing the importance of national unity.

A key highlight was the official handover of the South-East Asia Games flag to Malaysia, the host of the 2027 edition. This transition was marked by a cultural display titled “Rhythm of Harmony”, featuring Malaysian artistes Marsha Milan, Amir Jahari, and Mimifly.



Myanmar athletes are seen at the closing ceremony of XXXIII SEA games.



Mohamad Norza Zakaria (L), president of the Olympic Council of Malaysia waves the tournament flag during the closing ceremony of the 33rd South-East Asia Games (SEA Games) at Rajamangala National Stadium in Bangkok on 20 December 2025. **PHOTO BY LILLIAN SUWANRUMPHA / AFP**

The evening concluded with a vibrant “mini-concert” atmosphere titled “The Sound of Champions”.

The medley featured T-pop stars such as Daou and Kratae, alongside international hits like Queen’s “We Are the Champions” and Justin Timberlake’s “Can’t Stop the Feeling”.

Following the extinguishing of the flame, the Games reached a climax with a spectacular pyrotechnic display that illuminated the Bangkok night sky.

The closing ceremony of the XXXIII SEA Games was also attended by General Secretary of the Myanmar Olympic Committee and Deputy Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs U Htein Lin, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Aung Kyaw Tun, leader of the Myanmar Sports Contingent Director-General of the Sports and Physical Education Department U Nyan Zaw Oo, officials and

Myanmar athletes.

Throughout the competition, which featured 576 events across 50 sports, host nation Thailand dominated the leaderboard, finishing with 233 gold, 154 silver, and 112 bronze medals.

This edition marked the seventh time Thailand has hosted the SEA Games, following previous years in 1959, 1967, 1975, 1985, 1995, and 2007. Notably, Thailand’s 233 gold medals set a new record for the highest number of gold medals ever achieved by a single nation in the history of the competition. — Agencies/ Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

XXXIII SEA Games medallists return to Myanmar

SILVER and bronze medallists, participating athletes, and delegation officials who competed in the XXXIII South-East Asia Games in Bangkok, Thailand, from 9 to 20 December 2025 arrived back at Yangon International Airport via Myanmar Airways International (MAI) yesterday.

The returning group includes silver medallist Wai Yan Moe (beach sprint rowing), bronze medallist Nilar Win (LW1X rowing), and the dragon boat team, which secured four bronze medals.

Also arriving were boxing bronze medallists Mya Moe Thu, Htar Htar Nwe, Su Myat



Winning athletes are seen being welcomed back at the Yangon International Airport.

Noe, Kay Thwe Nyein, and Note Mar. They were welcomed by officials from the Department of Sports and Physical Education and their families. — MNA/ KZL

FIFA Best XI 'a joke' rages Flick over Raphinha snub

BARCELONA coach Hansi Flick raged against Raphinha’s omission from FIFA’s team of the year, labelling the world football governing body’s ‘The Best Men’s XI’ a joke on Saturday.

The Brazilian was essential on the left wing for the the Catalan giants as they won a domestic treble last season.

However the 29-year-old was not chosen as part of the dream line-up, voted for by national team coaches, captains, journalists and fans, behind players including Chelsea’s Cole Palmer and Real Madrid’s Jude Bellingham.

“This FIFA Best XI players is a joke, really a joke,” Flick told a news conference, after the award ceremony earlier this week.

“When I see there is no Raphinha in the side, it’s unbelievable”.

Barcelona were knocked out of the Champions League in the semifinals by Inter Milan, with Raphinha finishing as the competition’s joint-top scorer with 13, and the top assist provider with seven. — AFP

From royal Rajasthan to coastal Goa: Top New Year getaway options in India

New Year's Eve celebrations across India offer a wide spectrum of experiences, ranging from royal festivities in Rajasthan to vibrant beach parties along the coast of Goa. From heritage cities and desert camps to hill stations and bustling metros, the country presents diverse options for travellers looking to welcome the New Year in their own unique way.

With cultural shows, live music, fireworks and public gatherings planned in several destinations, people across the country are preparing for short holidays, family reunions and

The country presents diverse options for travellers looking to welcome the New Year in their own unique way.

celebratory getaways.

Whether it is a grand palace celebration, a beachside countdown or a peaceful retreat amid nature, India is set to usher in the New Year with optimism and festive spirit.



The Jaisalmer Desert Festival is a vibrant, annual cultural event that takes place in the heart of the Thar Desert, Rajasthan. **PHOTO: ANI**

India's New Year celebrations span vibrant carnivals, desert festivals, beach parties, and snowy retreats. Kochi's Cochin Carnival features parades and the burning of 'Pappanji'. Jaisalmer hosts desert camps

and Maru Mahotsav. Puducherry offers lively beach parties, while Delhi dazzles with concerts and fireworks.

Rajasthan's Udaipur and Jaipur showcase palace dinners and folk performances. Mum-

bai and Bengaluru thrive with nightlife, Goa with beach raves, and Kalimpong, Orchha, Dalhousie, and Khajjiar provide serene escapes. Together, India offers diverse, unforgettable New Year experiences. — ANI



The statue was originally unveiled in a Mostar park in 2005 before being repeatedly vandalized. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Bruce Lee statue 'returns' to Bosnia town

The life-size bronze statue was originally unveiled in a park in Mostar in 2005.

A restored statue honouring late martial arts legend Bruce Lee was returned to its rightful place Wednesday in a Bosnian town, more than a year after it was stolen, local media reported.

The life-size bronze statue of the kung-fu cinema icon in a defensive position holding nun chuck kung-fu sticks was originally unveiled in a park in Mostar in 2005. It has been vandalized several times since. Lee was chosen as a hero that all ethnic groups could relate to in a town that remains deeply divided after fierce fighting between Bosnian Croats and Bosnian Muslims during the country's 1990s war. The statue disappeared from the park in March 2024 but was found a few days later cut into several pieces for sale as scrap metal. Police soon found the perpetrator who had ripped the statue from its pedestal and he received a 10-month jail sentence earlier this year. The theft sparked public outrage in the southern town where the statue became an attraction. — AFP

Student formula car design competition helps shape future engineers

A collegiate manufacturing and design competition for small-scale formula-style race cars has helped fuel the growth of Japan's automotive industry by producing future automobile engineers for more than two decades.

The Student Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Japan 2025 was held in September at the Aichi International Exhibition Centre in Tokoname, Aichi Prefecture, with 83 university teams from Japan and overseas competing in

Some 2,500 students took part in the 2025 competition.

the internal combustion vehicle (ICV) and electric vehicle (EV) categories.

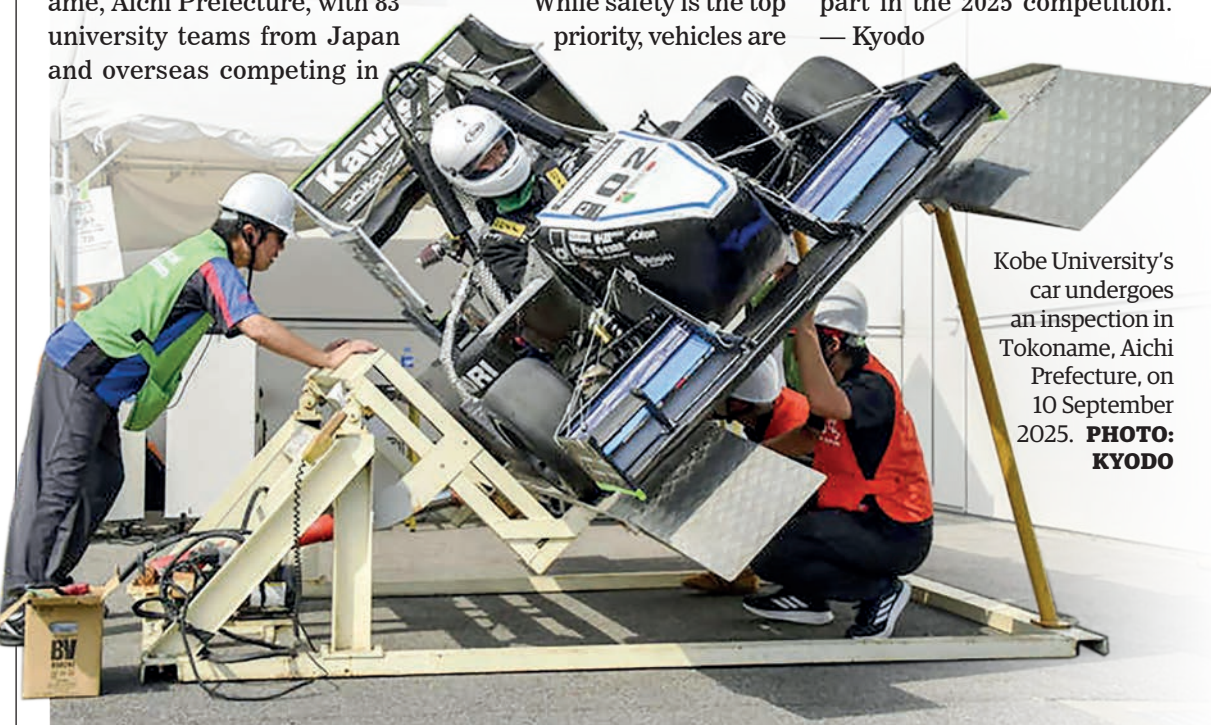
While safety is the top priority, vehicles are

also evaluated on speed, design, and overall performance.

The student formula SAE competition began in the United States more than four decades ago, driven by the idea that "classrooms alone cannot produce competent engineers".

In Japan, the Society of Automotive Engineers of Japan has hosted the annual event since 2003.

Some 2,500 students took part in the 2025 competition. — Kyodo



Kobe University's car undergoes an inspection in Tokoname, Aichi Prefecture, on 10 September 2025. **PHOTO: KYODO**