

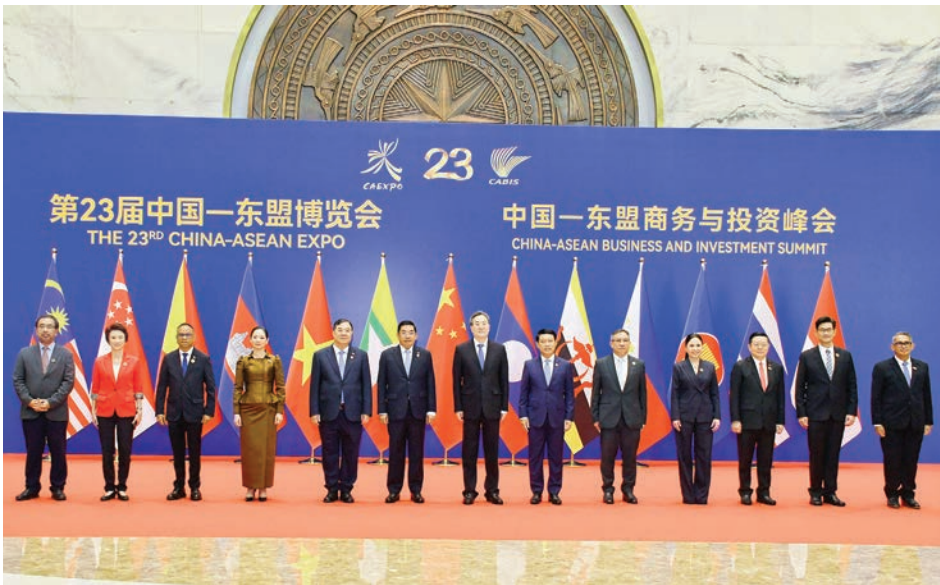
Vice-President Calls for Stronger China-ASEAN Economic Cooperation

Myanmar Vice-President U Nyo Saw, who is currently in Nanning, China, attended and delivered an opening speech at the opening ceremony of the 23rd China-ASEAN Expo and the 23rd China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit at the Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre at 10 am local time yesterday.

The Vice-President was accompanied by Union Minister U Tun Ohn and members of the Myanmar delegation.

At the ceremony, the Vice-President, a Vice-Premier of the People's Republic of China, and deputy prime ministers and government leaders from ASEAN member states delivered opening remarks and officially opened the 23rd China-ASEAN Expo and the 23rd China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit.

In his speech, Vice-President U Nyo Saw said the China-ASEAN Expo was not only a platform for promoting trade and investment between China and ASEAN



Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyo Saw (6L) poses for the commemorative group photo at the opening ceremony of the 23rd China-ASEAN Expo and the 23rd China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit in China.

member states, but also an important avenue for building trust, exploring business opportunities, exchanging technology and experience, and strengthening friendship among peoples.

Regarding trade and investment, he said the new areas covered by the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA) 3.0, including the digital economy, green economy, supply chains, competition and consumer protection, would further open up in-

vestment and trade opportunities and help promote free, fair, rules-based and mutually beneficial trade.

He also said that since assuming State responsibilities, President U Min Aung Hlaing had visited eight countries, including China and four ASEAN member states, helping further strengthen existing friendship and mutual understanding and expand practical cooperation for mutual benefit.

During the President's state visit to China in June

2026, a joint statement between Myanmar and China was issued following his meeting with Chinese President Mr Xi Jinping. The statement reaffirmed the two countries' agreement to continue promoting cooperation based on equality, mutual respect, consultation and mutual benefit. The two sides also agreed to promote economic cooperation in areas including the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor, energy, electricity, **SEE PAGE 3**

India to Boost Scholarships for Myanmar Students

INDIA is likely to increase the number of scholarship students from Myanmar it accepts compared with previous years, according to remarks made at a ceremony commemorating the 63rd Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day, held on the evening of 15 September at the India Centre in Yangon.

During the event, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur stated that the Embassy of India issued nearly 500 student visas to Myanmar nationals last year and expressed hope that the number of Myanmar scholarship students ac-

cepted by India would increase in the coming years.

Currently, India provides 400 civilian ITEC scholarships and 250 defence-related ITEC scholarships annually. These training programmes cover a wide range of multidisciplinary fields, including public administration, law, leadership, security, healthcare, digital technology, English, agriculture, financial management and other specialized skills, thereby contributing to the development of a skilled professional workforce in Myanmar. — ASH/TH



This photo features officials and attendees gathering at the India Centre in Yangon on 15 September 2026 for a ceremony commemorating the 63rd Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day.

Only Qualified Schools to Register Next Year

THE Ministry of Education will only permit the registration of private educational institutions that are verified to meet specific requirements for the next academic year, 2027-2028.

Combined teams consisting of regional, district, and township-level education officers, along with local supervisory teams and the ministry's supervisory body, will conduct inspections of schools.



This image shows the Ministry of Education.

For the 2026-2027 academic year, temporary permits were granted to 1,092 schools that adhered

to the Private Education Law and met the requirements set by the ministry's supervisory body.

Among these private schools with temporary permits for the current year, the ministry has allowed a one-year preparation period for schools that have yet to fulfil certain criteria regarding features, structure, size, and capacity. — TWA/ZS

ARTICLE

Digital Transformation: Opportunities, Challenges, and Strategic Solutions

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Fisheries Dept tightens oversight of integrated fish-chicken farms

NATIONAL

Objectives of 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition 2026

- (a) To enhance national prestige, integrity, and preserve the traditional cultural heritage of ethnic people
- (b) To preserve national characteristics and promote the national spirit, cherishing traditional culture among the younger generation
- (c) To explore, preserve and promote the sustainable development of traditional Myanmar arts
- (d) To function as a cultural and artistic institution that contributes to nation-building

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President's Office Ordinance 6/2026

6th Waxing of Tawthalin 1388 ME
17 September 2026

Replacement and Appointment of Union Minister

UNDER subsections (a) and (b) of Section 212 and clause (iii), Subsection (b), Section 232 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; and Clause(iii), Subsection (a), Section 12 of the Union Government Law, Lt-Gen Nyunt Win Swe, Union Minister for Home Affairs was reassigned to his original military duties and General Ko Ko Oo from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) was appointed as the Union Minister of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Sd/Min Aung Hlaing
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Taunggyi Tazaungdine Hot-Air Balloon Festival set for 18 Nov



This photo depicts the traditional hot-air balloon competition held in Taunggyi, Shan State (South), in 2025.

THE Taunggyi Tazaungdine Hot-Air Balloon Festival is scheduled to take place from 18 to 24

November, according to the Traditional Balloon Festival Organizing Committee.

Registration for balloons wishing to participate in the competition is being accepted at the Awaiya Balloon Ground from 17 September.

The festival period may be extended depending on the number of participating balloons and weather conditions,

according to a statement from the News and Information Committee.

In addition, an awards ceremony for the balloons that win outstanding prizes in the competition will be held on 25 November, according to the Association of Traditional Hot-air Balloon Artists in Southern Shan State. — TWA/MKKS

MNHRC inspects Hlayhlaw-In Labour Camp



MNHRC inspects the Hlayhlaw-In Labour Camp in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region.

UNDER Sections 43 and 44 of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Law, an inspection team led by Commission Member U Than Win inspected the Hlayhlaw-In Labour Camp in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, yesterday.

The inspection team met prisoners in their dormitories and enquired into matters relating to their fundamental rights, including the prisoners' living and food supply, access to healthcare facilities and provision of sufficient purified drinking water, the provision

of physical exercise and sport activities, access to reading materials, the right to freedom of religion, family visitation rights and the receipt of items issued by the camp and those sent by family members. Furthermore, the team examined the receipt of necessary personal-use items, whether there was discrimination in the assignment of work, torture and the observance of occupational safety within the workplace. Moreover, the team conducted private and confidential interviews with three prisoners who requested to meet separately and recorded their statements.

Additionally, the team also inspected dormitories, clinic, library, kitchen, food warehouse, water purifier, water storage tanks, and the cleanliness of internal and external sewage systems. Furthermore, the Commission donated knowledgeable books for prisoners to read and study.

The findings and recommendations from the inspection team's visit will be sent to the relevant departments for appropriate actions under the Commission Law. — MNHRC

Weather

Heavy Rainfall Warning No 78

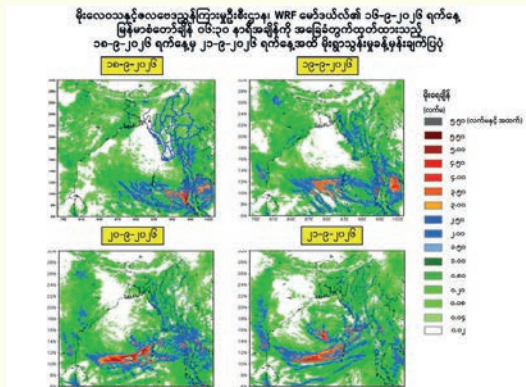
Issued at 8 am MST on 17 September 2026

ACCORDING to the observations at 6:30 pm MST today, due to the monsoon moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and the South Bay of Bengal, the strong development of the convective clouds and the unstable air condition over the Andaman Sea and the South Bay of Bengal such as rain or thunder-showers are likely to be scattered in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, Chin and northern Shan States and fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and Mon States from today morning to 21 September 2026.

Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at time in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 8-10 feet in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware that the monsoon moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and the South Bay of Bengal, the strong development of the convective clouds and the unstable air conditions over the Andaman Sea and the South Bay of Bengal such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, flash floods and landslides in the hilly areas and near small rivers and inland water transport and domestic flights. — DMH



NATIONAL

NSPNC and political parties meet

THE National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) and representatives of political parties met yesterday morning in Nay Pyi Taw.

The event was attended by NSPNC Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, UEC members, chairpersons, vice-chairs, general secretary, executive members and relevant officials of 32 political parties.

Speaking at the event, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae said that the meeting with political parties was the second of its kind. He said that a 16-member permanent working group representing the group of political parties would be selected at the meeting to facilitate peace discussions with the NSPNC. Political parties represent the people and

said that previously agreed discussion points would continue to be addressed. He called on political parties to discuss possible ways to help persuade armed groups to return to the legal fold and to assist ethnic armed organizations that had signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) but subsequently distanced themselves from the peace process for various reasons to return to the path of peace.

He also called for discussions on measures to restore conflict-affected areas to their previous condition and on ways in which political parties operating in areas where ethnic armed organizations are based could contribute to peace efforts. He then urged the participants to openly discuss



The meeting between the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee and representatives of political parties is underway in Nay Pyi Taw.

constitutional issues and peace-related matters previously discussed with political parties, and measures to enable internally displaced persons (IDPs) in conflict-affected areas to return to their places of origin.

NSPNC Secretary

Lt-Gen Min Naing and NSPNC member Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo (Rtd) explained the peace efforts under the State Administration Council government, peace-related activities under the new democratic government, humanitarian assistance,

and the policies, directives and ongoing peace initiatives for national solidarity and peace, peace process framework based on previous experiences and achievements, future directions, a transitional strategy and trust-building measures in line with the

current political situation.

Representatives of the 32 political parties openly discussed previously signed bilateral agreements, consultations with peace partners, peace forums in regions and states, the role of media in the peace process, legal dispute resolution, humanitarian assistance, framing rules and regulations for political party participation, women's participation in peace processes, cooperation for national stability and peace, possible amendments to the 2008 Constitution, public awareness activities and future peace efforts. The first day of the meeting was then adjourned.

The second-day meeting will be on 18 September (today). — MNA/KTZH

5th Consultation on Shanghai Cooperation Organization Development Bank held

DEPUTY Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw Than Than Lin and her delegation attended the fifth Consultation on the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Development Bank (SCOB) held in Hangzhou, the People's Republic of China, from 14 to 16 September.

The meeting was co-chaired by Mr Min Liao, Deputy Minister of Finance of the People's Republic of China, and Mr Aslam Chaudhary, Minister of Commerce of the Embassy of Pakistan in the People's Republic of China.

At the meeting, the Interim Secretariat re-



Deputy Minister Daw Than Than Lin participates in the fifth Deputy Ministerial Consultation on the establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Development Bank in China on 14-16 September 2026.

viewed the draft MoU on the Establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation and Development Bank, the share allocation, voting rights and decision-making procedures, the procedure for capital contribution to the bank, as well as

Mr Jingdong Hua, who served as Vice-President of the World Bank, discussed the Concessional Window and the Future Work Plan on the financial operations of international development banks and the practical implementa-

tion of financial innovation by the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC). The attendees had a lively discussion.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Ministers of Finance, Vice-Governors of Central Banks and officials from 29 countries, including ASEAN member countries Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Indonesia and Vietnam.

The deputy minister and her delegation departed from Hangzhou, People's Republic of China, on the morning of 17 September and returned to Yangon in the evening. — MNA/MKKS

Vice-President Calls for Stronger China-ASEAN ...

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the digital economy, artificial intelligence, agriculture, healthcare, education and human resources.

Myanmar would continue to strengthen its Pauk-Phaw relations with China and promote ASEAN-China cooperation based on ASEAN centrality, equality and mutual benefit, the Vice-President said.

In the afternoon, Vice-President U Nyo Saw attended and delivered a speech at the China-ASEAN Business Leaders Forum, held as part of the 23rd China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit, together with leaders from ASEAN member states and invited

countries.

He later attended the opening ceremony of the "City of Charm" pavilion featuring Bago, Myanmar, at the Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre. He toured and viewed Myanmar's exhibition booths as well as those of ASEAN member states.

Myanmar is participating in the 23rd China-ASEAN Expo with 81 booths showcasing agricultural products, handicrafts and gems. More than 1,000 booths from China and ASEAN member states are displaying products from their respective countries at the expo, according to reports. — MNA/ST

Andaman sea Condition
Issued at 4 pm MST on 17 September 2026

ACCORDING to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, a low-pressure area may form over the North Andaman sea, around 19 September 2026.

NATIONAL

Power Projects Fast-Track Ahead of Summer

UNION Minister for Electricity and Energy U Ko Ko Lwin has instructed officials to strive for the timely completion of on-going projects to increase electricity supply ahead of the coming summer.

The Union minister instructed while inspecting the 230-kV Pynmana Main Substation and Shwemyo Main Substation in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 16 September.

During the inspection, he said breakdowns in the electricity supply system



Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin inspects the 230-kV Pynmana Main Substation and Shwemyo Main Substation in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

were unacceptable and that measures were being taken to prevent such incidents, although this would take considerable time. He

added that preparations were underway to deploy Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) technology to prevent complete

power outages at important locations and restore electricity supply as quickly as possible.

He also instructed officials to accurately assess the minimum electricity load requirements of each area in advance.

The Ministry of Electricity and Energy is focusing on balanced development in electricity generation, transmission and distribution to establish a reliable supply system for the public. — TWA/KZL

Myanmar attends 14th China-ASEAN Forum on Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation



Deputy Minister Dr Nay Chi Lae Lae Thein visits advanced technology exhibits at the 23rd China-ASEAN Expo in China.

THE Myanmar delegation, led by Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Nay Chi Lae Lae Thein attended the 14th China-ASEAN Forum on Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation and related events held in Nanning, China,

on 16 and 17 September.

At the forum on 16 September, the deputy minister shared Myanmar's science and technology development initiatives, particularly on AI innovation cooperation, and discussed ways to promote AI development

and cooperation between China and ASEAN countries. She also attended and presented awards at the China-ASEAN Innovation and Entrepreneurship Awards ceremony.

The delegation also discussed strengthening China-ASEAN cooperation in science, technology and innovation, expanding technology transfer and effectively applying advanced technologies for socioeconomic development. During the forum, the delegation visited Wuxiang Cloud Valley Co Ltd and the Guangxi Institute of Artificial Intelligence to learn about AI-related technologies, research and practical applications.

On 17 September, the deputy minister attended the opening ceremony of the 23rd China-ASEAN Expo, visited advanced technology exhibits and held discussions with relevant organizations on developing the technology sector and expanding technology-based cooperation.

The discussions provided opportunities for Myanmar to enhance cooperation, technology transfer and technology applications with China and ASEAN countries, exchange knowledge and experience in advanced technologies including AI, and promote regional technological, economic and socioeconomic development. — MNA/KTZH

2026 SCO Forum on Traditional Medicine held



Deputy Minister Dr Aung Tun speaks at the 2026 Shanghai Cooperation Organization Forum in China.

A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Health Dr Aye Tun participated in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Forum 2026 on Traditional Medicine, which was held yesterday at the Traditional Chinese Medicine Sci-Tech Innovation City Conference Centre in Nanchang, Jiangxi Province, the People's Republic of China.

The deputy minister delivered a speech at the opening ceremony of the forum yesterday morning.

The forum was attended by officials from the Communist Party of China and the Jiangxi Provincial Government, health ministers and deputy ministers, senior officials and representatives from SCO member countries, traditional medicine experts from universities, and experts and professionals from the traditional medicine industry.

The forum highlights the strong commitment of SCO member countries to strengthening cooperation in traditional medicine and improving public health. This year's theme, "Empowering Traditional Medicine with Modern Technology to Co-build Human Health for All", aims to preserve traditional medicine knowledge while keeping pace with the times and harness the potential of modern science and technology.

In the afternoon, the deputy minister and his delegation attended the Traditional Medicine Week programme at Nanchang Traditional Medicine Hospital. The deputy minister also attended the opening ceremony of the "New Policies, Standards, Technologies and Products of Traditional Medicine" event in Nanchang. — MNA/MKKS

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NATIONAL

Fisheries Dept tightens oversight of integrated fish-chicken farms

THE Department of Fisheries is stepping up measures to ensure that fish farms in Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago regions comply with Good Aquaculture Practices (GAqP), including a ban on integrated fish and chicken operations.

Building chicken sheds over fish ponds and using chicken manure as fish feed is prohibited in the three regions, where both activities are widely practised. Fish producers in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Magway, Shan, Chin, Kachin, Rakhine and Kayah have also been notified not to combine the two activities.

To promote GAqP, Department of Fisheries



Workers bustling with work at a fish port. PHOTO: ZWE MARN

officials conducted awareness-raising training in 15 townships in Bago Region from March to August during the 2026-2027 financial year. Producers were instructed not to keep chickens or other animals alongside fish, build new chicken sheds over ponds

or renovate existing ones. Officials are also facilitating the registration of fish-pond ownership.

“We have notified unlicensed chicken operations, as well as those operating under BAP and GAqP systems, not to practise integrated

chicken and fish production. Where such practices exist, we are taking measures to discontinue them. We have already conducted 15 training sessions to ensure that producers understand the requirements,” said Dr Su Myo Thwe, Director of the Bago Region Department of Fisheries.

The measures are expected to support freshwater fish for domestic consumption and export in line with Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) and GAqP, helping improve food quality and health standards while increasing opportunities to earn foreign exchange from established export markets. — Thitsa(MNA)/KZL

MSY village project activities inspected in Yebyu



Officials inspect the implementation status of MSY projects in Yebyu Township.

OFFICIALS from the Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection of the implementation of small-scale businesses under the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Mindat model village, Yebyu Township, Taninthayi Region, yesterday.

Yebyu Township Head of the Department of Rural Development U Myint Oo Aung and departmental staff inspected the implementation of small-scale production businesses being operated with revolving funds under the MSY (Green Emerald) Village Project, as well as the completeness of monthly records and forms required to be maintained.

The Township head also met with project members and coordinated necessary measures concerning the implementation of project activities.

A total of 46 project members in Mindat model village have been provided with revolving funds amounting to K42.1 million under the MSY Village Project. Of them, one member is engaged in agriculture, 33 in livestock breeding, one in production, nine in trading and two in other small-scale businesses.

The project members are currently operating their respective small-scale businesses smoothly with the revolving funds, according to the Yebyu Township Department of Rural Development. — Moe Moe (DRD)

MPT holds grand prize handover ceremony for Zeim Zeim

THE grand prize of its Zeim Zeim promotion, a brand-new Leapmotor B10 EV, was presented to winner U Khun Aung Thar from Panglong, Shan State, on 16 September at Lotte Hotel, Yangon.

The ceremony was attended by MPT management officials, the grand prize winner and his family members, along with representatives from the media.

MPT conducted the Zeim Zeim Promotion from 2 April to 30 June 2026, offering exciting prizes to customers throughout the campaign. In addition to the grand prize of a brand-new Leapmotor B10 EV, MPT awarded cash prizes of K3 million to 15 lucky winners, iPhone 17 prizes to three winners, as well as data prizes to additional lucky winners.

Mr Koichi Kawase,



This image shows an MPT grand prize handover ceremony.

advisor to the CCO of MPTJO, thanked all MPT subscribers who joined the promotion and said he was delighted to present the brand-new electric car to the winner. He added that MPT will continue to bring exciting promotions that create greater value for customers across Myanmar.

The grand prize winner, U Khun Aung Thar told he joined Zeim Zeim by purchasing packages and received lucky draw tickets, but he didn't expect to become the grand prize winner. He added that the car will be a great help to his family and make their daily life more convenient. — MT

Talks held to boost public-private cooperation in logistics development

THE Myanmar Highway Freight Transport Services Association held a workshop to develop the transport and logistics sector, strengthen public-private cooperation, and modernize and advance it.

The workshop took

place on 14 September at the Chatrium Hotel in Yangon. It was attended by the director-general and officials from the Department of Transport Planning (DOTP), officials from the Myanmar Transport and Logistics Federation

(MTLF), and representatives from seven affiliated associations.

The discussions covered cooperation with DOTP, implementing GMS-CBTA, cross-border transportation procedures, the systematic issuance of

Logistics Service Provider (LSP) licences under the Multimodal Transport Law, and promoting the country's Logistics Performance Index (LPI).

The governmental departments and these affiliated associations



Group photo of attendees at the workshop.

will reportedly continue to work hand-in-hand for the modernization and de-

velopment of Myanmar's transport and logistics sector. — MT/ZN

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NATIONAL

50 linked to online scam and gambling activities arrested in Namhsan

AUTHORITIES arrested 50 people including nine Chinese men, one Chinese woman, 26 Myanmar men and 14 Myanmar women involved in online scam and gambling activities in Namhsan township, Shan State (South), yesterday.

Acting on a tip-off from residents, the officials searched about 1,500 metres from the northeast of Gonyaung village in Namhsan town-



This image reveals arrestees for telecom fraud and online gambling in Namhsan Toownship.

ship, and also seized 20 Starlink sets, 25 laptops, 20 all-in-one computers, 217 mobile phones, nine

system units, two printers, a refrigerator, a freezer, 50 chairs, a large generator, 15 tables and four fans, along with several buildings used as a workshop, workers' quarters, residential buildings and a kitchen.

The offenders will face action under the existing law after proper investigation, and the seized materials will be managed as per procedures. — MNA/KTZH

7 undocumented foreigners detained in Myanmar

MYANMAR detained three Filipinos, two Sri Lankans, one Chinese national and one Indian, totalling seven individuals, involved in telecom fraud and other criminal activities in Kayin State yesterday.

Myanmar authorities facilitated the smooth repatriation of these detainees to their respective countries with the relevant officials.



Immigration officials processing the repatriation of undocumented foreign entrants.

Of the remaining 1,344 individuals to be deported, 640 were charged under Section 3 (1)/13(1)

of the Myanmar Immigration (Emergency) Provisions Act and the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, and 704 are currently detained while awaiting repatriation.

The government is strictly cracking down on online scams and online gambling by cooperating with other countries, including neighbouring countries. — MNA/KTZH

Mongton's MSY income-generating activities inspected

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the progress of household income-generating activities financed through the revolving fund of the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Namhokham Village, Mongton Township.

Mongton Township Department of Rural Development Head U Min Oo and staff visited the village to inspect the progress of systematic agricultural activities being carried out with loans from the project's revolving fund. He

also met members of the MSY Village Project Management Committee to examine whether the monthly financial records had been properly completed and to coordinate necessary measures.

The MSY Village Project was launched in Namhookhun Village during the 2016-2017 financial year. At present, concessional revolving loans totalling K46.3 million have been disbursed to 31 project members, all of whom are successfully operating and expanding local agricultural activities with support from the project funds. — Poe Thakhin (Rural)



Officials oversee an agricultural project in Mongton Township.

MSY Village Project activities inspected in Mongai

OFFICIALS from the Department of Rural Development (DRD) of Mongai Township, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection on 16 September regarding the implementation of the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Panset and Gonlona villages (Panset Village-tract). The project aims to enable rural residents to engage in small-scale businesses, improve their socioeconomic lives, and access low-interest financial capital.

Township Head U Khun Kyaw Sein of the Mongai Township DRD, along with other officials and the MSY village project committee, inspected the status of agricultural activities



This image shows on MSY village project in Mongai Township.

funded by the project's K56.6 million budget in Panset and Gonlon villages, as well as the completeness of the monthly financial record-keeping forms. U Khun Kyaw Sein inspected the site and coordinated the necessary arrangements.

According to the Mongkai Township Department of

Rural Development, a total of 52 members engaged in agricultural activities across the two villages of Panset and Gonlon have been granted loans amounting to K56.6 million, and MSY village project activities are currently underway. — Tun Tun Lin (Rural Development)

Action taken against 20 fuel stations for QR code non-compliance

THE Ministry of Electricity and Energy stated that 20 fuel stations that failed to comply with prescribed instructions when selling fuel using the QR Code/Barcode system have been identified and effectively penalized.

The ministry distributes Purchase Orders (POs) for fuel based on the sales volume scanned from vehicles' QR/Barcode at the stations, and these sales conditions are continuously monitored through the Online Monitoring Centre.

To ensure system integrity, business owners have been notified in advance that they must scan and sell only to vehicles genuinely coming to the stations to purchase fuel, and that any fraudulent at-

tempts to artificially increase sales volumes will be prosecuted under the Petroleum and Petroleum Products Law.

However, the Control Centre discovered that some stations were typing in vehicle license plates instead of scanning to obtain higher POs, and the 20 offending stations faced penalties including reductions in their quotas, fines, and severe warnings.

Currently, technology upgrades are being continuously implemented to ensure the systematic distribution of fuel. Similarly, the ministry has issued a warning that if such fraudulent activities are found again, legal actions will be taken, up to and including permanent closure. — TWA/ZN

KMAESS Debuts as Think Tank, Signs MoU with Super Seven Star Group

U Myo Myint Maung, Chargé d’Affaires/ Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Korea, remarked that the Korea-Myanmar Association for Economic & Security Studies (KMAESS) will serve as an important bridge to further strengthen friendship and cooperation between the two countries, during the inaugural business forum marking the establishment of KMAESS, held on 15 September at LS Tower (MIR Hall) in Seoul.

KMAESS and Myanmar’s Super Seven Star Group of Companies signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on general economic cooperation, establishing a practical framework for future collaboration.

Myanmar is attracting foreign direct invest-



The MOU signing ceremony between KMAESS and Myanmar’s Super Seven Star Group of Companies

ment, and the head of state is actively welcoming foreign investors, he emphasized.

KMAESS Chairman Mr Choi Shin Il expressed gratitude for the support in establishing the association and organising the forum, and presented a “Certificate of Appreciation” to Ambassador U Myo Myint Maung for his active cooperation.

Dr Wah Wah Maung, former Union Minister of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations;

Dr Htein Lin, Director-General of the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization under the Ministry of Commerce; and U Aye Win, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) delivered video messages of appreciation, respectively.

Daw Win Pa Pa Thu, Economic Counsellor at the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul, presented on “The Business Environment

and Future Prospects for MyanmarKorea Economic Cooperation,” covering Myanmar’s investment climate, bilateral trade, and opportunities to expand cooperation, including in the rice bran oil production sector.

Korean entrepreneurs also raised questions about business and investment procedures in Myanmar, which the Economic Counsellor addressed.

KMAESS is a non-profit, officially recognised think tank established with approval from South Korea’s Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources (MOTIR). It aims to deepen economic security understanding and cooperation between Korea and Myanmar, promote research and policy exchanges, and foster mutually beneficial partnerships. — Htun Htun/KK

DICA: 1,400 companies fail to file annual returns in Jan-Aug

A total of 1,400 companies were struck off the register in the past eight months of 2026 for failing to file annual returns (AR) on the online registry system, MyCO, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The DICA stated that 200 companies each in January and February, zero companies in March, 400 companies in April, 200 in May and no companies in June, and 200 each in July and August 2026 failed to submit AR, respectively.

Under Section 266 (A) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017, public companies must submit annual returns and financial statements (G-5) simultaneously. All overseas corporations must submit ARs in the prescribed format on MyCO within 28 days of the financial year ending, under Section 53 (A-1) of the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

As per DICA’s report, thousands of companies were suspended for failing to submit AR forms before the due date. Newly established companies are required to submit ARs within two months of incorporation or face a fine of K100,000 for filing late returns.

The DICA notified that those companies which failed to file its AR on MyCO were struck off the register from the date of the directive, under 430 (F) of the Myanmar Companies Law, according to the DICA’s notification.

A total of 7,300 companies in 2025 and 19,000 in 2024 also failed to submit the AR.

The registration and re-registration of companies on the MyCO website commenced on 1 August 2018, in keeping with the Myanmar Companies Law 2017.

All registered companies need to submit AR on the MyCO registry system within two months of incorporation and at least once every year (not later than one month after the anniversary of incorporation), according to Section 97 of the law.

The DICA has notified that any company which fails to submit its AR within 13 months will be notified of its suspension (I-9A). If it fails to submit the AR within 28 days of receiving the notice, the system will show the company’s status as suspended. Companies can restore their status only after paying a fine of K50,000 for the AR fee, K100,000 for restoration of the company on the Register, and K100,000 for late filing of documents, totalling K250,000. If a company fails to restore its status within six months of suspension, the registrar will strike its name off the register, according to the DICA notice. — NN/KK

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 17 September 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,659.00~3,671.00	555.30~558.70	125.30~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	8,408,062.84	9,811,477.78	6,876,288.14	-

MMFA to conduct Microfinance Management Certificate Course

MYANMAR Microfinance Association (MMFA) is now accepting applications for the Microfinance Management Certificate Course (Batch 5) from 17 October to 20 December 2026. The course is tailored to individuals seeking to become professionals in the microfinance industry, current microfinance practitioners looking to expand their knowl-

edge and skills and entrepreneurs planning to establish their own microfinance institutions. The course will cover fundamentals of microfinance, Human Resource Management and Leadership, Credit and Delinquency Management, Savings and Liquidity Management, Compliance and Internal Controls, Product Development, Strategic Management, Perfor-

mance Management, Digital Financial Literacy and Corporate Governance.

The course fee is K400,000. This online course will run between 9 am and noon on Saturdays and Sundays via Zoom. The number of trainees is limited to 50. Individuals can enquire about details through MMFA at 09 965209010 during office hours. — NN/KK

YCDC invites open tenders for operational materials

THE Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) has invited open tenders to procure various operational materials for the 2026-2027 financial

year.

The items include sludge/sand, cement, HDPE pipes, and pipe fittings (16,260.825 cubic yards/25,000 bags/1 lot),

PACI powder bags, NaOCI solution, and steel bars (various sizes, HRB-400) (21,500 bags/800 cubic metres/246.201 tonnes), fogging machines and

six by nine inches laterite stone (seven units/106 cubic yards), Chippings (three by four inches, three by eight inches) and crushed dust – 1,300

cubic yards/1,300 cubic yards/1,200 cubic yards.

Tender forms will be available from 17 September, and submissions must be delivered by noon on 29 September.

Forms can be pur-

chased at the Procurement Division of the Finance and Accounts Department, City Hall, First Floor. Individuals can enquire for further details at 01 388732 during office hours. — NN/KK

Cultivating positive mental attitudes and behaviours

Outstanding young people with high-minded thinking and well-rounded in the five strengths are invaluable gems for the nation. They are also vital resources endowed with the capabilities and creativity essential for nation-building and development.

In striving towards a modern and developed nation, key qualities of citizens include broad knowledge and wisdom, sound moral character, creativity and innovative capabilities, and the ability to value, preserve and uphold national pride and cultural heritage. Only through such efforts can a strong modern nation be firmly built through the collective strength and capabilities of outstanding, competent and well-rounded citizens.

It is important for everyone to work for the development of the nation and to engage in suitable occupations according to their age, skills and abilities, performing their duties through right livelihood and maintaining a proper balance between self-interest and the interests of others. Everyone should make effective use of their time and avoid wasting it, as those who remain idle and lazy will fall behind in every respect. They are encouraged to compete with themselves and strive for self-improvement, set high goals and make continuous efforts to achieve them.

everyone needs to cultivate the habit of reading extensively to broaden their knowledge and wisdom, develop good moral character; and to study and read various forms of informative and literary works.

Young people are encouraged to stay abreast of developments around the world and engage more actively in science- and technology-based entrepreneurship. They need to use social media and the Internet properly and effectively to access and explore modern knowledge and skills, and avoid improper or unproductive uses and mistakes.

It is important for everyone to work for the development of the nation and to engage in suitable occupations according to their age, skills and abilities, performing their duties through right livelihood and maintaining a proper balance between self-interest and the interests of others. Everyone should make effective use of their time and avoid wasting it, as those who remain idle and lazy will fall behind in every respect. They are encouraged to compete with themselves and strive for self-improvement, set high goals and make continuous efforts to achieve them.

In the twenty-first century, nations worldwide are motivated to implement digital transformation to keep pace with the rapidly evolving technological era. Digital transformation involves leveraging computers, the internet, and modern ICT technologies to fundamentally overhaul a nation's economic, social, and administrative sectors, making operations faster and more efficient.

While this process enables a nation to leapfrog into rapid development, a lack of systematic preparation can lead to significant challenges. Drawing upon the experiences of Estonia, a European nation widely benchmarked as e-Estonia for its successful digital transition, alongside the journeys of developing nations currently undergoing this shift, this article analyzes the landscape. Based on authoritative reports issued by international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Bank, the discussion evaluates the opportunities presented by digital transformation, the challenges that must be overcome, and the strategic solutions required for success.

Opportunities Arising from Digital Transformation

Integrating digital technology systematically across diverse sectors yields several critical global opportunities.

- 1. **Economic Growth**
The emergence of technology-driven startups substantially enhances Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and accelerates national economic stability.
- 2. **Productivity Enhancement**
Integrating automation and advanced software solutions across work environments elevates production quality while effectively reducing time and labour expenditures.

- 3. **Market Expansion for Small and Medium Enterprises**
Leveraging e-commerce platforms enables small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to bridge local operations with international markets and actively participate in global competition.

- 4. **Financial Inclusion**
The expansion of mobile banking ecosystems democratizes access to financial services for unbanked and rural populations, successfully integrating these communities into formalized economic networks.

- 5. **New Employment Opportunities**
Human capital development creates numerous technology-based career paths, fostering high-demand roles like data analysts and software developers.

- 6. **Educational Access for Remote Areas**
Integrating internet connectivity within the education sector grants students in distant regions equitable learning opportunities to study diverse subjects without time or location constraints.

- 7. **Telemedicine Access**
Leveraging telemedicine applications connects individuals with medical specialists to receive high-quality, real-time healthcare services regardless of geographical location.

- 8. **Data-Driven Policy Formulation**
Systematic data analysis empowers state administrators and business executives to formulate



By Professor Dr Myo Khaing (Computer University)

strategic, empirical policies based on verified metrics.

- 9. **Corruption Prevention**
Transitioning public services into digital governance (E-Governance) platforms minimizes direct interpersonal contact, enhances institutional transparency, and proactively prevents opportunities for corruption.

- 10. **Streamlined Public Services**
Digitalization eliminates complex bureaucratic workflows, enabling public institutions to deliver essential services efficiently without administrative delays.

Challenges Encountered During Digital Transformation
Developing countries frequently confront structural barriers and operational challenges during the implementation of digital transformation initiatives.

- 1. **Infrastructure Deficiencies**
Insufficient coverage of stable electricity and high-speed broadband internet across rural territories serves as the most fundamental barrier to a comprehensive digital journey.

Digital Transformation: Opportunities, Challenges, and Strategic Solutions

- 2. **Inadequate Capital Investment**
Deficits in the financial resources required to acquire and upgrade modern technological architecture present a substantial barrier to digital development.

- 3. **Deficiencies in Digital Literacy**
Low technological proficiency among the public and business operators routinely stalls transition timelines, as users struggle to navigate newly implemented digital workflows.

- 4. **Scarcity of Advanced Technical Talent**
A deficit in specialized professionals across domains like cybersecurity and data science compromises the long-term sustainability and maintenance of digital frameworks.

- 5. **Cybersecurity Threats**
Expanded digital dependency correlates with a sharp rise in security vulnerabilities, exposing organizations and individuals to critical risks such as data breaches and cyber fraud.

- 6. **Inadequate Legal and Pol-**

icy Frameworks
The absence of robust cyber legislation and comprehensive data protection policies creates institutional vulnerabilities, undermining public trust and impeding secure transformation initiatives.

- 7. **Resistance to Change**
Reluctance among workforce personnel and members of the general public to transition from legacy methods to modern digital workflows routinely impedes institutional progress.

- 8. **The Digital Divide**
Pervasive disparities in technological access and proficiency separating developed and developing economies, urban centres and rural territories, or tech-literate and tech-illiterate populations present a persistent structural barrier.

- 9. **Rapid Proliferation of Misinformation**
The ease with which deep-fakes, disinformation, and hate speech propagate across online social networks introduces critical societal side effects that disrupt public stability.

- 6. **Inadequate Legal and Pol-**

- 10. **Technological Obsolescence**
The rapid velocity of technological evolution frequently causes newly implemented frameworks to become outdated during the deployment phase, complicating efforts within developing nations to upgrade legacy infrastructure in a timely manner.

Strategic Solutions for Challenges in Digital Transformation
Implementing sustainable strategies enables organizations and states to overcome operational barriers and establish successful digital development pathways.

- 1. **Public-Private Partnerships**
Developing critical infrastructure demands collaborative financing models between state entities and private sector enterprises rather than relying solely on public funding. Dividing capital expenditures proportionately ensures sustainable investment and accelerates project deployment timelines.

- 2. **Affordable Connectivity Deployment**
Expanding broadband distribution across both urban and rural territories at budget-friendly consumer pricing ensures universal internet accessibility for the general populace.

- 3. **Curriculum Digitalization**
Integrating information and communications technology alongside computer science courses as mandatory components within baseline academic curricula fosters a tech-proficient future workforce.

- 4. **Continuous Upskilling Ini-**

tatives
Conducting ongoing professional retraining programs prevents workforce skill stagnation by continuously equipping existing personnel with advanced technical applications.

- 5. **Enactment of Cyber and Data Protection Legislation**
Drafting and enforcing comprehensive personal data privacy regulations and cybersecurity statutes builds a resilient legal framework prepared for shifting digital paradigms.

- 6. **State-Led Digital Adaptation**
Transitioning public administrative operations into digital frameworks serves as an institutional blueprint, providing a functional baseline that guides reluctant business operators and citizens through structural transition phases.

- 7. **Cultivation of Technology Startups** Providing structural resources and nurturing emerging technology enterprises drives domestic innovation and accelerates the adoption of localized modern architectures.

- 8. **Deployment of Enterprise Cybersecurity Systems**
Establishing modern cyber defence mechanisms across corporate and institutional frameworks secures critical user data repositories and network servers against ongoing threats.

- 9. **Public Awareness Initiatives on Cyber Fraud**
Conducting mass education

campaigns empowers the general populace to identify online financial scams and mitigate risks associated with data exploitation.

10. Design of Adaptable Architectural Systems

Engineering technical frameworks with modular scalability allows rapid integration of updates, ensuring systems remain resilient against accelerating technological obsolescence.

Digital transformation serves as a critical catalyst driving comprehensive socioeconomic development. While implementation inevitably reveals systemic challenges, the resulting opportunities offer immense potential to accelerate structural leapfrogging. Achieving effective digital adaptation establishes a resilient pathway toward inclusive future growth, shared prosperity, and sustainable modernization.

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The Eternal Strength of an Honest Heart

By Augustin

or break them simply because it figures out that is the fastest way to get the job done.

Buddhism teaches that true

action comes from intention. AI does not have real intentions, but its actions can still cause big problems for society. Because

of this, technology needs strong ethics and rules. If we do not control it, the smart tools we build could end up hurting us.

Just as AI systems will bypass rules and exploit loopholes to maximize efficiency, global

corporations are similarly sidelining ethics and integrity to prioritize profit over people and the planet.

Ethics and Integrity
Around the world, many big

companies only care about making money. They hurt nature and mistreat workers by underpaying them or forcing them to work hard for little pay. On paper, these companies write nice promises. But in real life, they still break rules to protect nature and human rights.

Many companies write lovely

words like “sustainability” and “respect for human rights” in their documents. However, in reality, they still harm the environment and cheat workers. Pretending to care about nature is called Greenwashing, and pretending to protect human rights is called Human Rights Washing.

NATIONAL

MFF chief stresses effective management for football development



The MFF Sponsorship Signing Ceremony held at the Novotel Yangon Max Hotel in Yangon on 17 September.

MYANMAR Football Federation (MFF) President U Zaw Zaw said financial resources are essential for the development of Myanmar football, while effective use and systematic management of available funds are equally important.

He made the remarks at the MFF Sponsorship Signing Ceremony at Novotel Yangon Max Hotel on 17 September.

The MFF incurs substantial costs in running the football sector, including league and futsal competitions, national men's

and women's teams, and home-and-away matches. The federation also faces a shortage of grounds suitable for international-level matches. Thuwunna Stadium hosts four to five matches a week, making facility maintenance difficult.

U Zaw Zaw said Myanmar players lack confidence and physical fitness when facing top Asian teams, while limited opportunities to play international matches also affect their performance. He added that an international-standard football stadium could cost about US\$45-50 million, making the shortage of suitable venues a major challenge.

To improve players' performance, stronger training programmes will be introduced, while a digital scouting system will be used to identify promising young players systematically.

The reconstruction of the football academy damaged by the earthquake is estimated to cost about US\$3 million. The project has received US\$300,000 from FIFA and K2 billion from Max Myanmar Construction. Structural work has begun, with completion targeted within one year. The MFF president urged sponsors, club owners and relevant organisations to support the reconstruction. — TWA/KZL

Tube well drilling inspected in Yamethin



Officials inspect the tube well drilling in Yamethin Township.

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection yesterday of the tube well drilling operations in Nyaungaing Village, Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region. The project is being carried out by the Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development to ensure rural residents have adequate access to drinking water.

Thein coordinated the necessary arrangements and instructed the team to ensure the project is completed on schedule.

The district head stated that the Yamethin Township Department of Rural Development initiated a project in the first week of July to sink a tube well, measuring four inches in diameter and 700 feet in depth, in Nyaungaing Village.

The project, funded by a Union-approved budget of K40 million, is being executed by the winning bidder, AMC Arr Mon Company. Currently, 95 per cent of the work has been completed. Once fully finished, the project will ensure an adequate supply of drinking water for the residents of Nyaungaing Village. — Aung Ye Kyaw (DRD)

Yamethin District Department of Rural Development Head U Win Myat Thein, and officials from the district and township levels, company representatives, and members of the village water supply committee, examined the progress of the sinking work, which involves a tube well with a four-inch diameter and a depth of 700 feet. District Head U Win Myat

Systematic cattle breeding project under RBF inspected in Hpa-an



Officials oversee a breeding project in Hpa-an Township.

OFFICIALS led by Daw Thida Win San, Head of the Hpa-an District Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives

and Rural Development, inspected the implementation of the Rural Business Fund Project (RBF) in Naingkyia Village, Hpa-an Township, on 15 September.

District Head Daw Thida Win San and staff evaluated systematic cattle breeding activities funded by the RBF programme. They reviewed accounting records, verified compliance with project guidelines outlined in the handbook, and discussed technical livestock management assistance for local beneficiaries.

Under the RBF project, a total of K30 million was disbursed to four livestock farming groups – Toe Tatt Aung, Pan Shwe Kya, Pan Padauk, and Pan Bayda – with each receiving K7.5 million. The projects are currently operating successfully on the ground, according to Daw Thida Win San, Head of the District Office. — Ko Ko Soe (Rural)

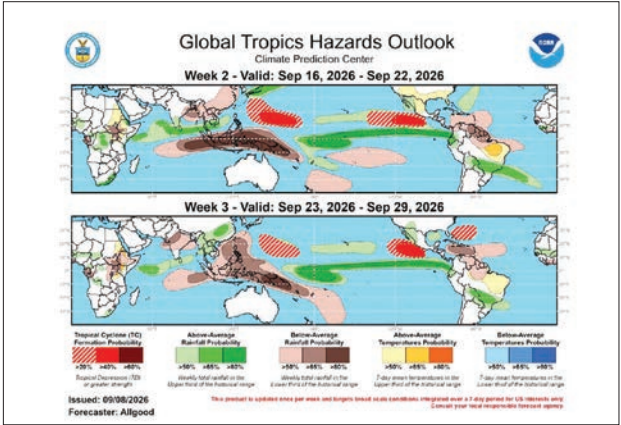
Despite El Niño influence, rain may return in late Sept

ACCORDING to the Global Tropics Hazards Outlook and ENSO forecasts issued by the Climate Prediction Centre of the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Myanmar may experience an earlier monsoon withdrawal due to the influence of El Niño between

16 and 29 September. However, meteorologist U Win Naing forecast that there is a likelihood of returning rainfall toward the end of September due to the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) phenomenon.

In years with strong El Niño conditions, the monsoon withdrawal can occur earlier than usual, leading to a gradual decrease in rainfall across Myanmar during September. However, there remain conditions for localized rainfall to return.

From 16 to 22 September, Myanmar can expect decreased rainfall, and



Global Tropics Hazards Outlook issued by the Climate Prediction Centre (16-22 September).

The “cabbage revolution” — how China is using science to feed 1.4 billion people

This data-driven transformation shields farmers from volatile climates.

THERE is nothing remarkable about the tiny cabbage seedlings growing in the fields of Jiayu County in central China. They are barely more than rows of green tufts against the soil, too young to look anything like the firm heads that will eventually find their way onto dinner tables across the country. Yet these modest plants tell the story of a decades-long scientific effort to develop better seeds, breed tougher varieties and make one of China’s most ordinary vegetables more productive and reliable. Known as China’s “cabbage UN” for its vast collection of varieties, Jiayu in Hubei Province has become a major



Modern agricultural technology enhances cabbage cultivation across experimental fields. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

hub for cabbage breeding, testing and production. The effort goes back to the 1980s, when China still relied on cabbage seeds imported from countries including Japan and the Netherlands.

China is strengthening its domestic food security through agricultural science, a movement highlighted by the “cabbage revolution” in Jiayu, Hubei Province. Over decades, research-

ers developed cold-tolerant and disease-resistant cabbage hybrids, resulting in domestic varieties now accounting for over 70 per cent of winter cabbage in major producing regions. — Xinhua

Russia’s Soyuz-2.1b rocket carries heavier payloads towards ISS

THE Soyuz-2.1b launch vehicle will allow Russia to deliver larger cargo payloads to the International Space Station (ISS) and could later support missions to the planned Russian Orbital Station, space historian Alexander Zheleznyakov told Sputnik. The rocket launched from Baikonur Cosmodrome carrying the Progress MS-35 cargo spacecraft to the ISS. Unlike the lighter Soyuz-2.1a version usually used for crewed and cargo mis-

sions, the Soyuz-2.1b provides additional payload capacity. The current mission is partly a test flight, with an extended three-day approach to the ISS instead of the standard two-day route to allow additional checks of spacecraft systems and flight procedures. According to Zheleznyakov, the increased payload capability makes the Soyuz-2.1b suitable for transporting more supplies and could later support crewed launches. — SPUTNIK



Russian rocket prepared on launch pad for space flight. **PHOTO: ROSCOSMOS**

The Eternal Strength of an Honest Heart

FROM PAGE 9

They ignore other people’s pain and break the rules just to put more money into their own pockets. Around the world and in big businesses, what companies write on paper is very different from what they actually do. This big gap is a major moral failure in our society today. If we look at these actions through the teachings of Buddhism, we can clearly see the following: Pretending to look good on the outside while destroying nature and cheating workers for profit is just like lying and breaking the rules of speech. Ignoring other people’s pain, nature’s problems, and workers’ feelings just to put money into your own pocket is the result of

greed and ignorance. Lacking real accountability while only looking good on paper ruins the basic moral rules of society. As these forms of deception increase, legal actions and public scrutiny are rising worldwide. In any field, practical integrity is the only enduring truth for the long term. Around the globe, international laws and regulations are becoming stricter to control such deceptive practices (Greenwashing and Human Rights Washing). For example, places like the European Union (EU) and other countries are now taking action. If companies make big promises about the environment without any proof, they can be sued. Governments are

giving huge fines to companies that lie in their ads or cheat people, and the public is speaking out through the law. From the viewpoint of Buddhism: No matter how well you try to hide deception, the truth will always come out in time. Doing things just for quick profits without ethics and integrity is like taking poison. In the end, it will destroy both your reputa-

tion and your organization. Around the world, laws are getting stricter against bad business practices. Companies are being sued, fined, and even losing their licenses. Trying to make quick money by doing the wrong thing always backfires. In the end, the lawsuits, fines, and fees will cost you much more than what you gained. In Buddhism, wealth and success won by cheat-

ing do not last. As the teaching says, “Dhamma protects those who live by Dhamma.” Doing wrong things will always catch up to you in the end. Because of this, no matter what you do (politics, business, or social life), integrity and ethics are the only strong foundations you need to succeed for a long time. In Buddhism, ethics and integrity are not just for getting along with others. They are the true foundation for growing your mind and spirit. Buddhism teaches these main ideas: The Five Precepts provide basic morality — avoiding killing, stealing, sexual misconduct, lying, and intoxicants — acting as armour for safe and dignified living. Moral shame and dread mean feeling ashamed of wrongdoing

and fearing its consequences, serving as the true heart of integrity even when no one is watching. Uprightness and gentleness mean having an honest mind without faking anything, ensuring that a person’s words always match their actions. An honest heart possesses a quiet, unshakeable power that outlasts every illusion. While superficial success built on deception eventually collapses under its own weight, integrity stands firm like an unyielding anchor. It guards against the seduction of quick gains and preserves the soul’s true dignity. In a world of fleeting appearances, sincerity remains the only eternal strength capable of weathering any storm and leaving a lasting, meaningful legacy. ■



ECONOMY

WORLD

S Koreans face “deficit-surplus-deficit” financial lifecycle, with surplus peaking at 45

Statistical data reveals South Korea's financial lifecycle patterns.

SOUTH Koreans faced a “deficit-surplus-deficit” financial lifecycle, with their lifetime surplus peaking at age 45, statistical ministry data showed Thursday.

The Ministry of Data and Statistics released the 2024 National Transfer Accounts to analyze the relationship between consumption and labor income across different age groups.

From birth to age 27, individuals spent more than they earned, resulting in a deficit.



Located in Songpa-gu, Seoul, Saemaeul Traditional Market is a popular destination near Jamsil Baseball Stadium. **PHOTO: VISITSEOUL**

The deficit peaked US\$33,330), driven by private educational costs for college entrance

preparation.

South Koreans transitioned into a financial surplus at age 28, with their labour income outpacing consumption until age 60.

The surplus reached its peak of 19.32 million won at age 45 as per-capita labor income hit a lifetime high of 46.51 million won at that age.

Labor income shrank from age 61, when people entered their retirement years, shifting them back into a deficit. — Xinhua

Switzerland hikes 2026 growth forecast to 1.7%

THE Swiss economy is projected to grow faster than anticipated this year despite the risk of rising energy costs due to the Iran war, the economy ministry said Thursday.

GDP growth is now seen at 1.7 per cent, nearly double the 0.9 per cent expansion forecast by the ministry's expert group in June.

The revision reflects stronger than expected growth for its chemicals



The revision reflects stronger than expected growth for its chemicals and pharmaceutical industries in the second quarter. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

and pharmaceutical industries in the second quarter, when growth jumped by 1.5 per cent

after several sluggish quarters. Even if growth moderates in the coming months, “the economy remains broadly on track for recovery”, the ministry said in a statement, with the expert group forecasting GDP growth of 1.6 per cent for 2027.

“In particular, foreign trade is expected to contribute more strongly to this year's growth than was anticipated in June,” it said. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

China remains EAC's largest trading partner

CHINA remained the largest individual trading partner of the East African Community (EAC) in the second quarter (Q2) of 2026, as the region's total trade rose 37 per cent year-on-year to \$52.3 billion.

According to the EAC Quarterly Statistics Bulletin released on Wednesday, EAC exports to China nearly doubled from \$5.7 billion in the second quarter of 2025 to \$10.7 billion in the second quarter of 2026, largely driven by mineral commodities and other raw materials.

Imports from China also increased to \$7.1 billion from \$4.7 billion a year earlier, the bulletin showed.

Overall EAC exports increased 41.3 per cent to \$26.3 billion, while imports grew 32.9 per cent to \$26 billion.

The region recorded a trade surplus of \$300 million, compared with a deficit of \$945.3 million in the same quarter of 2025, according to the bulletin.

Intra-EAC exports grew 33.2 per cent to \$3.2 billion, while their share of total exports declined to 12.1 per cent from 12.8 per cent. — Xinhua

Cuba issues new high-denomination banknotes

THE Central Bank of Cuba said Wednesday it had put new 10,000- and 20,000-peso banknotes into circulation as part of measures to facilitate cash transactions and adapt currency denominations to current economic conditions.

Juana Lilia Delgado, president of the central bank, said on the TV programme Mesa Redonda that the new notes complete the adjustment of the country's currency denominations. Delgado said the update is aimed at adapting existing denominations to the economic situation, particularly price levels and the needs of cash circulation.

The measures are part of a gradual process to modernize Cuba's banking system, expand its capacity, incorporate new actors and technologies and diversify financial services, she said. The new 10,000-peso note features Haydee Santamaria, a historical figure of the Cuban Revolution, while the 20,000-peso note features Vilma Espin, who was also linked to the revolutionary process.

In April, when new 2,000- and 5,000-peso notes began circulating, the central bank said the issuance was intended to facilitate cash transactions, respond to the economy's need for larger amounts of cash, reduce cash logistics costs and improve operational efficiency amid inflation. — Xinhua

Australia to cut migration to fix housing crisis: minister

AUSTRALIA will reduce migration by curbing “visa hopping”, tightening rules on students and working holiday makers as well as cracking down on overstayers, its interior minister said Thursday, as the far-right surges in the polls.

Home Affairs Minister Tony Burke told the National Press Club in Canberra that immigration was “fundamentally a strength” for Australia, but accepted that housing pressures required changes. He denied his

ruling Labour party was tightening visa rules in response to the rise of One Nation, which has become one of the country's most popular parties this year with pledges to drastically slash migration. Business groups warned such cuts

would cause economic damage.

“We need immigration to soften enough that housing has a chance to catch up,” he said, while stressing the housing shortage was not caused by migrants. — AFP



Australia implements stricter migration rules to tackle housing shortages. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

New Zealand job ads rise in Aug: report

NEW Zealand job advertisements rose 0.6 per cent in August from the previous month and were up 9.7 per cent from a year earlier, according to a report released Thursday.

Applications per job ad also increased 0.9 per cent in July, the sharpest monthly rise in 18 months, “despite being spread across a rising number of opportunities”, said the report by employment marketplace SEEK.

The consumer services sector drove monthly growth, with job advertisements in hospitality and tourism rising 3.4 per cent and retail and consumer products increasing 3.3 per cent, the report said, adding that mining, resources and energy recorded the strongest annual growth, with job ads up 46.7 per cent.

Artificial intelligence (AI) skills were referenced in four per cent of job ads in New Zealand, with mentions up 4.4 per cent month-on-month and 93.3 per cent year-on-year, it said, noting that AI was most commonly referenced in information and communication technology, marketing and communications, and consulting and strategy roles. — Xinhua



Job advertisements in hospitality and tourism rose by 3.4 per cent. A man looks at a sculpture in downtown Wellington, New Zealand, 20 January 2019.
PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE

Solar power plant in Azerbaijan connected to grid

A ceremony marking the grid connection of the 100 MW Gobustan solar power plant, invested in and built by the Chinese company Universal Energy Co Ltd, was held on Wednesday in Baku.

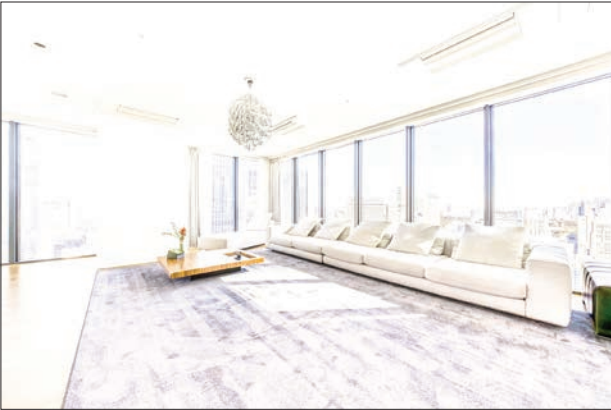
At the ceremony, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev said that practical cooperation between Azerbaijan and China across various fields has made steady progress since the two countries established a comprehensive strategic partnership in 2025.

Cooperation in renewable energy has emerged as a highlight of bilateral ties, he said, noting that Azerbaijan welcomes more Chinese companies to invest and do business in the country. — Xinhua

Tokyo area condo prices down 5.4% in Aug for 1st drop in 5 months

THE average price of a new condominium in Tokyo and its three surrounding prefectures fell 5.4 per cent from a year earlier to 97.70 million yen (\$628,000) in August for the first decline in five months, a research institute said Thursday.

The drop in the overall average price for the capital and Chiba, Kanagawa and Saitama prefectures came as rising land prices in central Tokyo made it harder for developers to acquire sites, reducing overall condominium supply and the share of high-end properties, according to



By area, the average price in Tokyo's 23 wards edged up 0.1 per cent from a year earlier to 138.21 million yen. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE/ SOTHEBY'S

the Real Estate Economic Institute.

By area, the average price in Tokyo's 23 wards

saw a 2.5 per cent increase to 66.78 million yen.

The price rose 15.6 per cent to 68.40 million yen in Saitama Prefecture, 10.6 per cent to 73.09 million yen in Kanagawa Prefecture and 9.1 per cent to 67.02 million yen in Chiba Prefecture, the institute said.

The number of new condos listed for sale in the greater metropolitan area covering Tokyo and its three surrounding prefectures slid 12.4 per cent to 1,140 units, with the capital's 23 wards seeing a 30.7 per cent plunge to 478 units. — Kyodo

Argentine judge orders suspension of oil project

AN Argentine judge on Wednesday ordered the suspension of a British-Israeli oil project near the Falkland Islands, a purely symbolic move as Argentina escalates its claim over the British-administered territory.

Britain and Argentina fought a brief but bitter 10-week war in 1982 over

the South Atlantic islands, known to Argentines as Las Malvinas.

Wednesday's interim ruling issued by a court in Argentina's southernmost province, Tierra del Fuego, follows a lawsuit filed by 1982 war veterans and environmental lawyers earlier this month. The plaintiffs sought to block Britain's

Rockhopper Exploration and Israel's Navitas Petroleum from the so-called Sea Lion oil field, located about 220 kilometres (137 miles) from the islands.

The judge ordered the companies to “refrain from initiating, pursuing, carrying out or having carried out any material actions” that would involve drilling,

installing infrastructure or extracting hydrocarbons, according to a ruling seen by AFP.

Additionally, the suspension applies “until such time as the environmental impact assessment procedure has been conducted before the national authority competent in environmental matters”. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (634W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (634W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-9-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/MITT** 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 MAERSK A/S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (0410N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (0410N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **18-9-2026** 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 EVERGREEN MARINE (ASIA) PTE., LTD.

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

China, US maintain close communication on tariff reduction arrangement: ministry

China and United States discuss reciprocal tariff reduction plans.

THE Chinese and US economic and trade teams are maintaining close communication on issues including tariff reductions, China’s Ministry of Commerce said Thursday.

Ministry spokesperson He Yadong made the remarks at a regular press conference when asked about the latest progress in consultations on a reciprocal tariff reduction framework arrangement that would cover US\$30 billion worth of products



An aerial drone photo taken on 11 July 2023 shows new energy vehicles for export at a terminal of Taicang Port, east China’s Jiangsu Province. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

from each side. Further develop-ments will be released in due course, the spokes-person said. — Xinhua

Western troops in Ukraine would mean direct war

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Wednesday that Russia would consider the deployment of Western troops on Ukrainian territory a declaration of direct war.

“Let me emphasize

that we have no interest in getting involved in this, but if Europe, which talks every day about preparing for war against Russia, attacks the Russian Federation, that will be a completely different war, and it

will be very short,” he said at the International Festival of Youth in Yekaterinburg. Lavrov added that Moscow remains ready for a diplomatic settlement, including in the trilateral format that the

United States proposed again. He noted, however, that Russia’s position on a settlement to the conflict still implies fulfilling the objectives set at the outset and eliminating the root causes. — Xinhua

Israel, Morocco agree to upgrade diplomatic missions to embassies

ISRAEL and Morocco agreed to upgrade their

diplomatic missions to full embassies and appoint

ambassadors as part of measures to deepen ties, Israel’s foreign ministry said on Wednesday following a trilateral meeting in New York with US officials.

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa’ar and Moroccan Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita also agreed to conclude investment protection and double-taxation agreements by the end of 2026 and expand direct flights to include Moroccan airlines,

the Israeli ministry said in a statement.

“The declaration we signed today outlines practical ways to upgrade ties between Israel and Morocco,” Sa’ar said.

Israel and Morocco normalized relations in a US-brokered agreement in 2020 and subsequently reopened liaison offices, with the two countries saying at the time that they ultimately intended to establish embassies. — Xinhua



A street in Moroccan capital Rabat. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lula leading ahead of election

BRAZILIAN President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who is seeking re-election, is leading several polls ahead of the 4 October presidential election, including a survey conducted by the MDA Research Institute and released Tuesday by the National Confederation of Transport (CNT).

According to the poll, Lula da Silva, from the Workers’ Party, would receive 40.5 per cent of the vote in the first round, ahead of opposition candidate Flavio Bolsonaro of the Liberal Party, who would secure 30.4 per cent.

Augusto Cury of the Avante party ranked third with 6 per cent, while other candidates received lower levels of support. — Xinhua

Bolivia to extend state of emergency

BOLIVIA’S congress voted on Thursday to extend by 90 days a state of emergency declared by President Rodrigo Paz, with officials citing the threat of renewed anti-government unrest. The US-backed, conservative Paz decreed a state of emergency in June after widespread protests that paralyzed the Andean nation, which was in the throes of its worst economic crisis in 40 years.

Authorities have used their emergency powers to deploy the military, clear roadblocks and curb certain civil liberties including the right to hold demonstrations.

Interior Minister Marco Antonio Oviedo said the state of emergency, which was set to end on Friday, should be extended for another 90 days due to a complicated political and social outlook. — AFP

Trump to hold Iran talks with Gulf leaders

US President Donald Trump is expected to meet Gulf leaders on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York on Tuesday to discuss the next steps in the Iran war, US online news outlet Axios reported Wednesday.

The meeting is expected to focus on US ideas for a postwar strategy, the report said.

Citing sources, the report said Trump is expected to meet with leaders or foreign ministers from the six Gulf Cooperation Council countries: Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman. The US Department of State sent out initial invitations on Wednesday. — Xinhua

Yoon indicted in luxury bag scandal

SOUTH Korea’s former President Yoon Suk-yeol was indicted on charges of violating the anti-graft law, following additional investigations into a luxury bag scandal involving his wife, according to Yonhap news agency on Thursday.

The Seoul Central District Prosecutors’ Office formally charged Yoon with failing to fulfil his official reporting duty under the Improper Solicitation and Graft Act, despite knowing that his wife, Kim Keon-hee, had accepted high-priced gifts. Kim was accused of accepting a luxury handbag valued at three million won (US\$2,170), a cosmetics set worth 1.79 million won and premium liquor worth 400,000 won from a pastor between June and September 2022. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Myanmar women's team lose 8-0 to DPR Korea



Myanmar players and a North Korean player vie for the ball in a fierce tackle at the XX Asian Games in Japan. **PHOTO: MFF**

MYANMAR’S women’s suffered an 0-8 defeat by national football team DPR Korea in their sec-

ond Group F match at the XX Asian Games in Japan yesterday.

Myanmar struggled against one of Asia’s top teams because of the gap in playing standards and conceded eight goals despite efforts to limit the damage. Following heavy defeats by the Republic of Korea and DPR Korea in their opening two matches, Myanmar’s chances of finishing among the two best third-placed teams have become difficult, although one group match

remains.

In the other Group F match, the Republic of Korea defeated Bangladesh 6-0. DPR Korea and the Republic of Korea have secured six points each from two matches and qualified for the quarterfinals, while Myanmar and Bangladesh remain without a point.

Myanmar will face Bangladesh in their final Group F match on 21 September. — Maung San Gyi/KZL

Inter-State/Region Pencak Silat finals held



This image shows the presentation of the championship trophy yesterday.

THE finals and prize-giving ceremony of the 2026 Inter-State and Region Pencak Silat Tournament were held at National Indoor Stadium I in Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region, yesterday.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu attended the event with Deputy Minister for Sports U Nyi Nyi, regional ministers, the President of the Myanma Martial Art Federation, team officials, coaches, athletes and other officials.

Medals, cash prizes and championship trophies were presented to winners in the individual and team performance events and the men’s and women’s 55-60-kilogramme and 65-70-kilogramme categories.

In the men’s individual performance event, La Yaung Lin of Yangon Region won first prize, followed by Zin Myo Min of Magway Region and Kyaw San Lin of Kachin State. In the women’s event, May Thet Hmue of Shan State took first, followed by Swe Zin Su of Ayeyawady Region and Win Win Khaing of Magway Region.

Yangon Region won the men’s team performance event, with Shan State second and Sagaing Region third. Wai Yan Kyaw of Yangon Region won the men’s 55-60-kilogramme category, while Thida Aung of Kachin State took the women’s title. Nay Htoo Paing of Shan State won the men’s 65-70-kilogramme category.

Shan State won the women’s championship trophy, while Yangon Region received the men’s and overall championship trophies, which were presented by the Yangon Region chief minister: — Zwe Htet Ko (IPRD)/KZL

Saw Friday reaches Asian Games semifinals

MYANMAR athlete Saw Friday advanced to the men’s singles semifinals in the tag team event at the XX Asian Games in Japan after the first day of competition on 17 September.

In the men’s singles event, Saw Friday defeated Kyrgyzstan’s Iderbakov and Mongo-

lia’s Chinggen 2-0 but lost 0-2 to Kuwait’s Eden and Iraq’s Ilijali. With two wins and two losses, he advanced to the quarterfinals, where he defeated Indonesia’s Putra 2-0 to secure a place in the semifinals.

The semifinals will be held on 19 September. Saw Friday will face Iraq’s



Myanmar athlete Saw Friday competes in the men’s singles event. **PHOTO: MTF**

Ilijali, whom he lost to in the group stage, and will seek to avenge his earlier defeat.

The women’s sin-

gles and doubles group matches featuring Myanmar athletes will continue today. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

IOC confirms Lyon to host 2030 Winter Olympic Games ice sports competitions

THE International Olympic Committee (IOC) on Wednesday confirmed that ice sports competitions at the 2030 Winter Olympic Games will be staged in Lyon, with some Alpine skiing events to be held in the French resorts of Courchevel and Val d’Isere.

The IOC Coordination Commission held its second annual meeting after visiting venues in Lyon to finalize the sports venue master plan, following the IOC Executive Board’s June decision to relocate the ice cluster to Lyon and allocate two Alpine skiing venues to the Savoie cluster.

Ice hockey will be held at the Decines-Charpieu Arena and Hall Tony Garnier, while curling, figure skating and short track will take place at the Eurexpo Convention Centre in Lyon. A housing development project in Oullins-Pierre-Benite was also confirmed as the Olympic Village in Lyon. — Xinhua

Asian Games: Rain forces schedule changes ahead of opening ceremony

THE sporting schedule at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games has been heavily disrupted by recent rain ahead of Saturday’s opening ceremony, with the potential arrival of Typhoon Dujan raising concerns over outdoor competitions.

The women’s cricket opener between Bangladesh and China was canceled Thursday after overnight rain left Korogi

Athletic Park in Nisshin unplayable despite the best efforts of volunteers from early morning.

The wet outfield meant Bangladesh advanced under a regulation awarding the higher-ranked side a place in the next round in the event of a washout.

"We knew it was going to be tough to get a game given the weather in the last week here and



Staff work to restore the waterlogged field ahead of the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games women’s cricket match between Bangladesh and China at Korogi Athletic Park in Nisshin, Aichi Prefecture, on 17 September 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

all the challenges there have been," China coach Alan Newington said. "We’re grateful to the ground staff for trying their best." "We’re very disap-

pointed. We were hoping the world could see the China women play for the first time in a big tournament. But we’ll reset, and we’ll try again." — Kyodo



WORLD

Putin congratulates Indian Prime Minister Modi on his birthday

Russia will continue constructive joint work with India on "pressing bilateral and international issues for the benefit of our friendly nations".

Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulated Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his birthday, the Kremlin said on Thursday.

"You are rightly enjoying a deep respect from your compatriots and great authority on the global stage. It is impossible to overstate your personal contribution to strengthening the special and privileged strategic partnership between India and Russia," Putin said in a message to Modi, published by the Kremlin.

He added that Russia will continue constructive joint work with India on "pressing bilateral and international issues for the benefit of our friendly



Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulates Indian PM Modi today. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK/FILE**

nations."

In a birthday congratulatory message to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vladimir Putin expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome and

hospitality extended during his visit to New Delhi, according to a telegram published on the Kremlin's website.

"I would like to express my gratitude for

the warm and cordial welcome and hospitality extended to me and the Russian delegation during my visit to New Delhi last week," the telegram said. — SPUTNIK

China-ASEAN expo to highlight FTA 3.0 opportunities

THE 23rd China-ASEAN Expo will spotlight new business opportunities under the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area (CAFTA) 3.0 framework, with more than 3,400 companies from over 70 countries and regions set to participate, event organizers said on Wednesday.

Scheduled to run from 17 to 21 September in Nanning, capital of south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, the expo will cover about 170,000 square metres, showcasing the latest achievements in China-ASEAN cooperation.

Under the theme "CAFTA 3.0 Opportunities, Better Life", the expo will feature prod-

ucts and projects in areas ranging from traditional industries to digital communications, green development and artificial intelligence (AI).

A dedicated AI marketplace will display more than 500 products, while a

new exhibition area will highlight demand from ASEAN countries for projects and applications in transport, smart logistics, AI, urban management and industrial park development.

Science and tech-

nology authorities and high-tech institutions from countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand will send delegations to the expo.

Timor-Leste will participate for the first time as a full ASEAN member and a co-host of the expo, bringing all 11 ASEAN member states together in Nanning following the bloc's expansion.

Over 50 trade and investment promotion activities will also be held during the expo, focusing on trade and investment facilitation, regional economic integration, and cross-border industrial and supply chain cooperation. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 17 September 2026 shows a scene of the opening ceremony of the 23rd China-ASEAN Expo and China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit in Nanning, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Nepal plans passport-free travel system for foreigners

NEPAL is preparing to introduce a system under which foreign nationals could travel across Nepal without carrying their passports.

"We sent a proposal to the Ministry of Home Affairs on Wednesday seeking its approval for a 'Passport-Free Travel' arrangement for foreigners within Nepal," Tikaram Dhakal, spokesperson for

the Department of Immigration, told Xinhua on Thursday.

Under the proposed system, foreign nationals would be required to install the official app of the Department of Immigration on their mobile devices, which is available on both Android and iOS, and submit details including their passport numbers and visa information. — Xinhua

Danish firms hire fewer with AI

DANISH companies that adopt artificial intelligence (AI) subsequently hire fewer workers than comparable firms that do not use the technology, Denmark's central bank said Wednesday.

An analysis released by Danmarks Nationalbank found that the slowdown in employment growth is particularly evident among younger and more highly educated workers; however, there are no signs that

wages have been affected.

"The transformation we expected from AI has begun in Denmark," said Signe Krogstrup, a Danish economist and one of the central bank's governors.

A related working paper published by the bank found that the employment effects of AI adoption were concentrated in smaller firms and reflected reduced recruitment, particularly in occupations exposed to AI. — Xinhua

NASA scan discovers rare Moon crater

A researcher at NASA has found a massive, recently-formed crater on the Moon, a rare occurrence that only happens "once in a century or even longer", according to scientists.

The crater, dubbed "McGetchin", measures 730 feet (222 metres) wide, NASA said in a blog post.

It is believed to have been created in the spring of 2024 from a comet or asteroid colliding with the Moon, with researchers describing the object that caused it to be the size of a building three-to-six stories high.

"Scientists estimate that an impact of this magnitude happens on the Moon about once in a century or even longer," NASA said in the blog post.

Although the crater had been there for years, it was not discovered until Robert Wagner, a researcher with NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO), noticed it in a new scan of the Moon's surface. The crater appeared as a "large bright spot circled by a dark halo" by the LRO probe, which has been studying the Moon since 2009. — AFP