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

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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ASEAN AHA Centre provides humanitarian assistance in Kayin and Shan states

THE ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), with the support of the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS), is providing humanitarian assistance consisting of rice bags, family kits, and personal hygiene kits to local households in Hlaingbwe, Hpa-an, and Kawkareik townships in Kayin State, and Taunggyi Township in Shan State (South), starting from 28 October 2026 to 10 November 2026. Furthermore, the assistance will also be provided in Nawngkhio and Kyaukme, Shan State (North), from 16 to 30 November 2026.



This image shows humanitarian supplies provided by the ASEAN AHA Centre.

Since September 2021, ASEAN has been providing humanitarian assistance to Myanmar through the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), under Phase I (Life Saving) and Phase II (Life Sustaining) operations.

Under Phase I, medical supplies and equipment for COVID-19 pandemic prevention, protection and control, valued at over US$15.6 million, were distributed with the support of the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) to hospitals and regional health departments across States and Regions, including Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, from September 2021 to March 2024.

SEE PAGE 3

Vice-President Opens Cybersecurity Central Committee Coordination Meeting

The Cybersecurity Central Committee Coordination Meeting 1/2026 was held yesterday at the meeting hall of Office 2, the Ministry of Digital Development and Communications, in Nay Pyi Taw, with Vice-President U Nyo Saw, Chairman of the Cybersecurity Central Committee, delivering the opening address.



Vice-President U Nyo Saw presides over the coordination meeting 1/2026 of the Cybersecurity Central Committee yesterday.

During the meeting, the Vice-President elaborated on the strategic implementation of digital transformation through sector-specific, phased roadmaps. He underscored the need to establish a robust foundation for modern, secure digital infrastructure, while developing digital service delivery mechanisms to facilitate the comprehensive transformation of government operations into e-Government systems.

He also highlighted international and ASEAN regional developments in cybersecurity legislation and frameworks, including national cybersecurity laws, cybercrime prevention laws, personal data protection laws, and policies for securing cross-border digital data flows. Furthermore, he stressed the need to integrate departmental digital systems under a unified National Data Centre system and establish a cybersecurity environment that meets international standards, supported by a Cybersecurity Operations Centre to defend against cyberattacks. He urged committee members to collaborate closely and contribute their views to ensure the effective fulfilment of the committee's responsibilities.

The meeting was also attended by Cybersecurity Central Committee Vice-Chairman and Union Minister for Digital Development and Communications U Tun Aung, committee member Union ministers, deputy ministers, departmental officials and invitees. Representatives of the respective departments and organizations presented and discussed ongoing cybersecurity operations, completed tasks and future action plans.

Later, the Vice-President reviewed the presentations, coordinated the requirements, delivered the concluding remarks and brought the meeting to a close. — MNA/TH

CCIFM, French Embassy Sign Cooperation Agreement

THE French-Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIFM) and the French Embassy to Myanmar signed a cooperation agreement, with a view to strengthening cooperation and promoting business and investment opportunities between the two organizations.

Through the partnership, both organizations reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening business relations, encouraging investment and creating new opportunities for economic cooperation. — Htun Htun/EM



The French-Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIFM) and the French Embassy to Myanmar sign a cooperation agreement.



This photo captures a waste collection truck.

Pathein to Launch Private Waste Collection Service in Early 2027

ARRANGEMENTS are underway for King of Salt Company to take charge of the private waste collection system in Pathein Township, Ayeyawady Region, with operations scheduled to begin in early 2027.

To launch the private waste collection service, King of Salt Company has already reached an agreement with the Ayeyawady Region government and is currently coordinating the responsibilities allocation with the Township Development Committee.

"We have completed discussions on the division of responsibilities with the Township Development Committee. Next steps will be submitting the matter to a committee meeting and signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the regional government. The agreement is expected to be signed in November. Taking into account the time required for staff training and the purchase of necessary vehicles, we expect to begin operations around January next year," an official from King of Salt Company said.

Pathein has 15 urban wards, and although the Township Development Committee operates six garbage trucks, the fleet is insufficient to meet the town's waste collection needs, prompting the committee to issue public notices to residents. — ASH/TH

NATIONAL

Myanmar Gazette

Appointment of Heads of Service Organizations

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following individuals as Heads of the Service Organizations shown against each of their names from the date they assume charge of their duties.

	Name	Organization
1.	**U Nyan Linn Htwe** Deputy Director-General/Administrator Mandalay Region General Administration Department Ministry of Home Affairs	Director-General Politics and Internal Security Division President's Office
2.	**U Win Zaw Moe** Deputy Director-General President's Office	Director-General Pension Department Ministry of Finance and Revenue
3.	**U Hlaing Soe Thant** Deputy Director-General/Administrator Ayeyawady Region General Administration Department Ministry of Home Affairs	Director-General Department of Consumer Affairs Ministry of Commerce
4.	**U Moe Hein** Deputy Director-General Union Government Office	Director-General Civil Service Affairs Department Union Civil Service Board

Low-Pressure Area Conditions

Issued at noon MST on 30 October 2026

Low-Pressure Area Condition

According to the observations at 10:30 am MST today, a Low-Pressure Area has formed over the South Andaman Sea persists.

Next 96 hours forecast

It is very likely to move west-northwestwards and become into a Well Marked Low-Pressure Area over the South Andaman Sea and adjoining Nicobar Islands during next 12 hours and intensify gradually into a Depression over the Southeast Bay of Bengal and Adjoining Andaman and Nicobar Islands on 31 October 2026 and towards Andhra Pradesh coast, India on 2 November 2026.

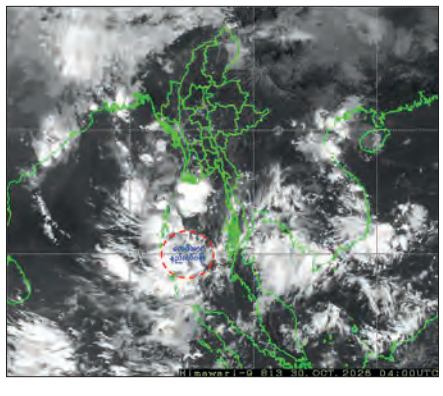
General caution

Due to the Low-Pressure Area, rain or thundershowers 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, Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Mon State from this noon to 3 November 2026.

Occassional squalls with rough sea will be experienced in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feets in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts.

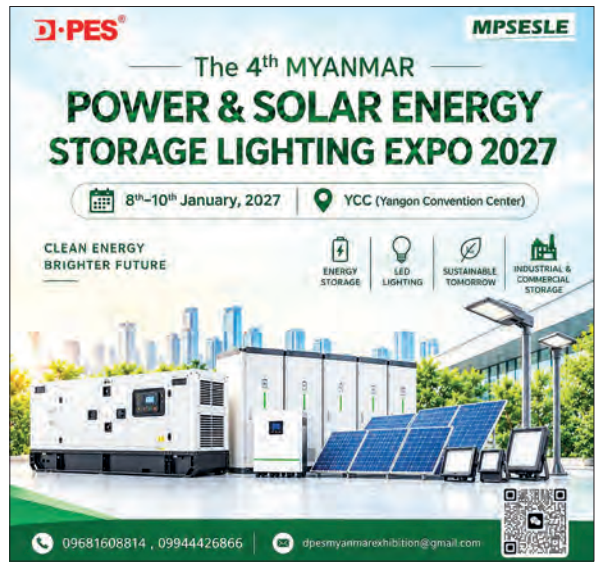
Advisory

People should be aware of natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strikes, lightning, hail, flash floods and landslides in hilly areas and near small rivers and to make necessary preparations for inland water transport, domestic flights and irrigation dams. — DMH



Myanmar to host major power & solar energy expo

THE fourth Myanmar Power and Solar Energy Storage Lighting Expo 2027 (MPSESLE 2027) will be held at the Yangon Convention Centre (YCC) from 8 to 10 January 2027, according to the organizers.



This image illustrates a poster for the 4th Myanmar Power & Solar Energy Storage Lighting Expo (MPSESLE 2027).

The expo will bring together businesses from the energy and technology sectors at a time when the energy transition is gaining momentum, and electricity demand is increasing. It aims to bring the entire energy industry value chain together under one roof.

Leading local and international companies will showcase a wide range of energy-related products and technologies, including generators, power generation systems, solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, energy storage systems and smart power solutions.

The event will also feature technical forums, policy-sharing sessions and expert talks, providing opportunities for direct discussions with industry professionals.

Visitors will be able to explore the latest PV technologies, inverters, batteries, EV charging stations and green lighting solutions designed to address energy shortages.

The organizers have invited technicians, investors, installers, distributors, agents, project owners, decision-makers in the power and energy sectors, prospective buyers and other interested individuals to attend the expo.

For further information, interested parties may contact the organizers through the event's Facebook page or via Viber at 09 681608814 and 09 944426866. — TWA/KZL

'Wazira and Thura Win Htut's Encounter Night' Streams on M Channel, YouTube

THEATRICAL performer Thura Win Htut's 'Wazira and Thura Win Htut's Encounter Night' will be live on M Channel and the M Channel YouTube Channel.

The performance will be held at the Wazira Theatre in Kyauktada Township, Yangon Region, starting at 4 pm on 31 October.

"My theatrical performance will be presented at the Wazira Theatre as an unforgettable night of traditional Myanmar theatrical and contemporary new dance for theatre lovers. For fans from all over the country and abroad who are unable to come to the Wazira Theatre, they will be able to watch it live on M Channel," said dancer Thura Win Htut. — ASH/MKKS



This image features a poster for the 'Wazira and Thura Win Htut's Encounter Night'.

Advertise with us/ Hotline: ☎ 09 454237515, 09 255597511

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues for seventh day

DEPUTY ministers responded to the discussions of lawmakers over the proposals at the seventh-day meeting of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw at its building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.



The seventh-day meeting of the third regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw underway in Nay Pyi Taw, chaired by Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker submitted the documents on his official visit to Belarus from 20 to 23 October 2026, and on signing the memorandum of understanding between the two parliaments, the Hluttaw approved it.

The Speaker informed the Hluttaw about the proposal to rename the Ministry of Industry and Micro, Small, Medium-sized Enterprises and Business Development as the Ministry of Industry and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development. As such, he announced that the lawmakers wishing to discuss the changing of the ministry's title can register with the director-general of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Kyaw Htin submitted a proposal to seek approval from the Hluttaw for further extension of the tax exemption for HSD (500 ppm) and LNG from 1 to 30 October. The Speaker urged the lawmakers wishing to discuss the tax exemption to register with the director-general of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Myo Myint submitted a proposal to grant the exemption for special tax over five vehicles imported for the Paletwa-Zorampur two-lane road construction project.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Kyaw Htin submitted that approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw be sought, in accordance with Section 37 of the 2026 Union Taxation Law, to grant an exemption from the Specific Goods Tax payable on five motor vehicles.

Deputy Minister U Han Win Aung for National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations then responded to the discussions of lawmakers and the findings and Report 1/2026 of the Joint Public Accounts Committee over the 2025-26 financial year national planning annual report. MP U Teza Kyaw from the Aungmyaythazan Constituency, who serves Second Vice-Chair of the Joint Public Accounts Committee, sought the approval from the Hluttaw over the report of the committee. The Hluttaw recorded the report.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw Than Than Lin also replied to the discussions of lawmakers, including the Report on the Findings and Observations of the Joint Public Accounts Committee on the Annual Report on the Budget for the 2025-2026 FY (Report 2/2026).

MP U Chit Swe from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 10, First Vice-Chairman of the Joint Public Accounts Committee, submitted a motion calling on the Hluttaw to approve Report 2/2026 of the Committee. The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sought the approval of the Hluttaw, and as the motion was unanimously agreed to, announced its approval and stated that the Hluttaw had taken note of the Annual Report on the Budget for the 2025-2026 FY.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will continue its seventh-day meeting on 3 November. — MNA/TTA

ASEAN AHA Centre provides humanitarian...

FROM PAGE 1

Moreover, humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance worth over US$1.6 million and US$0.73 million has been provided in response to Cyclone Mocha (2023) and Typhoon Yagi (2024), respectively, as well as humanitarian assistance worth over US$1.4 million in response to the Mandalay Earthquake (2025), which has been provided to the affected populations through the AHA Centre.

Under Phase II, which started in May 2023, as of September 2026, the AHA Centre has delivered roughly US$8.04 million worth of essential aid, including food, non-food items, family kits, and personal hygiene kits. Distributions are being conducted in partnership with the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) and other partner organizations of the AHA Centre.

From September 2021 to September 2026, the total value of ASEAN's humanitarian assistance delivered to Myanmar through the AHA Centre reached over US$27.4 million. Myanmar government has also granted approvals for conducting the ASEAN Monitoring Team (AMT) Mission led by the Executive Director of the AHA Centre and representatives from ASEAN Embassies in Yangon to observe the distribution of humanitarian assistance by the AHA Centre. From November 2021 to July 2026, the ASEAN Monitoring Team conducted 18 monitoring missions, comprising 17 physical field visits and remote monitoring exercises.

The ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) is an intergovernmental organization that aims to facilitate cooperation and coordination among ASEAN Member States, as well as with the United Nations and international organizations, for disaster management and emergency response in the ASEAN region. The AHA Centre is located in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Myanmar has maintained full cooperation with the AHA Centre and stands ready to continue supporting the provision of humanitarian assistance to Myanmar. This ongoing effort directly supports the implementation of Point 4 of the ASEAN Five-Point Statement. — MoFA

DIPLOMACY

MNPIFER Union Minister receives Bangladeshi Ambassador



The Bangladeshi ambassador calls on Union Minister U Aung Kyaw Hoe yesterday.

UNION Minister for National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Aung Kyaw Hoe received Dr Md Monwar Hossain, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar, yesterday at Office 1 of the Ministry of National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw.

SEE PAGE 5

Myanmar attends HK 21st Eco Expo Asia 2026, Belt and Road Green Innovation Conference

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Hsan Oo-led Myanmar delegation attended the 21st Eco Expo Asia 2026 and the Belt and Road Green Innovation Conference, held at Asia World-Expo in Hong Kong SAR from 25 to 29 October.



Union Minister U Hsan Oo joins the group documentary photo session at the 21st Eco Expo Asia 2026 and the Belt and Road Green Innovation Conference in Hong Kong SAR.

The event was held under the theme "Connecting the World for a Sustainable Future", focusing on cooperation in addressing environmental challenges, including climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and promoting green transformation, access to advanced technologies and financial resources.

During the event, the Union minister met China's Minister of Ecology and Environment Mr Huang Runqiu, Hong Kong SAR Secretary for Environment and Ecology Mr Tse Chin-wan, and Chairman of the Belt and Road International Green Development Coalition Mr Zhao Yingmin to discuss environmental conservation matters.

More than 400 participants, including ministers, deputy ministers, officials, business representatives and experts from 14 Belt and Road countries and international organizations, attended the event. Exhibition booths from 15 regions were also showcased. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

India Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day 2026 celebrated

THE ceremony to commemorate the India Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day 2026 was held at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 30 October 2026.

It was attended by Union Ministers U Aung Kyaw Hoe, Dr Kan Zaw, Dr Chaw Chaw Sein, Dr Soe Win, Dr Charlie Than and U Tun Ohn, senior officials, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur and relevant officials of the Indian embassy.



A group commemorative photo session at the India Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day 2026 ceremony.

The ceremony was inaugurated with video clips featuring the short film on the ITEC programme and the film on Development Cooperation.

Indian Ambassador Mr Abhay Thakur said the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme is a cornerstone of India's development partnership with the Global South. Globally, over 225,000 professionals from over 160 nations have benefited from ITEC civilian and defence courses to date. Over the ten years from 2016-2017 to 2025-2026, 4,057 Myanmar participants attended short-term specialized courses in fields such as public administration, law, leadership, security, healthcare, digital technology, English language proficiency, agriculture, financial management, and other professional skills, thereby contributing to the emergence of skilled professionals across Myanmar. He concluded by emphasizing that India will continue to remain a mutual respect and sustainable partner in Myanmar's development process.

Afterwards, Union Minister for National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Aung Kyaw Hoe delivered a speech. In his speech, he noted that the ITEC programme was launched on 15 September 1964, making it one of the longest-running international capacity-building and human resource development initiatives. He highlighted that capacity-building training courses have been offered to Myanmar since 1996, playing a crucial role in strengthening the capacity of civil servants across various sectors in the country.

The Union Minister expressed appreciation for providing short-term and long-term training programmes, master's and doctoral degree programmes, concluding with best wishes for the continued success of the ITEC programme.

The former trainees of the ITEC programme shared their experience.

Union Ministers, the Indian Ambassador and attendees enjoyed the performance of Indian cultural dance troupes, had a documentary photo taken and had dinner together. — MNPIFER

India Hands Over Vocational Training Aid for Ex-Drug User Rehabilitation

THE inauguration ceremony of the Small Development Project (SDP) on support for operating vocational training and teaching aids for rehabilitation of ex-drug addicts was held yesterday.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Ko Ko Lwin said Myanmar and India continued to strengthen the longstanding friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation. He noted that the project provided practical assistance by supplying training materials to rehabilitation centres, helping former drug users develop vocational skills and improve their livelihood opportunities.



Union Minister Dr Ko Ko Lwin receives training materials for rehabilitation centres.

Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur said that India had designed projects to support sustainable regional development and address local needs. He highlighted that the rehabilitation of ex-drug users was a long-term process aimed at helping them reintegrate into society. He added that the project supported the welfare of rehabilitated drug users and was directly linked to India's drug-free campaign, and also reaffirmed India's commitment to further expanding bilateral cooperation.

The ceremony concluded with a video presentation on the implementation of the project. — MNA/KTZH

Mudon inspects precautionary measures to prevent water shortages

OFFICIALS of the Department of Rural Development (DRD), under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection in Balauk Village, Mudon Township, Mon State, on 29 October to prevent drinking water shortages that may occur due to the Super El Niño phenomenon.

Subsequently, the Mon State DRD head met local communities and explained that El Niño weather conditions could result in higher temperatures and a reduction in water resources. He urged the rural residents to use water systematically without wastage and to conserve and protect existing water sources.


Officials oversee preventive measures taken against water shortages in Mudon Township.

Mon State DRD Head U Saw Myint Tun, Mawlamyine District DRD Head U Myint Naing Oo, Mudon Township DRD Head Daw Khin Sanda Win and officials inspected the existing drinking water storage conditions at elevated water tanks and earth rainwater storage ponds in Balauk Village.

The Mon State DRD head instructed village-responsible personnel to systematically distribute and use drinking water economically and to ensure that available water resources are used efficiently. He also urged them to contact the Department for necessary assistance if drinking water shortages occur.

He further stressed the importance of making advance preparations for possible water shortages by storing sufficient drinking water, keeping water storage tanks clean and properly maintained, and using water only as necessary. Necessary assistance and coordination were also provided to address the requirements of the local community. The field inspection and awareness activities were conducted with the aim of ensuring that local communities have adequate access to drinking water and are well prepared for possible water shortages during the period of Super El Niño weather conditions. — Thuta (DRD)

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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION
(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511
ADVERTISING & MARKETING
(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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gnlmnews@gmail.com,
newsroom@gnlm.com.mm
www.gnlm.com.mm

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

NATIONAL

DIPLOMACY

MNPIFER Union Minister ...

FROM PAGE 3

Both sides held cordial and frank discussions on matters related to Myanmar-Bangladesh bilateral relations, promotion of investment, bilateral economic cooperation, and plans for further cooperation between the two countries.

Officials from the Ministry of National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations also attended the meeting. — MNPIFER

Security forces assist displaced ethnic residents in returning to Thantlang

TATMADAW is conducting counter-terrorism operations in various military command areas to ensure public security and stability. On 9 June, it regained full control of the Haka-Thantlang road, which had been temporarily controlled by armed groups affiliated with the CNF and CDF.

Under the guidance of the Government, Tatmadaw and relevant departments are providing assistance to displaced residents to enable them to return and resettle in their communities. Efforts are also being made to reopen government offices, restore education and healthcare services, and improve local socioeconomic conditions. Damaged government buildings and residential houses are also being repaired.

To facilitate the safe and smooth return of displaced residents, departmental personnel and security forces have been making necessary arrangements. Yesterday morning, vehicles and motorcycles carrying departmental officials and returning residents departed Haka and arrived in Thantlang in the same afternoon, where they were welcomed by responsible officials and provided with necessary assistance.

Following the reopening of the Haka-Thantlang road, the authorities have continued working with residents on resettlement and rehabilitation efforts. These include mine-clearance operations to reduce risks, repairs to damaged homes and government buildings, and other necessary assistance to restore normalcy in the area. — MNA/KTZH

Indonesia Expo 2026 opens at Novotel Max Yangon Hotel for 2 days

THE opening ceremony of Indonesia Expo 2026 was held at the Novotel Max Yangon Hotel in Kamayut Township, Yangon Region, at 9 am yesterday.

The two-day exhibition, which runs on 30 and 31 October, features 20 private-sector exhibitors from Myanmar, including the UMFCCI and MRCCI, and 40 Indonesian exhibitors representing sectors such as aviation, banking, education, traditional batik and clothing, energy, fertilizers, consumer goods, medical equipment and pharmaceuticals, bringing the total number of exhibitors to 60.



Union Minister U Tun Ohn speaks on the opening occasion of the Indonesia Expo 2026 in Yangon yesterday.

At the opening ceremony, Union Minister for Commerce U Tun Ohn said that the exhibition aimed to further strengthen economic and trade cooperation between Myanmar and Indonesia and facilitate the exchange of trade and manufacturing technologies between businesspeople from the two countries. He also highlighted the importance of the exhibition as an opportunity to enhance mutual understanding and trust. He noted that improving product quality and expanding trade networks were important to a country's economic development, and stressed the need for closer cooperation to promote bilateral trade and support the long-term development of the two countries' economies.

Meanwhile, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu, Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry President U Aye Win, the vice-president and officials of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce, and the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Yangon delivered welcoming remarks. The opening ceremony was attended by ambassadors and officials from foreign embassies based in Myanmar, as well as businesspeople from Myanmar and Indonesia. — MNA/MKKS

3 Major Cities Poised for 5G Trial Launch

5G telecommunications technology services are now available for trial use in Nay Pyi Taw Council Territory, Yangon, and Mandalay, according to the Ministry of Digital Development and Communications.

On 29 October, U Thet Win Aung, Deputy Minister, inspected the implementation of 5G telecommunications technology, network connectivity, installation and operation of telecom equipment, and technical operations at telecommunication stations located in Ottarathiri and Zabuthiri townships in Nay Pyi Taw.


Deputy Minister U Thet Win Aung inspects the implementation of 5G technology at telecommunication stations.

"5G is a key technology for high-speed data connectivity, real-time information exchange, and the development of digital technology-based services. Therefore, in implementing 5G networks, it is essential to operate in accordance with technical standards, ensure network stability and service quality, and systematically manage the operation and maintenance of telecommunication equipment," the deputy minister instructed officials.

The advancement of 5G technology will support the growth of the digital economy, smart city development, internet-based services, and technology-applied operations. As a result, relevant departments and mobile telecom operators are collaborating to ensure the quality development of communication networks. — TWA/ZN

Zigon Road Paving Works Inspected

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection yesterday to monitor the progress of the macadan paving project on an internal village road in Tawmyaingsoon Village, Zigon Township, Bago Region. The project is being carried out during the 2026-2027 financial year using the Village Development Project (VDP) grant fund and contributions from the local community.

U Pyae Phyo Aung, Head of the Zigon Township Department of Rural Development, along with staff members and local village implementation committee members, inspected the ongoing work. Following the inspection, the township head met village representatives and implementation committee members, urging them to focus on completing the project on time while adhering to the specified quality standards.

The internal village road paving project in Tawmyaingsoon Village, measuring 1,050 feet in length, 12 feet in width, and eight inches in height, is funded with K15 million from the VDP grant and K3.45 million contributed by the village residents, totalling K18.45 million. Implemented directly by villagers themselves with technical support from engineers of the Zigon Township Department of Rural Development, the project began on 22 September and is currently over 80 per cent complete. Once fully completed, it will greatly facilitate transport for the residents of Tawmyaingsoon Village, according to U Pyae Phyo Aung, Head of the Zigon Township Department of Rural Development. — Ko Nyo (Rural)


Officials inspect the road paving project in Zigon Township, Bago Region.

NATIONAL

Tatmadaw shooting team heads for 34th AARM 2026

THE Tatmadaw shooting team departed from Nay Pyi Taw Airport yesterday morning for Malaysia to compete in the 34th ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet (AARM).

The team was seen off at the airport by Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Zaw Hein, accompanied by senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief.

The 34th ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet (AARM) is being held in Malaysia from 30 October to 19 November, with shooting teams from 10 ASEAN countries taking part.

The Myanmar Tatmadaw team will compete in the rifle, carbine, machine gun, men's pistol and women's pistol events. Led by team leader Lt-Col Thein Soe Tun, the delegation comprises 55 personnel, including administrators, coaches and shooting athletes. — MNA/MKKS



The Tatmadaw shooting team is seen at Nay Pyi Taw Airport before departing for Malaysia.

Tailoring Training Course opens in Nattalin

THE opening ceremony of a Tailoring Training Course, implemented under the project aimed at creating employment opportunities for families of police force members, was held on 29 October at the office of the Nattalin District Police Force in Nattalin.



The launch of the Tailoring Training Course in progress in Nattalin Township on 29 October 2026.

The training course was conducted by the Pyay District Small-Scale Industries Department under the supervision of the Bago Region Small-Scale Industries Department, Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development.

Chairman U Tin Shwe of the Nattalin District Management and Administration Committee delivered an opening address. The head of the Pyay District Small-Scale Industries Department then explained the objectives of conducting the training course. Police Lt-Col Moe Kyaw Han, Officiating Commander of District Police Force of Nattalin District, also presented work-related equipment to the trainees, while U Zaw Win, Chairman of the Nattalin Township Management and Administration Committee, provided training materials and raw materials required for the trainees.

During the Tailoring Training Course, the trainees will receive both theoretical and practical instruction on making various types of women's blouses, dresses, four-layer skirts, wrap skirts and other garments. The training will be conducted for 45 days from 29 October to 12 November.

Upon training completion, machinery and equipment worth approximately K7 million will be made available for use by the relevant organization to enable the trainees to establish their own businesses and generate sustainable employment opportunities. — Thanda (DRD)

Workers on leave must apply in person for reboarding permits

MYANMAR workers who returned to Myanmar on leave after working abroad must apply in person in Yangon for a reboarding permit as of 1 November, stated the Department of Labour on 30 October.

This service was previously provided in Nay Pyi Taw. However, it has now been relocated to the Department of Labour's Skills Training Centre in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region.

Along with the required documents, applicants must submit proof of a two per cent income tax payment and evidence that 25 per cent of their income has been remitted to their families for three consecutive months through remittance service providers authorized by the Central Bank or licensed remittance businesses.



The skills training centre.

PJ holders (passport for job) must apply for the Overseas Worker Identification Card (OWIC), it said. New OWICs or renewals will be provided for those whose cards are expiring or have less than a year of validity, as well as for those who want to amend their employment information due to a job change. – TWA/ZS

Kengtung's MSY income-generating activities inspected

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

Kengtung District Department of Rural Development Head Daw Ei Ei Myat and officials visited the village to inspect small-scale production businesses being carried out with loans from the project's revolving fund. She met members of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Management Committee to examine whether monthly financial records had been properly completed and urged committee members to expand household income-generating activities while ensuring systematic management of the revolving fund to prevent any loss or misuse.

The Mya Sein Yaung Village Project was launched in Thauam Village during the 2023-2024 financial year. At present, concessionary revolving loans totalling K21.4 million have been disbursed to 18 project members, all of whom are successfully operating local income-generating production activities with support from the project funds. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)



Officials oversee a small-scale production project in Kengtung Township.

Shwe Kokko Phase II presses ahead with illegal building demolition

TREATING the fight against telecom fraud and online gambling as a matter of national duty, the Government is systematically demolishing illegal structures in the Shwe Kokko area to prevent them from being used again for scam and gambling operations. As part of operations targeting the remaining illegal buildings in Shwe Kokko Phase II, heavy machinery has been deployed to demolish key structures. Demolition work on one six-storey building is 40 per cent complete, while work on another five-storey building is 10 per cent complete.

Of the 63 structures targeted for demolition in Shwe Kokko Phase II, the authorities have determined the demolition methods based on building type and surrounding conditions. So far, four buildings designated for demolition using heavy machinery have been completely demolished. Work on the remaining 55 buildings will continue. The Government is continuing to combat online fraud and online gambling as a matter of national responsibility. — 100/MKKS

NATIONAL

2 Arrested for Illegal NUG Lottery Ticket Sales

AUTHORITIES have arrested two alleged sales agents involved in selling illegal Nway Oo Hti (lottery) tickets through a website operated by (NUG) terroists.

The NUG terroists had been operating the illegal Nway Oo Hti website since around August 2021, using sales proceeds to finance its activities and provide support to its affiliated groups.

The two suspects were identified as Nanda Hlaing from Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region, and Hsu Myat Wai (aka) Lay Paung, from Danubyu Township, Ayeyawady Region.


Nanda Hlaing, 48.


Hsu Myat Wai (aka) lay Paung, 39.

Both were members of the PRF support network and had served as lottery sales agents. Nandar Hlaing has been involved since February 2024 and transferred lottery prizes through SDB accounts, while Su Myat Wai had been selling tickets since June 2025 and transferring the money to affiliated groups.

These two suspects will face legal action under the Counter-Terrorism Law. Investigations are continuing to identify and arrest other individuals involved in the illegal lottery operation. — MNA/KTZH

18 Thai nationals arrested in Namsang over online scams

SECURITY personnel arrested 18 Thai nationals involved in online scams and gambling near Pawkywe Village in Namsang Township, southern Shan State, at around 10:15 am yesterday.

Following reports that online scam and gambling activities were being carried out in the township, joint teams comprising security personnel conducted investigations and searches in the area.

During the operation, they arrested 12 Thai men and six Thai women, bringing the total to 18 people, at a site about 1,700 metres northwest of Pawkywe Village.

Authorities also seized equipment and facilities used in the illegal activities, including one temporary residential hut measuring 30 feet by 15 feet, two residential huts each measuring 15 feet by 10 feet, one temporary workshop measuring 20 feet by 15 feet, one temporary kitchen measuring 15 feet by 10 feet, two Starlink devices, seven all-in-one computers, one colour printer, 16 mobile phones, two defective CPUs and related equipment.

The arrested individuals will face strict legal action under existing laws once the necessary investigations have been completed. The seized equipment will also be dealt with in accordance with established procedures.

The State is continuing its efforts to eradicate online scams and gambling and prevent such activities from operating in Myanmar, in cooperation with neighbouring and regional countries and international organisations. — MNA/KZL

Awareness talk on El Niño-related water shortages held in Kawhmu

AN awareness talk on preventing drinking water shortages caused by the El Niño phenomenon was held in Letkhike Village, Kawhmu Township, Yangon Region, on 29 October. The event was conducted by the Department of Rural Development (DRD) of Kawhmu Township.

At the event, U Aung Thet Oo, Head of the DRD in Twantay District, delivered the opening remarks, explaining the purpose of raising public awareness about preventing drinking water shortages during the El Niño period.


An awareness talk on preventing water shortages in progress in Kawhmu Towship.

U Tin Ko Lat, Head of the DRD in Kawhmu Township, then explained the measures the department would take if drinking water shortages occurred due to El Niño, preventive measures to reduce its impacts, precautions to follow during the affected period, and the necessary dos and don'ts.

Following the talks, DRD staff distributed educational pamphlets outlining preventive measures and the actions the public should take to prepare for El Niño.

After the awareness session, U Aung Thet Oo, U Tin Ko Latt and DRD staff inspected the existing drinking water collection and usage conditions in Letkhike Village and Thaegon Village to assess the situation and help prevent water shortages caused by El Niño. — Moe Moe (DRD)

PDF battalion adjutant arrested in Yangon for alleged terrorist activities

SECURITY forces have arrested Wint Hlwa Aung, also known as Sit Nyein May, who served as adjutant of the terrorist PDF Hinthada District Battalion 3, in Lanmadaw Township, Yangon Region, on 10 October 2026.


Wint Hlwa Aung (aka) Sit Nyein May

The NUG, CRPH and their subordinate PDF terrorist groups, which have been designated as terrorist organizations by the Government, have been committing assassinations of Buddhist monks, civil servants, including teachers, and civilians, as well as robberies, mine attacks targeting public recreational venues and indiscriminate bombings and destruction of public infrastructure associated with the Government, to disrupt administrative mechanisms.

As security forces continue round-the-clock operations to identify and apprehend those involved in such activities, they have been acting on tip-offs and complaints secretly provided by residents who oppose terrorism and actions undermining State stability.

According to the confession of the arrested woman, she attended military training conducted by Brigade 7 of the KNU, which has also been designated a terrorist organization, from May to June 2021. She subsequently participated in terrorist activities, holding various positions, including office in-charge, adjutant and quartermaster, at Brigade 7, Hinthada District Battalion 1, the Ayeyawady Yoma Column and Hinthada District Battalion 3.

In July 2025, she returned to Yangon and continued carrying out administrative and logistical support duties for Hinthada District Battalion 3.

Investigations further revealed that, after assuming the post of adjutant of Hinthada District Battalion 3, Wint Hlwa Aung compiled personnel lists, facilitated the transfer of funds for terrorist activities, submitted daily gazette reports and forwarded reports on casualties and injuries.

She also used online mobile financial services to receive and transfer operational funds for the battalion. In addition, she re-transferred quarterly salaries allocated by the terrorist Ministry of Defence (MOD) and donations from supporters under arrangements made by Ye Kyaw Thu, also known as Ye Gaung, a battalion commander-ranked official of Hinthada District Battalion 3.

Legal action will be taken against Wint Hlwa Aung, also known as Sit Nyein May, under the Counter-Terrorism Law.

The public is urged to cooperate in preventing and combating terrorism. Anyone with information about the hideouts or movements of so-called PDF terrorist members is requested to report it confidentially to the relevant authorities. Appropriate cash rewards will be provided confidentially to informants and those assisting in the arrests. — MNA/ST

OPINION

Developing people-centred cities

Housing is more than just shelter. It is foundational to tackling inequality and speeding sustainable development, said António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, highlighting the importance of accommodation for global people.

Cities around the world are home to people from diverse communities. No city belongs exclusively to a single ethnic or national group. In fact, cities are home to people with different political beliefs, skin colours, nationalities, ages, genders and other backgrounds. However, all residents must live together peacefully without bullying, harassing or disturbing others. In this regard, the principles of peaceful coexistence are of great importance to all urban residents.

On 31 October 2026, the Global Observance of World Cities Day takes place in Fuzhou, China, under the theme "Regenerating the City: Adequate Housing for All". The 2026 observance focuses on urban regeneration as a catalyst for achieving adequate housing for all and on how area-based regeneration, combined with housing and informal-settlement strategies, can create more inclusive and climate-resilient neighbourhoods.

> Furthermore, sustainable cities require environmental protection, efficient public transport, proper waste management, green spaces and the responsible use of natural resources. Governments, businesses, communities and individuals must work together to achieve these objectives. On World Cities Day 2026, the international community is encouraged to renew its commitment to developing cities that are environmentally sustainable, economically prosperous, socially inclusive and peaceful, ensuring a better quality of life for present and future generations.

According to the United Nations, cities around the world are confronting interconnected pressures, including housing affordability challenges, ageing neighbourhoods and infrastructure, underutilized urban land, climate-related risks and widening social inequalities. According to the World Cities Day 2026 Concept Note, up to 3.4 billion people lack access to adequate housing, secure tenure, basic services or affordable living conditions. Urban regeneration offers an opportunity to address these challenges by improving existing urban areas while expanding access to adequate housing and ensuring that no one is left behind.

Furthermore, sustainable cities require environmental protection, efficient public transport, proper waste management, green spaces and the responsible use of natural resources. Governments, businesses, communities and individuals must work together to achieve these objectives. On World Cities Day 2026, the international community is encouraged to renew its commitment to developing cities that are environmentally sustainable, economically prosperous, socially inclusive and peaceful, ensuring a better quality of life for present and future generations.

Indeed, all urban residents should focus on maintaining peace, stability and development in their cities. Alongside the construction of buildings to accommodate a growing population, special care must be taken to protect and preserve the natural environment. Priority should be given to developing green surroundings and a green economy in our cities. Only then can we build, preserve and pass on beautiful and well-developed cities to future generations. Furthermore, we must continuously strive to ensure that our cities keep pace with the development of major cities around the world.

ARTICLE

Young People Should Excel in Both Education and Sports

By Thin Hlaing Hmwe

A student who spends the day in a classroom and the evening on a playing field is learning more than facts from textbooks or skills from a game. The classroom encourages curiosity, patience and clear thinking; the playing field teaches discipline, cooperation and courage. Together, these experiences help young people grow into capable, healthy and responsible citizens.

This is why students should strive to excel not only in education but also in sports. Academic achievement is important, but it is only one part of a young person's development. The country needs a new generation that is knowledgeable, physically strong, morally responsible, and able to work with others. By nurturing the five strengths – physical, intellectual, moral, social and moral character – young people can become well-rounded individuals whom the State and the community can rely on.

Learning beyond the classroom

Today's students will become tomorrow's leaders, professionals and public servants. Their education gives them the knowledge and skills to contribute to the country's development. Yet lessons alone cannot prepare them for every challenge they may face. Young people also need good health, self-discipline, perseverance and the ability to cooperate with people from different backgrounds.

For example, a student preparing for an examination learns to plan, concentrate and keep working towards a goal. An athlete training for a competition faces similar demands: regular practice, patience when progress is slow, and the determination to improve after a setback. These habits reinforce one another. A student who learns to manage time for both study and training may become more organized, while an athlete who practises discipline on the field may carry that focus into the classroom.

Sport can also offer an important lesson in resilience. A team may lose a match despite careful preparation, or an individual may fail to reach a personal target. Such moments can be disappointing, but they also teach students to examine what went wrong, accept constructive advice and try again. Those are valuable skills not only in sport, but also in education, work and life.



Health is a foundation for achievement

Good health is essential to sustained learning and active participation in society. If young people neglect their physical well-being, their ability to study, work and serve others may be affected. Regular physical activity helps students maintain fitness and can provide a healthy balance to long hours spent reading or using digital devices.

Not every student needs to become a competitive athlete. Walking, jogging, playing a team game or taking part in regular exercise can all contribute to a healthier lifestyle. Schools and universities can encourage students to find activities that suit their interests and abilities. The key is to make physical activity a regular part of life rather than something undertaken only when a major competition approaches.

Sports can also help students learn to care for their health responsibly. Training encourages them to understand the value of preparation, rest, and consistent effort. A student who warms up before playing, follows a training routine and respects the limits of the body is learning habits that can support lifelong well-being.

Youth and sport, like youth and education, are therefore closely connected. A healthy body can support a focused mind, while knowledge helps students make informed choices about their health and performance.

A platform for unity and experience

The 2025-2026 Academic Year Inter-University Sports Competition, organized under the guidance of the State Government by the Ministry of Science and Technology, provides an opportunity to put these ideas into practice. The competition is being held across eight regional zones: Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw, Magway, Mandalay, Mon, Yangon, Shan and Ayeyawady.

From 25 October to 4 November, student athletes are competing in six events – badminton, table tennis, Chinlone, futsal, volleyball and football – at Naypyitaw State Polytechnic University and the Government Technical Institute in Nay Pyi Taw. A total of 392 male and female student athletes from various universities are participating.

The scale and variety of the competition matter. Individual events such as badminton and table tennis demand concentration, coordination and self-control. Players must remain alert, respond quickly and keep their composure during a close match. Team events such as futsal, volleyball and football require communication, trust and a shared understanding of the team's aims. Chinlone, meanwhile, gives participants an opportunity to showcase skill, control and coordination through a sport with a distinctive cultural character.

Each event offers lessons that extend beyond the score. A volleyball player who encourages teammates after a missed serve is practising respect and solidarity. A footballer who passes the ball to a better-positioned teammate is putting the team's success ahead of personal recognition. A badminton player who accepts an official's decision calmly demonstrates respect for rules and fair play.

Competitions at university, regional-zone and central levels also bring students together. Participants from different parts of the country can meet, exchange experiences and form friendships. A student from one region may learn how another university organizes its training, while teammates and opponents may discover common interests despite coming from different communities. These encounters can broaden young people's perspectives and strengthen mutual understanding.

Teamwork, character and patriotism

Sport is an effective way to develop social strength because success often depends on how well people work together. In a team, each player has a role, and one person's effort can support the whole group. Students learn to listen, communicate, share responsibility and encourage others. These abilities are valuable in classrooms, workplaces and communities, where progress also depends on cooperation.

Sport can also build moral strength and character. Rules create a shared standard for players, while fair play teaches them to compete honestly. Students learn that winning should not come at the expense of respect, and that opponents deserve recognition for their efforts. A gracious winner and a determined loser both show strength of character.

These values can deepen a young person's sense of responsibility towards the wider community. When students represent their university or region, they are not playing only for themselves. They carry the hopes of fellow students, teachers and supporters. Their conduct – whether in victory or defeat – can bring pride to those they represent. That sense of belonging can nurture patriotism and inspire young people to work for the honour and progress of the nation and its people.

Striving for balanced success

The Inter-University Sports Competition is more than a series of matches. It is an investment in students' development and a reminder that education and physical growth should advance together. The competition gives

SEE PAGE 11

Expertise in Lesson Preparation

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

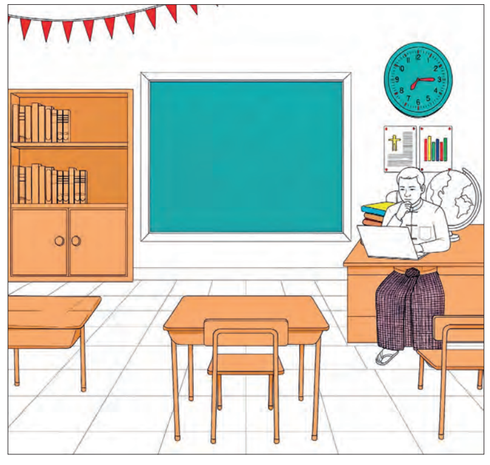
We, teachers, all know that well-prepared lesson plans are also the life of a teaching process. As the saying goes, a good beginning makes a good end. Successful teaching usually begins with a teacher's good lesson plan. No matter whether we are inexperienced or seasoned teachers, we ought to have a well-drawn lesson plan prior to our actual teaching. In fact, a lesson plan can be written down on paper, but professional teachers will have thought about it in their minds for certain. Hence, it may be said that any lesson plan is not necessarily written down on paper by hand. In spite of this, we must have prepared a suitable lesson plan before class for task accomplishment, learning achievement, academic success and educational goals.

Of course, making lesson plans can save time. By looking at teachers' guides, many teachers like to make a lesson plan: how many lessons there are in a unit or chapter, how the lessons are subdivided according to weeks and months in the whole academic year, how much time will be used in each lesson, at what time re-teaching is done and when tests and examinations are held. Only estimated time limits and periods will be described in the teacher's guides, I should believe. Based on our prior knowledge and/or experience about teaching, we teachers tend to draw a lesson plan, also relying upon the guidebook. Whatever it is, we can roughly calculate the total time taken for all school lessons in an academic year. Different factors such as personal cases, unexpected environmental contexts and first-time teaching may increase or lessen teaching time to a considerable amount. At such times, we teachers are able to give more or less instruction time to lessons to come as needed.

So, preparing a lesson plan will probably reduce a complete waste of time. Since the lesson plan looks like a kind of time management, we teachers have a chance to know in advance how much time and how many periods are set in a lesson or a unit. This also means self-awareness for us teachers. If we conduct teaching without any lesson plan, it is certain that our instruction will go like a blind person is walking. That is to say, due to teaching without a lesson plan, we cannot imagine ahead how many lessons should be completed within what time and how often. When it comes right to us teachers, our waste time of teaching will fly in a heap more than it should be so. Only because allocated or limited time of teaching is assigned to a lesson plan do we teachers need to make use of class time as much as we can do our utmost.

And having planned the lesson is by far better than teaching off the cuff with no arrangements. Truly, a lesson plan develops a teacher's self-confidence to a certain extent. Thanks to the lesson plan, he will know how long his teaching method takes with teaching materials and activities. Not only that, he should understand when and where he has to pause, break or even stop the lesson like a professional, even if he is not one. Also, he does not possibly have any teaching worries _ when in the world, his teaching lessons will have been carried out on time or in time. Here, the lesson plan also refers to a teacher's pre-reading task on subject matter. Thus, lesson plans enable teachers to release subject anxiety or teaching stress to a certain degree. A lesson plan is often drawn in accordance with the nature of school subjects, the need or readiness of students and the national objectives of education. After all, the lesson plan will lead the whole classroom, including teachers and students in the future.

But there are some cases in a lesson plan that we should take notice of. Firstly, we should not always think that the lesson plan will certainly go as planned. What I mean is that the set time in lesson plans may take greater or lesser in length than expected. Therefore, we teachers should set ample time when drawing a lesson plan if possible. Really, the time set in teachers' guides and lesson plans is estimated but adequate. Secondly, we must never expect that all teaching-learning tasks and activities arranged in the lesson plan will surely happen in the classroom. This is because we are sometimes not sure whether our tasks and activities meet the learning outcomes or objectives of a lesson as well as students' needs, wants or likes. Above all, any lesson plan drawn by any teacher should be flexible as well as living, in which even the teaching method intended to be applied can be changed as and when necessary. For a teacher, if he is under the illusion that his method of instruction will always be flawless or perfect, he must become the best failure in the field of teaching one day.



NATIONAL
BUSINESS

Myanmar Avocado, Fruit Supply Chain Study Tour completed

THE Supply Chain Promotion and Study Tour, an initial effort to build a resilient fruit supply chain based on the domestic consumption chain, was completed on 27 October, following discussions at the Myanmar Avocado and Fruit Festival 2026, according to the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association.

The tour led by MFVP Chairman U Kyaw Thu brought together growers, companies, association leaders and market actors from southern Shan State and the PyinOoLwin area.

Growers are found to be facing high production costs and difficulties in foreign export markets amid border export route closures, delays in reaching bilateral pest control protocol agreements, geopolitical sensitivities and rising imported fertilizer prices. Extreme heat from El Niño has also damaged climate-sensitive crops such as avocado. This study tour was aimed at tackling these challenges.

Participants visited City Mart's Market Place on Dhammazedi Road, where officials of City Mart Holding Co Ltd discussed difficulties that farmers face in applying for Myanmar GAP certification, the lack of markets for GAP-certified crops, and domestic premium market requirements. City Mart explained its contract farming arrangements, its ability to buy from farmers at good prices through the Shan South cold storage centre, and presenting ethnic entrepreneurs' products as Pride of Myanmar. The two sides held initial discussions on a project to provide technical assistance to farmers and promote food-safe crops.


Myanmar's avocados.

Shan avocado promotion was conducted at the Akhaya restaurant on Pyay Road by giving Shan avocado as gifts, and PyinOoLwin Green Avo avocado puree drinks were served, allowing farmers to introduce their fruit directly to consumers. Consumers gave good feedback. Links were also made with restaurant groups for long-term sales partnerships with proper quality control and for promoting consumption of nutritious, chemical-free Myanmar fruit.

Participants studied operations at the Danyingon wholesale market and Myanmar Agro Exchange, including its wholesale market and cold storage network projects and southern Shan wholesale market and cold storage plans. Growers and companies asked about investment opportunities in southern Shan projects. In a special session, MAEX arranged direct talks between avocado growers and Danyingon wholesale avocado traders and brokers, who discussed market conditions and potential in Yangon. MAEX also explained cold storage services available for heat-sensitive avocados and stalls at the Danyingon direct farmer market and storage at MAEX's standard 5-degree Celsius cold storage at K3 per kilogramme per night. MFVP expressed appreciation to MAEX and said it will share the findings with farmers and companies that did not join the tour.

Participants visited a GAP natural fertilizer plant to learn about reducing cultivation costs through the circular economy and improving soil health amid rising imported fertilizer prices. The plant demonstrated production of quality natural and biological fertilizers and taught practical, systematic composting methods. Growers asked questions and invited the company to cooperate in their own regions for trial plots and further study.

Key outcomes of the tour included stronger links among growers, distributors, service providers and other supply chain actors; reduced cultivation costs and lower import dependence through systematic use of natural and biological fertilizers; improved long-term soil resilience; progress toward assured markets for Myanmar GAP-certified crops; connections with premium retailers such as City Mart and restaurants for sustained GAP markets; reduced losses through cold chain use; and readiness for regular sea and air trade. Participants also identified quick wins: using MAEX's crop collection and storage centres and cold storage networks to preserve crops and improve quality during border route closures and to prepare infrastructure for regular sea and air exports, and collecting and releasing timely data from different market levels, including wholesale market sales, wastage and price conditions by crop type. — NN/KK

Palm oil reference price shows downtick

THE palm oil wholesale reference price set for the Yangon market slightly decreased to K7,450 per viss this week ending 5 November, down from K7,500 last week, according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution. The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs and banking services to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Despite the reference price, the market price is still high. To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce has informed consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The committee notified that any person who is involved in price gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law. The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers. The complaints for overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department, or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned.


Cooking oil is arranged for sale at a local market.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are annually imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demand. — NN/KK


Vehicles are seen on the road in downtown Yangon.

Yangon Region govt to resume collecting parking fees on 1 Nov

THE Yangon Region government will resume collecting parking fees within the city starting from 1 November.

Fees will be collected daily from 8 am to 6 pm. The rate is K500 per hour of parking, K300 for the first 30 minutes beyond the paid hour, and K500 for up to 60 minutes beyond the paid hour, according to the government.

Fees will be collected in areas divided into eight zones, from Strand Road to Bogyoke Aung San Road and from Yazadarit Road to Aung Yadana Road.

The parking fee collection work was put out to tender through newspaper announcements. — NN/KK

NEWS IN BRIEF

GM to pay $220M to settle privacy lawsuit

GENERAL Motors will pay $220 million to settle litigation over the sale of drivers' driving data that was then used to raise insurance rates, New York's attorney general said Thursday. The payments resolves a suit brought by New York and 35 other states alleging GM shared the data of drivers enrolled in its Smart Driver program despite saying it would not be given to insurers without express consent, James's office said in a press release.

The programme tracked actions such as sudden braking and whether drivers exceeded the speed limit. GM sold the data to data bankers who sold the info to insurers, who in some cases lifted premiums by significant levels, according to the press release. — AFP

Portugal to subsidize up to 80 % of electric vehicle cost for low-income families

PORTUGAL'S government announced Wednesday a new package of electric vehicle subsidies that includes, for the first time, a dedicated programme for low-income households covering up to 80 per cent of the purchase price, Environment Minister Maria da Graca Carvalho told parliament.

The programme will support the acquisition of up to 20,000 vehicles for vulnerable families, with co-financing of up to 80 per cent of the vehicle's value.

A parallel scheme for the general population, with rules similar to previous programmes, will have a budget of approximately 50 million euros (US$56 million). — Xinhua



The programme will support the acquisition of up to 20,000 vehicles for vulnerable families.
PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/PIXABAY

South Korea to prosecute students cheating with smart glasses

South Korea's notoriously gruelling college entry exam, known as the "Suneung", is essential for admission to top universities.

SOUTH Korea will file criminal complaints against students caught cheating on a national university entrance exam with smart glasses and toughen penalties for their use, a government official told AFP Friday.

Sales of smart glasses — which allow the wearer to shoot photos and videos, and interact with an AI assistant among other abilities — are growing worldwide.

But so is a backlash around the gadgets, including concerns over people being filmed without consent and their use by exam cheats.



A pair of smart glasses is pictured on display at the Eyedaq eyewear store in Seoul on 30 October 2026.
PHOTO: AFP

South Korea's notoriously gruelling college entry exam, known as the "Suneung", is essential for admission to top universities and widely regarded as a gateway to economic security and even a good marriage.

"The ministry will seek criminal charges against students caught cheating with smart glasses" in the future, Lee Joon-hyuk, an education ministry official, told AFP.

Under authorities' plans, students caught cheating with smart glasses will not be able to retake their exams for three years, an extension from the current penalty of one year.

But the new rules are unlikely to apply to next month's college entrance tests, Lee said.

"With only about 20 days left until the exam, it would be realistically difficult to amend the law before then. However, we plan to push for the changes to take effect from next year's exam," he said. — AFP

Luxury watch worth estimated 46M yen stolen in Tokyo

A Japanese-led glassware brand using discarded bottles has become one of Palau's signature local products, winning over environmentally conscious tourists to the Pacific island nation.

What began as an effort to put waste glass to good use has grown into a successful venture in just over a decade, producing everything from earrings to elaborate ornaments inspired by the country's marine life. Inside a sweltering workshop in Koror, Palau's largest city, furnaces glow red-hot as artisans work with molten glass. During a recent visit, French Polynesian President Moetai Brotherson tried his hand at glassblowing under the watchful eye of 82-year-old Japanese recycling expert Katsuo Fuji. — Kyodo



Police inspect the area near a watch store inside the Nakano Broadway shopping complex in Tokyo following an alleged theft on 29 October 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Young People Should Excel in Both ...

FROM PAGE 9

young people a chance to test their abilities, learn from experience, and build relationships across regions. It also highlights the importance of creating opportunities for both male and female students to participate and demonstrate their talents.

Students should therefore make purposeful efforts in both their studies and sports. This does not mean that every student must achieve the same results or pursue the same event. Each young person has different interests and abilities. Rather, it means valuing learning and health, setting achievable goals, practising consistently and supporting others along the way.

Families, teachers and universities can help by encouraging students to balance their commitments and by recognizing effort as well as achievement. A student who improves through steady practice deserves encouragement, even if they do not win a medal. Similarly, an athlete who takes responsibility for schoolwork is showing that dedication in one area need not come at the cost of another.

The future will require young people who can think clearly, act responsibly, stay physically fit and work constructively with others. By excelling in education and sports, students can develop the five strengths needed to meet that challenge. With knowledge in their minds, health in their bodies and discipline and goodwill in their character, they can become well-rounded individuals and reliable human resources for the country's future development. ■

ECONOMY
WORLD

India's FY27 power demand growth forecast raised to 9% as generation surges

Power demand to rise six per cent in FY28, with further upside possible if El Niño conditions recur in 2027.

INDIA'S power demand growth forecast for FY27 has been raised to nine per cent from seven per cent earlier, as electricity generation surged amid rising consumption, with Jefferies warning that tight coal stocks at thermal plants could add pressure on supply.

In its report, the brokerage firm said power generation in October 2026 was up 24 per cent year-on-year month-to-date, marking the strongest monthly trend in 15 years, barring the post-COVID year of 2021. Power demand had already grown by more than 10 per cent year-on-year so far in the financial year. "We raise our FY27E demand estimate to nine per cent versus seven per cent earlier as YTD it is up 10 per cent+ YoY," the report said.



Power generation in October 2026 was up 24 per cent year-on-year month-to-date, marking the strongest monthly trend in 15 years. **PHOTO: PIXABAY**

Jefferies also expects power demand to rise six per cent in FY28, with further upside possible if El Niño conditions recur in 2027. It said, "Above normal temperatures and continued rising demand could drive better utilization levels in thermal and RE ahead."

The increase in demand has pushed thermal power plant utilization to 68 per cent in FY27 so far, compared with 62 per cent in the year-ago period. However, coal stocks at thermal plants have fallen to just six days of consumption, against 15 days a year earlier, while renewable energy generation rose 26 per cent year-on-year so far in FY27.

Renewable sources accounted for 20 per cent of total power generation in FY27 so far, compared with 17 per cent a year earlier. Solar generation led the increase, rising 47 per cent, while hydro generation declined 12 per cent due to below-average rainfall during the June-September monsoon period. — ANI

NEWS IN BRIEF

Christine Lagarde: unifying ECB chief in turbulent times

CHRISTINE Lagarde, who will step down in February 2027 as president of the European Central Bank, has been seen as a unifying leader who headed the institution in turbulent geopolitical times and sought to strengthen it for a more uncertain world.

The veteran French politician's tenure was also rocky at times; she was criticised for policy missteps, notably failing to lift interest rates fast enough during the post-pandemic inflation surge.

Lagarde, 70, was the first woman to head the ECB when she was nominated in 2019, having previously been the first woman to head the International Monetary Fund.

She had a hard act to follow after Mario Draghi, the Italian economist credited with steering the eurozone through the sovereign debt crisis that began in 2009 with his vow to do "whatever it takes" to preserve the single currency.

Nevertheless, most observers agree that Lagarde's consensual leadership style unified the central bank's governing council, which sets interest rates for the 21-nation euro area, and that it has been less riven by disputes than during the Draghi era.

Lagarde "made everyone feel they were part of the same team", a council member told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity. "Seven years later, that spirit is still there." Highlighting her desire to find a middle ground between the ECB's "hawks" – who favour rate increases – and "doves" who prefer looser policy, she described herself as an "owl".

"My ambition is to be this owl that's often associated with a little bit of wisdom," she said in 2019. Afterwards she was often seen wearing an owl brooch. – AFP

Greenland opens new international airport

A new international airport opened Thursday in Greenland's third largest town Ilulissat, with the aim of better connecting the vast Arctic island to the rest of the world, operator Greenland Airports said.

The new airport has a 2,200-metre runway able to accommodate larger aircraft, Greenland Airports stressed in a press release.

Ilulissat, known for its fjord listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, is the last of three new airports in the Danish autonomous territory, following one in the capital Nuuk inaugurated in November 2024 and one in Qaqortoq, which opened in April 2026.



A new international airport opened Thursday in Greenland's third largest town Ilulissat. **PHOTO: GREENLAND AIRPORTS**

"The opening is a historic milestone for Ilulissat, for North Greenland, and for all of Greenland," Jens Lauridsen, CEO of Greenland Airports, said in the statement.

"The three new airports in Ilulissat, Nuuk, and Qaqortoq fundamentally change how the country is connected internally and how Greenland is connected to the rest of the world," he added. The improvement of air infrastructure, partly funded by Denmark, is intended to support the development of the local economy and tourism. — AFP

Vietnam to restructure state capital in major enterprises



The plan also targets raising state ownership in Vietnam Airlines JSC from 39.29 per cent to 86.42 per cent. **PHOTO: VIETNAM AIRLINES**

VIETNAM has approved a plan to restructure state capital in 21 enterprises from 2026 to 2030, including adjusting state ownership in three major banks to 65 per cent, local media VnEconomy reported on Thursday.

Under the plan recently approved by Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Van Thang, state ownership in Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam and Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Foreign Trade of Vietnam will be reduced from 76.73 per cent and 74.8 per cent, respectively, to 65 per cent, according to the report.

The state stake in the Vietnam Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Industry and Trade will rise from 64.46 per cent to 65 per cent.

Meanwhile, the state will continue to hold 100 per cent ownership in the Vietnam Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development and nine enterprises, including Vietnam National Industry-Energy Group, Vietnam Electricity, Vietnam Coal-Mineral Industry Group and Vietnam Railways Corporation, according to the government portal. — Xinhua

Tata Communications to build India's AI super highway

TATA Communications announced strategic investments of close to US$450 million to build an AI super highway in India.

The project involves constructing around 10,000 kilometres of new long-haul fibre to create one of the country's largest AI-ready connectivity networks.

Integrated with the company's global network backbone, the AI super highway will provide customers with a seamless, end-to-end connectivity fabric for next-generation AI workloads.

The initiative is driven by accelerating cloud adoption, AI deployment, data localization requirements, and growing enterprise demand for resilient digital infrastructure.



Tata Communications announced strategic investments of close to US$450 million to build an AI super highway in India. **PHOTO: TATA COMMUNICATIONS**

Leadership emphasized that the AI economy requires a specialized network built for speed, scale, and resilience alongside compute power.

The investment aims to meet unprecedented demand from hyperscale providers, AI workloads, enterprises, and emerging cloud platforms, strengthening India as a global AI gateway.

The first phase of the program will focus on the Mumbai-Pune-Hyderabad-Chennai corridor, with subsequent phases expanding into emerging East Coast and Western India ecosystems.

Tata Communications will also continue supporting existing enterprise needs by scaling its current National Long Distance and metro network footprint. — ANI

Japan chipmaker Kioxia posts 2.2T yen net profit in Apr-Sept

KIOXIA Holdings Corp. said Friday its net profit in the six months through September surged around 37-fold from a year earlier to 2.20 trillion yen ($14 billion) on the back of strong memory chip sales for data centres amid booming demand for artificial intelligence.

The figure came close to the record for first-half net profit by a manufacturer, set by Toyota Motor Corp at 2.59 trillion yen in 2023.

The Japanese chipmaker posted 3.26 trillion yen in operating profit for the April-September period, while sales rose more than fivefold to 4.25 trillion yen.

Kioxia Executive Vice-President Yoshihiko Kawamura said at an online briefing, "We are clearly in a super cycle," as strong demand continued to outpace supply, with higher selling prices and increased shipments supporting growth.

The leading maker of NAND flash memory chips used in computers, smartphones and other devices did not provide an earnings forecast for the financial year ending March. But it expects net profit of 3.56 trillion yen for the nine months through December, up around 24-fold from a year earlier.

For the July-September quarter, Kioxia reported net profit of 1.36 trillion yen and operating profit of 1.99 trillion yen on record sales of 2.48 trillion yen. — Kyodo



The Japanese chipmaker posted 3.26 trillion yen in operating profit for the April-September period. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Egypt hikes interest rates for first time since 2024

EGYPT'S central bank said on Thursday it was hiking interest rates for the first time since 2024, as the country faces mounting economic pressure and inflation driven by the Middle East war.

"The Central Bank of Egypt (CBE) decided to raise the key policy rates by 100" basis points, it said in a statement.

"The overnight deposit rate, overnight lending rate and the rate of the main operation were raised to 20.0 per cent, 21.0 per cent and 20.5 per cent, respectively."

Egypt has largely been spared direct involvement in the Middle East war. The fighting, however, has pushed some shipping companies away from its Suez Canal, a key source of foreign currency. — AFP

Surging costs of living top US voter concerns

SOARING prices for gas, medicine and other cost of living essentials are preoccupying Americans as they start to cast their ballots ahead of next week's midterm elections.

A whopping 84 per cent of voters who have cast their ballots early listed the economy as their biggest concern this election cycle, according to a recent Pew Research Centre survey.

Kyler Daugherty, a 43-year-old health care worker, summed up the sentiment as he filled up his gas tank in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

"It's ridiculous. I mean, everything's gone up, from food to transport to gas prices," he told AFP. — AFP

Canada hikes rates to contain oil price surge

CANADA'S central bank raised its key interest rate to 2.5 per cent Wednesday, its first hike since 2023, citing rising oil prices driven by war in the Middle East.

The Bank of Canada has maintained that the economy faces two competing pressures: growth is being hampered by President Donald Trump's trade war, but inflation is rising due to the US conflict with Iran.

The bank said Wednesday that Canadian businesses are "adapting" to the changing trade relationship with the United States, suggesting growth could be stronger than initially expected.

There is, however, no indication that energy-price inflation is set to ease, it added.

"The conflict in the Middle East is now in its eighth month and there is no clear path to resolution," the Bank of Canada said in a press release.

The bank added that Canada's economy still faces "considerable uncertainty", largely owing to the volatility in the trade relationship with the United States.

Trump removed some tariffs on Canadian goods this month following a request from Maine Senator Susan Collins, who is in a tight re-election battle in a state that relies significantly on trade with Canada.

But the president has threatened new levies on additional Canadian goods, and there is no indication that a comprehensive US-Canada trade deal is imminent. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 9 VOY.NO. (35N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 9 VOY. NO. (35N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-10-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **YIGTL** 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 MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED

GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS:
WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Xi says China glad to see Germany play greater role in European, intl affairs

China is happy to see Germany play a greater role in European and international affairs.

China's policy toward Germany is consistent, stable and predictable, and China is happy to see Germany play a greater role in European and international affairs, President Xi Jinping said on Friday.

Xi made the remarks when holding talks with German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier in Beijing, noting that China has attached great importance to Germany's status as a major country and always supported its reunification and development.



German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier visits Peking University, 29 October 2026. **PHOTO: CHINA DAILY**

Xi expressed the hope that Germany will view China's development and its cooperation with China with an open and positive attitude, uphold a rational, pragmatic and friendly policy toward China, and adhere to mutual respect and equal treatment, which is a valuable experience for the sustained and sound development of China-Germany relations. — Xinhua

N Korea displays drones, rocket launchers as Kim seeks tech development

NORTH Korea has conducted a firepower demonstration of various weapons systems including drones, cruise missiles and multiple rocket launchers at an exhibition on unmanned aerial technology, with leader Kim Jong Un calling for a rapid expansion of drone technology, state-run media said Friday.

At Thursday's event, Kim said it is "an indispensable option" to aim to seize "absolute superiority" in drone technology amid the "ever-changing patterns of modern warfare", the official Korean Central News Agency said.

"Strength precisely means peace and peace is guaranteed only by strength," he said, calling for progress in the development of unmanned aeronautical technology and artificial intelligence as North Korea has made "new leaps forward in upgrading conventional weapons" in addition to acquiring nuclear weapons, KCNA reported.

Images released by the agency showed the multiple launchers firing at least 15 rockets, which are regarded by Japan, the United States and South Korea as ballistic missiles.

On Thursday, the South Korean military detected the launch of around 10 short-range ballistic missiles toward the Sea of Japan from an area around Wonsan on North Korea's eastern coast. Kim mentioned "important state measures" for rapidly developing unmanned aeronautical technology but did not elaborate. He attended the exhibition with his wife and daughter.



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un (L) inspects a drone on 29 October 2026 at an undisclosed location. **PHOTO: KCNA/ KYODO**

Meanwhile, the North Korean Defence Ministry condemned the US-South Korea Freedom Flag air exercise that began Monday at Kunsan Air Base in western South Korea, saying in a statement carried by KCNA that it has "unprecedentedly escalated the military tension" on the Korean Peninsula. — Kyodo

India records one of the fastest poverty declines in the world

INDIA lifted an estimated 496 million people out of poverty between 2011 and 2023, with the share of the population living in extreme poverty declining sharply from 27.1 per cent to 2.6 per cent, according to the World Bank's October 2026 Poverty and Equity Brief.

The report said the proportion of people living below the lower-middle-income poverty line of US$ 4.20 per day, measured at 2021 purchasing power parity (PPP), also fell from 57.7 per cent to 16.1 per cent during the period. Describing the progress as "one of the fastest poverty declines in the world", the World Bank said India had recorded improvements across both monetary and non-monetary measures of poverty.

The report attributed the decline mainly to strong consumption growth, rising employment, particularly among women, and expanded social transfers, including food subsidies. — ANI

Nations struggle for deal as UN nature talks go down to the wire



The UN nature summit concludes Friday but nations are still trying to reach a deal as the clock ticks down. **PHOTO: AFP**

THE UN biodiversity summit entered its final hours Friday with talks headed for overtime as nations disagreed over how to rescue a landmark deal to restore nature to health.

Major divisions remained after nearly two weeks of tense negotiations at the COP17 talks with governments under pressure to reach a compromise for the planet as time runs out.

Ahead of the summit in Armenia, the UN warned the world would fail to meet its 2030 target to halt and reverse nature's destruction unless countries urgently correct course.

"They are working really hard. At the same time we're seeing that a number key issues are still unresolved," Guido Broekhoven, a close observer of the negotiations from WWF International, told AFP.

This includes a much-anticipated decision over a set of concrete recommendations for turning struggling pledges into action and notching progress against the 2030 deadline. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar Teqball players continue Ayutthaya campaign

MYANMAR'S national Teqball players competing in the FITEQ World Series 2026 Ayutthaya in Thailand continued their campaign in the men's doubles events yesterday morning.

Myanmar fielded three pairs in the men's doubles and two pairs in the women's doubles events. In their opening matches, Ko Ko Lwin and Yaza Moe Myat faced a Romanian pair, while Aung Kyaw and Pho Thae took on a Thai pair. Ko Ko Lwin and Yaza Moe Myat also competed against another Thai pair.

In their second matches, Saw Friday and Si Thu Tun faced a Thai pair, while Aung Kyaw and Pho Thae competed against Romania's top-ranked pair, currently ranked No 1 in the world.


Myanmar Teqball players in action.

The Myanmar team will continue competing in the mixed doubles events on 31 October, followed by the women's doubles events on 1 November.

As the FITEQ World Series is a major international Teqball tour featuring top-ranked athletes from around the world, Myanmar's players are facing strong international competition. They are striving to achieve good results by drawing on their competition experience and individual efforts. — MNA/KZL

Kulusevski says 'nervous system changes' behind Spurs return

DEJAN Kulusevski has revealed how a "change to my nervous system" enabled him to return with Tottenham after a 17-month injury layoff left him fearing the end of his football career.

The Swedish midfielder was introduced to a rapturous reception in the 87th minute of the club's 3-1 home victory against Coventry last week and followed that up with another substitute appearance in Saturday's win at Chelsea as Spurs continued their improvement after a poor start to the Premier League season.


Swedish midfielder Dejan Kulusevski has not played for Tottenham for more than 500 days. **PHOTO: AFP/ FILE**

Kulusevski had multiple setbacks after knee surgery in May 2025. But a second procedure in March finally set him on the road to recovery.

Speaking ahead of Saturday's match against Crystal Palace, the 26-year-old Kulusveski told SpursPlay: "It had been like one year and a couple of months and I still can't walk on the stairs. I can't walk on the stairs like a normal guy. I have to play football so in my head I'm not going to give up, but I have to think that if this doesn't work out, what do I do?

"I went to a physio in Sweden. He was able to change my nervous system and then it felt different. When I did the exercises, I said, 'I don't have pain, like this hurt yesterday. Why is this not hurting today?' — AFP


Alexandra Eala lost in the quarterfinals of the Pan Pacific Open in Tokyo. **PHOTO: AFP**

Eala aiming to finish season with bang after Tokyo exit

PHILIPPINES sensation Alexandra Eala lost in the quarter-finals in Tokyo on Friday and said she had "high motivation" to finish her breakthrough season with a bang next week in Hong Kong.

Eala lost 2-6, 7-6 (7/5), 6-4 against Russian number three seed Diana Shnaider in her debut appearance at the Pan Pacific Open.

The world number 19 has one more tournament left in a season that saw her become the first player from the Philippines to win a title on the women's WTA Tour in Washington in August. Eala will be among the favourites for the title in Hong Kong SAR, and she said she was not in the mood to look back on her achievements yet.

"I'm super excited, and I'm going in with high motivation," said the 21-year-old.

"I'm trying to put my reflections off for one more week because of said motivation. Check back in a week."

Eala won five straight games to take control of the first set, but the second set was a far closer affair. — AFP

2026 Inter-State & Region Weightlifting Championships continue


A weightlifter competes in the match of the 2026 Inter State/Region Weightlifting Champions.

THE 2026 Inter-State and Region Weightlifting Championships continued yesterday at the Weightlifting Training Gymnasium of Wunna Theikdhi Sports Complex in Nay Pyi Taw, under the supervision of the Ministry of Sports and jointly organized by the Department of Sports and Physical Education and the Myanmar Weightlifting Federation.

Yesterday's events featured snatch and clean and jerk competitions in various men's and women's weight categories.

In the women's 53-kilogramme category, Phway Phway of Magway Region won first place with a total lift of 144 kilogrammes, comprising 64 kilogrammes in the snatch and 80 kilogrammes in the clean and jerk. Yamin Thuza of Bago Region came second with a total of 143 kilogrammes (67 kilogrammes in the snatch and 76 kilogrammes in the clean and jerk), while Lin Let Kyal Sin of Sagaing Region finished third with a total of 86 kilogrammes (40 kilogrammes in the snatch and 46 kilogrammes in the clean and jerk).

In the men's 60-kilogramme category, Nyi Nyi Lwin of Shan State took first place with a total lift of 223 kilogrammes, comprising 99 kilogrammes in the snatch and 124 kilogrammes in the clean and jerk. Htun Lin of Magway Region secured second place with 213 kilogrammes (93 kilogrammes in the snatch and 120 kilogrammes in the clean and jerk), while Maung Sar of Sagaing Region placed third with 190 kilogrammes (85 kilogrammes in the snatch and 105 kilogrammes in the clean and jerk).

Nyi Nyi Lwin also set three new Region and State records in the men's 60-kilogramme category. He lifted 99 kilogrammes in the snatch, surpassing the previous record of 98 kilogrammes, and 124 kilogrammes in the clean and jerk, exceeding the previous record of 123 kilogrammes. His combined total of 223 kilogrammes also broke the previous record of 219 kilogrammes set by the Myanmar Weightlifting Federation.

The Region and State Weightlifting Championships, featuring snatch and clean and jerk events across various men's and women's weight categories, will continue from 10 am on 31 October. Sports enthusiasts and members of the public are welcome to attend the competitions free of charge. — MNA/KZL



Xi says China glad to see Germany play greater role in European, intl affairs
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WORLD

ISRO's NVS-3 launch to boost India's time sovereignty

THE Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has scheduled the launch of its NVS-03 satellite on Friday at 11:51 pm, which will place a third such indigenous atomic clock in space to strengthen India's time sovereignty and strengthen satellite navigation systems with the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS), now known as NavIC.

The NVS-03 satellite will be carried by the GSLV-F18 launch vehicle, the 20th flight of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV). The launch is scheduled to take place from Second launch Pad from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC SHAR), Sriharikota.

NVS-03 is the third satellite in next generation navigation satellite system envisaged for providing continuity of navigation services for IRNSS series. The earlier satellites were NVS-02, and NVS-01, which carried the other two indigenous atomic clock

"The satellite carries Indigenous Atomic clock, along with the procured Atomic clocks. It also includes L1 signal in addition to existing L5/S signals with Coverage over India land mass and a region extending 1,500 kilometres around Indian geopolitical boundary," ISRO said in a statement. — ANI



Visuals of GSLV-F18 on SDSC launch pad. **PHOTO: ISRO/ ANI**

Cambodia announces return of 18 looted Khmer antiquities from Britain

CAMBODIA announced on Friday the return of 18 Khmer cultural objects recovered in London, following a successful repatriation effort spearheaded by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts (MCFA). The antiquities were recovered by the Art and Antiques Unit of London's Metropolitan Police Service, with support from the Heritage Crime Task Force led by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), said an MCFA's press release. – Xinhua

Russia eyes Egypt as new seed supply hub for Africa

The facility would process locally grown seeds, helping Egypt meet domestic demand and potentially export planting material across Africa.

Russia and Egypt are discussing the construction of a seed-processing plant to supply Egyptian farmers and potentially other African markets, with a Russian agricultural company ready to invest in the project, Russian Agriculture Minister Oksana Lut announced.

The facility would process locally grown seeds, helping Egypt meet domestic demand and potentially export planting material across Africa.

According to Lut, the investor is a Russian company specializing in plant breeding and seed production, with large facilities already operating in Russia.

The project could move forward once final agreements are reached. She added that the initiative could become a model for similar projects across Africa, expanding Russian agricultural investment while helping African countries strengthen local food production and food security. — SPUTNIK



Seed corn harvesting in Ladozhskaya, Krasnodar Territory. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

Canada unveils first national security strategy in over 20 years

CANADIAN Prime Minister Mark Carney on Thursday launched "The Plan for a Stronger Canada", the country's first national security strategy in over two decades aimed at countering evolving security threats and safeguarding national sovereignty.

The prime minister's office said in a news release that the rules-based international order is eroding and the line between economic security and national security has disappeared, noting that national security now relies not only on defense and resource capabilities, but also on the strength of the economy, the resilience of institutions, and the partnerships with allies.

According to the release, the strategy outlines five main priorities: strengthening economic security and resilience by transforming strategic industries and securing supply chains; advancing a disciplined foreign policy to diversify partnerships; rebuilding and strengthening the Canadian Armed Forces; enhancing public safety against foreign interference, espionage, violent extremism, and transnational organized crime; and modernizing intelligence capabilities to anticipate and counter emerging threats. — Xinhua

EU countries pledge to release strategic oil reserves

EUROPEAN Union (EU) member states have pledged to accelerate the release of 42.6 million barrels of strategic oil reserves over the coming months, nearly half of which will be diesel, European Commissioner for Energy and Housing Dan Jorgensen said Thursday.

EU energy ministers met in Luxembourg to discuss energy security ahead of the winter, energy prices and measures to stabilize diesel supplies.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Jorgensen said relevant EU member states had reaffirmed their commitment to accelerating the release of 42.6 million barrels from strategic reserves.

Jorgensen warned that the EU faced a difficult winter. While he did not expect problems with energy supply security for the time being, he acknowledged that the situation remained challenging for people struggling to pay their energy bills. — Xinhua