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

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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Union government to hold 2026 Kathina robe-offering ceremony



Vice-President U Nyo Saw presides over the Leading Committee on Organizing the 2026 Kathina Robe-Offering Ceremony of the Union Government.

Vice-President U Nyo Saw, who serves as Patron of the Leading Committee on Organizing the 2026 Kathina Robe-Offering Ceremony of the Union Government, highlighted the arrangements for holding the 2026 Kathina Robe-Offering Ceremony; details regarding the invitation to the Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, along with venerable members of the Sangha and local Sayadaws, to present the Kathina robes and offerings at the leading committee meeting at the Ministry of Religious Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The Vice-President detailed his instructions on supply of water and electricity to members of the Sangh at four Sangharama halls, offering proper meals at dawn and before noon to members of the Sangha, and plans to provide healthcare services by the western style clinic and traditional medicine clinic for members of the Sangha at two halls like that of previous years.

He urged officials to arrange the structures of offertores in proper appearances and systematic conveyance of donated structures to monasteries.

The Vice-President also stressed that as this is a state-level ceremony, respective subcommittees are to ensure systematic management, close coordination, and advance rehearsals to prevent any lapses during execution, while all relevant committees are to make orderly arrangements to ensure that the Kathina Robe-Offering Ceremony is held grandly and magnificently.

Chairman of the Leading Committee Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Tin Oo Lwin, the chair of the work committee deputy minister and officials reported on their preparatory efforts to hold the Kathina robe-offering ceremony 2026, progress of works and future plans.

The meeting concluded with the remarks by the Vice-President over the reports of officials. — MNA/TTA

Pathein to Host Traditional Umbrella & Handicrafts Festival

THE Ayeyawady Region government plans to hold the Traditional Myanmar Pathein Parasol and Natural Handicrafts Festival in Pathein, Ayeyawady Region, in December.

The traditional Pathein parasol is an iconic symbol of Ayeyawady Region and an important part of Myanmar's traditional handicrafts and cultural heritage. The festival aims to promote the sustainable development of the Pathein parasol industry and local handicrafts.

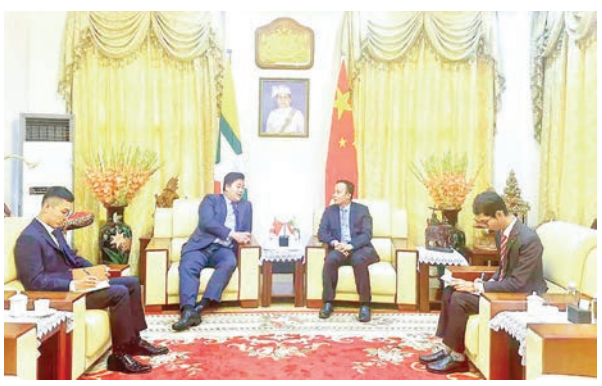
To attract public interest, demonstrations of the traditional processes involved in making Pathein parasols and other handicrafts will be held. A flower festival will also be organised, featuring a variety of seasonal flowers planted and arranged in an orderly manner.

In addition, arrangements are being made to ensure a reliable electricity supply throughout the festival grounds, install electrical lines for the illuminated pavilions and provide adequate parking facilities for visitors. — ASH/MKKS



This photo features a woman creating a painting on a Pathein umbrella at their workplace.

Myanmar, Cambodia Deepen Cooperation in Tourism, Agriculture, Green Energy



Consul-General U Zeyar Myo Myint and Mr TY Nitor, Under Secretary of State of Cambodia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, meet in Kunming.

MYANMAR and Cambodia discussed expanding cooperation in tourism, agriculture, renewable energy and trade and commerce, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The talks were held on 8 November at the Myanmar Consulate-General in Kunming, China, between Consul-General U Zeyar Myo Myint and Mr TY Nitor, Under Secretary of State of Cambodia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, according to the ministry.

Mr TY Nitor was in Kunming to attend the first China-Cambodia Trade, Culture and Tourism Exchange Promotion Expo Week, SEE PAGE 5

Nay Pyi Taw to host 3rd Direct-to-Consumer Pharmaceutical Fair

THE 3rd Direct-to-Consumer Pharmaceutical Fair, organized jointly by the Ministry of Commerce and the Myanmar Chamber of Commerce for Pharmaceutical and Medical Device (MCCPMD), will be held at May Hall in Pyinmana Township, Nay Pyi Taw, according to the association. SEE PAGE 3



A poster for the 3rd Direct-to-Consumer Pharmaceutical Fair in Nay Pyi Taw.

ARTICLE

Valuing Freshwater: The Resource We Cannot Afford to Take for Granted

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NATIONAL



Twantay Shwesandaw to host 131st Overnight Robe-Weaving Ceremony

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NATIONAL

Export Earnings Repatriation Period Extended from 30 to 45 Days

SECTION 38 (b) of the Foreign Exchange Management Law states that exporters shall deposit all their export income in the form of foreign currency into the domestic bank accounts after exporting within the specific period.

Moreover, the Central Bank of Myanmar, under Notification FE-1/PK/1956 dated 16 August 2022, allowed exporters to retain their export earnings in private foreign currency accounts for 30 days.

The extension to 45 days aims to provide exporters with more time to apply for import licences and make overseas payments, facilitate foreign currency transactions for export and import activities, and promote the development of the trade sector. The Central Bank of Myanmar has therefore approved the extension of the permitted retention period from 30 days to 45 days for the portion of export earnings that exporters are allowed to use at their discretion.

Central Bank of Myanmar

Twantay Shwesandaw to host 131st Overnight Robe-Weaving Ceremony

THE 131st Mathoe Robe-Weaving Ceremony and the 49th Procession of the 28 Buddha Images will be held at the Shwesandaw Pagoda in Twantay Township on the 14th waxing day and the full moon day of Tazaungmone, according to U Aye Ko, Chairman of the Shwesandaw Pagoda Board of Trustees.



This photo showcases the Mathoe Robe-Weaving Ceremony at the Shwesandaw Pagoda in Twantay Township in the previous year.

The Overnight Robe-Weaving Ceremony will feature seven weaving teams, with the robes to be offered to Buddha images at designated temples within the Shwesandaw Pagoda compound at 4:30 am on the full moon day of Tazaungmone.

"This year, the Mathoe Robe-Weaving Ceremony will not be held as a competition, allowing participants to weave the robes in a calm and peaceful atmosphere. As in previous years, the seven looms named Amara, Sambhula, Sujita, Maddi Devi, Gotami, Sujata and Papavati will be featured. The robes will be offered to the principal Buddha image and other designated Buddha images around the pagoda," said a member of the Board of Trustees.

The seven looms will be operated by Shan women from Shan villages in Twantay Township, namely Shansugyi, two villages in Nyaungdaga, Ngakhonmasan, Shwesandaw and Kunggyi. At 2 pm on the full moon day of Tazaungmone, the 28 Buddha images will be carried in a procession around the town and nearby neighbourhoods. — ASH/MKKS

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Monday, 9 November 2026

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 10 November 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions and Shan State, fairly widespread in Ayeyawady Region and Kachin and Rakhine States and scattered in the remaining Regions and States, with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway and Sagaing Regions and Kachin, Rakhine and (northern and southern) Shan States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and (northern and southern) Shan States. Along the movement of cumulonimbus clouds, weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning, and hail may occur; therefore, it is recommended to be aware of these phenomena in advance.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in the Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 6-8 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway and Sagaing Regions and Kachin, Chin, Rakhine, Shan States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10 November 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10 November 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10 November 2026: One or two instances of rain or thundershowers which may be heavy falls at times. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

Monghsat holds El Niño awareness session

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted an awareness campaign on the El Niño phenomenon and the systematic use of drinking water in Bahtan Village, Monghsat Township, Shan State (East), yesterday to prevent potential drinking water shortages.

Monghsat Township Department of Rural Development Head U Sai Soe Htay explained that El Niño conditions could lead to rising temperatures and a reduction in water resources. He urged rural residents to store sufficient drinking water in advance, keep storage tanks clean, conserve and protect existing water resources, and use water systematically without wastage.

Departmental officials also distributed educational pamphlets outlining potential El Niño impacts, preventive preparations and appropriate response measures to the attending local communities from Bahtan Village. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

Decline in HIV viral load increases 77.6% in Kyaikto



The Kyaikto Township People's Hospital.

IN Mon State's Kyaikto Township, people infected with HIV have been provided with antiretroviral therapy (ART), and the low viral load (below 1,000 copies per ml) has increased to 77.6 per cent, according to an official from the township health department.

At the Kyaikto ART Centre, which was opened in 2015, ART medication has been provided, and until October 2026, there are 438 patients who have received the medication regularly at the centre.

In 2023, the low viral load rate was just 51.5 per cent, however, of 340 patients who underwent viral load measure in 2026, the result for 298 showed an outstanding drop below 1,000 per millilitre, resulting in an incredible elevation to 77.6 per cent in decline rate.

The Health Department has provided TDF/3TC/DTG medication for HIV patients, as well as medicines for those who are also associated with TB, and HIV infected people are urged to come and receive the medication as early as possible.

In addition to free healthcare services, the ART Centre in Kyaikto Township has provided free ART medication, viral load monitoring, counselling and treatment for other communicable diseases to patients across the state. — TWA/ZS

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Zeyathiri and Pobbathiri residents

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi met locals from Zeyathiri and Pobbathiri townships in Nay Pyi Taw, who observed the 25th day of the Third Regular Session of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw yesterday.



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi speaks at the meeting with residents from Zeyathiri and Pobbathiri townships in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, the Speaker warmly welcomed the visitors and expressed his gratitude to the people of Zeyathiri Township for electing him as their parliamentary representative.

He explained the structure and functions of the Hluttaw, and continued that the Hluttaw is composed of representatives from various political parties elected by the people from constituencies across the country. He then shared key information about Hluttaw functions, noting that under a democratic system, the three branches of government-legislative, executive and judicial-are established following elections.

He added that countries adopt either a unicameral or bicameral parliamentary system depending on their political systems. As Myanmar is a multi-ethnic country of moderate geographical size, it has a bicameral legislature at the Union level and separate legislatures in each region and state.

Although these legislatures operate independently, they share similar responsibilities, including reviewing, amending, supplementing, repealing and enacting laws to ensure public protection, maintaining checks and balances among the three pillars of government, and representing public interests by raising questions and submitting proposals in the Hluttaw to address the needs of local communities.

He also highlighted the enactment of the Anti-Online Scam Law to take effective action against perpetrators of online scams, stressing that parliamentary activities are centred on public interests.

He encouraged the public to closely follow the work of the Hluttaw and cooperate with their respective parliamentary representatives to help build a modern, capable and people-centred legislature. The attendees raised questions about what they wanted to know, and the Speaker replied. — MNA/KTZH

Course for Junior Staff on Basic Office Skills Batch 5 opens

THE opening ceremony of the Course for Junior Staff on Basic Office Skills-(CfJS) Batch 5 was held at the Lawkanat Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday, with opening remarks by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe.

Deputy ministers for Foreign Affairs, along with the permanent secretary, directors-general, and officials from respective departments and trainees of the CfJS (5), were present at the ceremony.

A total of 40 Junior staff members are scheduled to participate in the aforementioned six-week training course. The course covers subjects related to the functions of the Union Minister's Office and Departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including theory and practice of protocol, bilateral relations, international and regional organizations, ASEAN affairs, consular affairs, basic office skills, administrative and financial matters and computer skills development. — MoFA



Union Minister U Tin Maung Swe attends the opening ceremony of the Course for Junior Staff on Basic Office Skills.

Teaching, Exam Reforms to Boost Distance Education

THE Ministry of Education will systematically introduce changes to the teaching system and examination question formats to improve the distance education system, said Union Minister for Education Dr Chaw Chaw Sein.

The Union minister made the remarks during a meeting with the acting rector, pro-rector, professors (heads of departments), and teaching staff at the meeting hall of the University of East Yangon on 7 November 2026.



The meeting with the acting rector, pro-rector, professors (heads of departments), and teaching staff in progress at the meeting hall of the University of East Yangon.

The Union minister said that preparations were underway to improve the distance education system through workshops on reforms to the teaching system.

She also explained that, under the revised teaching arrangements for arts subjects offered through the distance education system, students would be required to complete two assignments. The first assignment must be submitted within the prescribed timeframe, while the second must be brought to the university and submitted in person when students attend face-to-face classes. — TWA/KNN

Nay Pyi Taw to host 3rd Direct-to-Consumer ...

FROM PAGE 1

The fair will take place daily from 9 am to 4 pm from 9 to 13 November. During the event, 36 pharmaceutical companies will offer 953 types of medications, including treatments for diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, gastrointestinal issues, and urological and kidney diseases, to the public at direct company prices and special discounts.

In addition to drug sales, the fair will feature free health checkups and health awareness activities throughout its duration. Free health screenings will include blood sugar tests and InBody scans to measure body muscle mass, fat percentage, and evaluate obesity levels.

As part of the health education programme, children can participate in interactive knowledge games focused on health supplements, and attendees will receive free pharmaceutical samples and Royal D energy drinks.

The MCCPMD reportedly plans to host similar direct pharmaceutical sales fairs in Mandalay in December 2026 and in Yangon in January 2027. — TWA/ZN

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw deliberates on school safety, infrastructure and MSME Bill

THE 25th-day meeting of the third regular session of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw convened at the parliament building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, bringing together Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi, Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn, Union Minister Dr Charlie Than, deputy ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council members, the Central Bank of Myanmar deputy governor, and parliamentary representatives.



The 25th-day sitting of the third regular session of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw is underway in Nay Pyi Taw, presided over by Speaker U Khin Yi and Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn.

The session featured ministerial answers to 11 legislative questions covering regional development, public services, and banking operations, followed by the discussion of a motion on school safety and the approval of a nationwide enterprise bill.

During the question-and-answer segment, Deputy Minister for Transport U Tun Lu addressed erosion concerns in Kyauktan Township, clarifying that river training and retaining wall projects along Hmawwun and Kadappana creeks will receive budget allocations in upcoming fiscal cycles.

Responding to queries regarding cash withdrawal limits at state-owned banks, Central Bank of Myanmar Deputy Governor U Thet Tun Aung stated that directives have instructed state banks to facilitate smooth cash withdrawals in line with institutional liquidity while actively accelerating transitions towards digital payment systems.

Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Win Moe Khaing detailed a K121.725-million budget proposal for the 2027-2028 financial year to rebuild school pedestrian pavements in Tatkon, while also noting that alternate sites like the Thayetpinchaung landfill in Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township are being developed to relieve pressure on the existing Daweichaung waste disposal site.

Education authorities answered inquiries regarding teacher deployments and infrastructure expansion. Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maung Thein explained that local ethnic applicants can serve as teaching assistants and language teachers in primary schools, and clarified that Bago University plans to construct further student and faculty facilities on its existing land rather than relinquish campus plots. Furthermore,

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HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw continues for 15th day session

THE Third Amyotha Hluttaw continued the 15th day of the third regular session at its building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.



The 15th-day meeting of the Third Amyotha Hluttaw's third regular session in progress in Nay Pyi Taw, chaired by Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe.

At the Hluttaw session, Deputy Minister for Labour U Myo Aung responded to the question raised by MP U Myint San from the Mandalay Region Constituency 10, saying that the Union Fund has been directed to construct a two-storey reinforced concrete (RC) trainee dormitory building, measuring 100 feet by 50 feet and accommodating 56 trainees, at the Labour Skills Training School (Mandalay) during the 2027-2028 financial year. The construction work will be closely supervised to ensure its completion within the stipulated timeframe.

MP U Sein Shwe Min from the Magway Region Constituency 4 raised a question about training referees to serve at public sports competitions.

SEE PAGE 5

Large-scale upgrade underway at Nay Pyi Taw's Myanmar Gems Museum

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Hsan Oo paid a visit to a large-scale reconstruction project at the Myanmar Gems Museum in Nay Pyi Taw on 7 November.

The union minister instructed officials to ensure the work completion by the project timeline and emphasize prescribed standards in the whole construction site.

In order to offer well-constructed service to local and foreign tourists and observers, the large-scale upgrading has been in progress at the gems museum. — TWA/ZS



Union Minister U Hsan Oo inspects the large-scale reconstruction project at the Myanmar Gems Museum in Nay Pyi Taw.

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NATIONAL

NSPNC meets CSOs in Nay Pyi Taw

THE National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) held a meeting with civil society organizations (CSOs) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaking at the event, Union Minister for Defence and NSPNC Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae said the meeting aimed to provide CSOs with a better understanding of the ongoing peace process. He noted that armed conflicts since 2021 had adversely affected public health, education and economic activities in conflict-affected areas, creating a growing desire among the public for stability and peace.

He encouraged CSOs to contribute to the peace process through their respective areas of expertise and help promote public participation. He also stressed that the NSPNC was engaging with EAOs to discuss and address their political aspirations and demands in accordance with existing laws.



The National Solidarity and Peacemaking Committee (NSPNC) and civil society organizations (CSOs) meet in Nay Pyi Taw.

NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing briefed participants on the committee's peace initiatives under SAC and new democratic government administrations, humanitarian assistance efforts, and the policies and strategies guiding the national solidarity and peace process, including plans.

NSPNC Member Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo (Retired) explained and discussed the framework for reconnecting diverse stakeholders within the peace process.

During the discussions, CSO representatives welcomed the opportunity to learn more about the ongoing peace efforts and called for greater participation by civil society in the process. They highlighted the importance of peace for national economic development, particularly in maintaining trade routes and promoting education, healthcare and social welfare.

They also proposed expanding public awareness programmes on the peace process, strengthening youth capacity through training, encouraging religious organizations to contribute to peacebuilding, and organizing peace forums and discussions in regions and states. They also discussed the need for CSOs to work together based on their respective expertise to help reduce conflicts and promote lasting peace.

Following this, the NSPNC chairman concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH

HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw deliberates ...

FROM PAGE 4

Deputy Minister for Education U Nay Myo Hlaing confirmed that priority lists in coming financial years will allocate construction funds to replace deteriorated structures with multi-storey reinforced concrete buildings across primary and middle schools in Myitkyina, Mawlaik, Myaungmya, and Myothit townships.

The assembly then deliberated a motion submitted by Dr Hla Tint from Bahan constituency, which urged the government to implement a Zero-Tolerance Anti-Bullying and School Safety Policy nationwide. Lawmakers from Myawady, Kunhing, Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), Kyain-Seikkyi, Kawkareik, Monyo, and other constituencies spoke in support of the proposal. They underscored that students face growing challenges ranging from verbal abuse and physical confrontation to cyberbullying on digital platforms, arguing that true educational quality requires a comprehensive protection mechanism involving parents, teachers, and cross-departmental oversight.

Responding to the debate, Deputy Minister U Nay Myo Hlaing explained that child protection and school safety policies are already underway in coordination with the Ministry of Legal Affairs to update provisions under the Child Rights Law (2019) and related rules, recommending that parliament record the motion. Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi subsequently announced that the assembly agreed to keep the motion on parliamentary record to monitor implementation progress. Finally, the parliament approved the Bill on the Development and Protection of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, as amended by the Amyotha Hluttaw, before adjourning until 10 November. — News Team/ST

Myanmar, Cambodia Deepen Cooperation ...

FROM PAGE 1

and the Myanmar-Cambodia discussions took place during that visit. The two sides exchanged views on drawing up a Myanmar-China-Cambodia tourism route, mutual cooperation in agriculture and renewable energy, and further expanding bilateral trade and commerce. — ASH/KK

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HLUTTAW

Amyotha Hluttaw ...

FROM PAGE 4

Deputy Minister for Sports U Myo Kyaw Thu replied that the Myanmar Football Federation, Sports and Physical Education Department and region and state football federations conduct training to turn out some 350 referees per year and contribute to sports competitions.

Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy U Aye Kyaw answered that Ohmmathee Village suffered the most extensive damage due to the acts of terrorists, with severe damage to its power lines and transformer. To restore electricity supply to the village, plans have been made to install one 11/0.4 kV, 315 kVA transformer and construct 1.5 miles of 400-volt power lines using funds from the Shan State Government in the 2027-2028 financial year. The project will be implemented subject to the availability of funds. He also replied that to provide electricity to Sibintha Village in Magway Township, plans have been made to construct 1.2 miles of 11 kV power lines and install one 11/0.4 kV, 200 kVA transformer using funds from the Magway Region Government in the 2027-2028 financial year. The project will be implemented subject to the availability of funds.

In responding to the questions of lawmakers, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Lin Zaw Tun explained that the supplementary budget allocation in the 2027-2028 FY will be used to construct the Hkamti District and Township Immigration Offices, and the construction projects will be implemented in order of priority. He also responded that the Ministry has no plans to open a temporary branch office of Bhamo District in Mandalay.

Lawmakers continued their discussions over the proposal submitted by MP Daw Khin Swe from the Magway Region Constituency 12, urging the Union Government to take measures to progressively reduce and restrict the production, import, sale and use of plastic products, particularly plastic bags, in order to protect public health and the natural environment.

Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr Thaung Naing Oo explained that systematic measures are being undertaken to reduce the use of single-use plastic products and plastic bags in accordance with the provisions of international conventions, relevant laws and policies, and the National Plastic Management Action Plan (2026-2035). Public awareness campaigns are being conducted, and the use of alternative materials to replace plastic products is being encouraged and promoted. He also explained that efforts to introduce restrictions and controls on the production and importation of plastic products are being carried out progressively and continuously in coordination and cooperation with the relevant committees and concerned ministries. Next, the Amyotha Hluttaw approved the proposal in line with the request of the proposer.

The Amyotha Hluttaw will continue its 16th-day meeting on 11 November. — News Team/TTA

NATIONAL

Tatmadaw Captures 11 Terrorist Bases in Theinzayat-Kyaikto Area

TATMADAW columns have captured 11 bases belonging to a combined group of armed terrorists, including the KNU, KNLA, CRPH, NUG and their subordinate PDF groups, during counter-terrorism operations in Kyaikto Township, Mon State, and neighbouring Shwegyin Township, Bago Region.



Images reveal the recapture of 11 bases in the Theinzayat-Kyaikto area and confiscated weapons and munitions.

The terrorist groups had established bases in rugged, mountainous areas along the Theinzayat-Kyaikto route and the Mon State-Bago Region border. They reportedly used proceeds from various illegal activities to manufacture homemade mortars, firearms, ammunition and explosives for their operations. They also established temporary bases in and around villages and intimidated residents.

During their presence in the area, the armed groups allegedly built sandbag bunkers at civilian homes, religious buildings and schools, extorted money, forcibly recruited new members and accused local communities, Buddhist monks and civil servants from villages that did not support them of being informants, or 'Dalan'. Those accused were subsequently arrested, tortured and killed.

They also extorted money from freight trucks and passenger vehicles carrying local goods, planted landmines along transport routes, destroyed roads and bridges, and arbitrarily arrested and killed travellers, seriously disrupting the socioeconomic lives of local communities.

In collaboration with the KNU and KNLA, the NUG and CRPH had established a so-called Special Military Region Headquarters northeast of Theinzayat in Kyaikto Township, extending into Shwegyin Township, Bago Region, to direct their armed activities.

Following information provided by local residents, Tatmadaw columns made preparations in Theinzayat to launch counter-terrorism operations. Area security operations began on 3 November, with military columns advancing in separate groups.

On 5 November, the columns captured a temporary base near Kawkat village, northeast of Theinzayat. Another base near Kawhteehta village was seized on 6 November. On 7 November, four additional bases, including the KNU/KNLA Brigade 1, Battalion 3 headquarters, were captured near Kawhteehta village.

Continuing operations around the clock, Tatmadaw columns captured five more bases on 8 November, including the NUG-CRPH Special Military Headquarters, near Hteeklar Stream and Point 480 Hill in Shwegyin Township, northeast of Theinzayat.

Four armed clashes occurred during the operations, in which a total of 11 bases belonging to the KNU/KNLA and the NUG-CRPH Special Military Headquarters were captured.

Seized items included 97 assorted small arms and weapons, 12,285 rounds of ammunition, 362 drop bombs, 139 assorted mines, two four-wheel-drive vehicles, drones, hand grenades, mortar and artillery bombs, detonators and communication equipment.

Other recovered items included foxholes, bunkers, accommodation huts, equipment used in explosive attacks, food supplies, computers and other office materials, camouflage uniforms, bulletproof vests, helmets, medicines, medical supplies and various other materials.

The terrorist groups reportedly suffered heavy casualties and losses, with their members fleeing the area in disarray.

The Tatmadaw stated that counter-terrorism operations were being conducted in cooperation with responsible local communities to prevent armed groups from establishing bases and carrying out unlawful activities that undermine national peace, stability and regional development. Further area security operations will continue at an accelerated pace to prevent the groups from regrouping in the Theinzayat-Kyaikto area. — 100/ST

Shwe Kokko Phase II crackdown continues

THE government is placing particular emphasis on working with neighbouring and regional countries to crack down on online scams and online gambling, which threaten global socioeconomic affairs and national security, intending to eliminate these activities completely and permanently.



Map shows the Shwe Kokko Phase II carckdown, and its systematic demolition reaches the 10 buildings.

In the Shwe Kokko area, where online scam and gambling operations were conducted on a large scale, illegal buildings are being systematically and permanently demolished to prevent such activities from resuming in these buildings.

As part of these efforts, one five-storey building among the remaining illegal buildings in Phase II of the Shwe Kokko area, which had been used for online scam and gambling operations and was being demolished using machinery, was demolished yesterday, reaching 60 per cent completion.

The demolition of another six-storey building reached 10 per cent completion as of yesterday. Of the 63 buildings designated for demolition in Phase II of the Shwe Kokko area, four have been demolished through controlled explosions and another six using heavy machinery, bringing the number to ten. The remaining 53 buildings will also be systematically demolished. —100/KTZH

15 Chinese online scam suspects arrested in Shan State

THE Government is treating the prevention and suppression of online scams and online gambling as a national duty, for their harmful impact on the socioeconomic lives of people both locally and around the world. It is also cooperating with neighbouring countries to identify, arrest and take action against those involved in such illegal activities.



Map including an inset reveals the crackdown location and arrested scammers alongside scam-related items.

Acting on a tip-off about online scamming and gambling operations in Kehsi Township, Shan State (South), joint teams comprising security personnel conducted investigations and searches.

At around 2 pm yesterday, the teams arrested 15 illegal Chinese nationals involved in online scamming and gambling activities at a site about 2,500 metres south of Naungwoo Village in Kehsi Township. The seized items included two temporary accommodation huts measuring 40 feet by 20 feet each, a temporary workshop measuring 40 feet by 30 feet, a temporary kitchen, a water tank, one generator, one freezer, two standing fans, six routers, two all-in-one computers, two Starlink devices, 40 mobile phones and 40 plastic chairs.

The arrestees will face strict legal action in accordance with existing laws after the necessary investigations are completed. The seized equipment will also be arranged in accordance with established procedures. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

Myanmar-India SDP Projects Boost Domestic Science Training Schools



Union Minister Dr Thet Thet Zin receives the handover of two completed Myanmar-India Small Development Projects (SDPs).

A ceremony to hand over two completed Myanmar-India Small Development Projects (SDPs), namely the upgrading of the Domestic Science Vocational Training School in Bahan Township, Yangon, and the supply of machinery and equipment to 11 Domestic Science Vocational Training Schools, was held yesterday morning at the Domestic Science Vocational Training School in Yangon.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Women's Affairs Dr Thet Thet Zin said that the first project, supported by the Government of India, involved constructing a new training building, renovating existing buildings, drilling a tube well and providing teaching aids and furniture to improve the teaching and learning environment.

Under the second project, solar power systems, sewing machines, buttonhole machines and button-attaching machines were supplied to 11 Domestic Science Vocational Training Schools in Yangon, Mandalay, Mawlamyine, Pathein, Toungoo, Myitkyina, Pyapon, Sittway, Ywangan, Dawei and Haka.

She noted that the two projects reflected Myanmar-India cooperation in promoting social and economic development. The Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for both projects were signed on 21 January 2025. Their successful completion and handover marked an important step in bilateral cooperation and the two countries' shared commitment to women's development.

Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur said the projects would help women improve their skills through practical vocational training and gain greater access to employment opportunities.

A video highlighting the implementation of the two India-assisted projects was then shown. The Union minister and the Ambassador subsequently toured the renovated facilities and vocational training classes. — MNA/MKKS

Zigon Inspects Macadam Road Project



Officials and village representatives are seen alongside the ongoing red-earth and gravel road constructin in Zigon Township.

OFFICIALS from the Department of Rural Development of Zigon Township, Bago Region, conducted a field inspection yesterday to assess the progress of macadam road construction in Sanai Village. The road construction is being carried out with funds from the Village Development Project (VDP), according to the Department of Rural Development.

Nattalin District Rural Development Department Head U Htay Lwin Soe, Zigon Township Rural Development Department Head U Pyae Phyo Aung and staff members inspected the ongoing road construction. They also met members of the Village Development Committee and gave necessary instructions to ensure that the work is completed in line with prescribed technical standards and specifications.

The project involves the construction of a macadam road measuring 1,400 feet in length, 12 feet in width and six inches in thickness. The project is being implemented at a total cost of K18.47 million, including K15 million from the Village Development Project fund and K3.47 million contributed by the local community. With technical assistance and close supervision from the Department of Rural Development, local villagers are actively participating in the construction work. The project commenced in the fourth week of September 2026 and has now reached approximately 95 per cent completion.

The improved road is also expected to contribute to better living standards for rural residents, according to the Department of Rural Development. — Thanda (DRD)

MSY Village Project activities inspected in Thanbyuzayat

OFFICIALS from the Thanbyuzayat Township Department of Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday of the successful implementation of family income-generation activities using loans from the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Kyonkayut Village in Thanbyuzayat Township.



Officials inspect an agricultural project in Thanbyuzayat Township, Mon State.

Township Head Daw Su Thandar Lin and staff from the Thanbyuzayat Township Department of Rural Development, together with members of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project working group, inspected the status of agricultural, livestock, trading, and livelihood activities in Kyonkayut Village, as well as whether the monthly reports submitted were complete.

Afterwards, the township Head met village officials and members of the Mya Sein Yaung working group and coordinated and provided necessary assistance.

In Kyonkayut Village, Thanbyuzayat Township, under the ninth Mya Sein Yaung Village Project revolving fund, a total of K57 million was disbursed to 83 members: K36 million to 62 people engaged in agriculture, K2.6 million to two people engaged in livestock breeding, K16 million to 16 people engaged in trading, and K2.4 million to three people engaged in livelihood activities. Family income-generation activities are being successfully implemented, according to Township Officer Daw Su Thanda Lin of the Thanbyuzayat Township Department of Rural Development. — Cho Lay (DRD)

El Niño awareness talk held in Thandaunggyi

OFFICIALS from the Department of Rural Development in Thandaunggyi Township, Kayin State, held an awareness talk on El Niño precautionary measures yesterday in Tawpyagyi Village, according to reports.

District Head U Kyaw Myo Aung of the Thandaunggyi District Department of Rural Development first explained that El Niño weather conditions could cause irregular rainfall and drought, and therefore drinking water should be collected in advance to prevent water shortages; water should be used systematically to avoid wastage; and points to follow for protection against El Niño heat should be observed.

Township Head U Kyaw Myo Sint of the Thandaunggyi Township Department of Rural Development then explained the points for pre-emptively preventing El Niño impacts, the actions to be taken when it occurs, and the dos and don'ts, as well as El Niño precautionary knowledge.

According to District Head U Kyaw Myo Aung, the Thandaunggyi District Department of Rural Development is conducting field inspections in townships and villages within the district where drinking water shortages may occur due to the El Niño weather phenomenon, and is taking advance measures to ensure an adequate supply of clean drinking water. — Ko Naing (DRD)

OPINION

Producing good ethnic educational staff for the State

The foundation of a country's development lies in having an abundant pool of educated human resources. Myanmar is also working towards building a prosperous and peaceful future nation by nurturing knowledgeable and skilled individuals, while striving to develop a comprehensive, high-quality education system.

In this regard, with the aim of training and nurturing qualified education personnel who could contribute to strengthening national unity and promoting the development of the various ethnic nationalities, the State opened the Institute for the Development of the Border Areas and National Races on 20 October 1964. Subsequently, the institute was upgraded to the University for the Development of the National Races on 10 May 1991, with a view to enabling ethnic youths from border areas to pursue higher education. So far, the university has produced a total of 14,695 male and female graduates.

> Teachers are regarded as leaders of society and second parents because they guide their students as well as the people from relevant communities where those teachers are assigned duties, in order to learn to love and cherish one another, illuminate their students' lives and the world around them, and dispel their sorrows. Therefore, teachers must not only impart academic knowledge to their students but also help shape their minds and character. They must teach and guide students to develop empathy and consideration for others and to cultivate a spirit of public service and a desire to work for the benefit of society rather than pursuing only their own interests.

Teachers are responsible for guiding their students to improve the right attitudes, discipline and knowledge. Since teachers from all national races play an important role in the future development and progress of the country, they must nurture and train their students, wherever they are assigned after graduation, to become educated young people equipped with the five strengths: physical strength, intellectual strength, moral strength, economic strength and social strength.

Teachers are regarded as leaders of society and second parents because they guide their students as well as the people from relevant communities where those teachers are assigned duties, in order to learn to love and cherish one another, illuminate their students' lives and the world around them, and dispel their sorrows. Therefore, teachers must not only impart academic knowledge to their students but also help shape their minds and character. They must teach and guide students to develop empathy and consideration for others and to cultivate a spirit of public service and a desire to work for the benefit of society rather than pursuing only their own interests.

Teachers graduating from the University for the Development of the National Races must faithfully fulfil their duties in their assigned regions by working to promote the Union Spirit among ethnic people and fostering solidarity, friendship and unity among the national races. As individuals who have received the State's support and nurturing, they are also urged to join hands with the State in shouldering the national political responsibility of maintaining the country's stability, peace and development, based on the "Our Three Main National Causes": non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty.

ARTICLE

Valuing Freshwater: The Resource We Cannot Afford to Take for Granted

By Junior Thin

Freshwater is so familiar that its importance is often noticed only when it is no longer available. A turn of a tap, a glass of drinking water, a meal prepared at home, and crops growing in the fields all depend on a resource that is limited, unevenly distributed, and increasingly under pressure. Rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands and underground aquifers sustain people and nature alike. Yet pollution, waste, changing weather patterns and poorly planned development are placing many freshwater sources at risk. Valuing water must therefore mean more than recognizing its importance. It must mean protecting it through everyday choices and sound public policy.

The planet appears abundant in water, but only a small share is freshwater that people and ecosystems can readily use. Much of it is locked in ice or lies deep underground. The usable supply must serve homes, farms, industries, and the natural habitats on which communities depend. In some places, water is available throughout the year; in others, people face seasonal shortages, unreliable wells or long journeys to collect it. This imbalance makes careful management essential. A resource that seems plentiful in one season or one town can become scarce in another, especially when demand grows faster than supplies can recover.

Agriculture is one of the largest users of freshwater in many parts of the world. Water is necessary to grow food, support livestock, and sustain rural livelihoods, but inefficient irrigation can waste significant quantities. Leaking channels, poorly maintained pumps and methods unsuited to local conditions may send water where it is not needed, while crops go without it at critical times. Farmers can conserve supplies by improving irrigation schedules, repairing infrastructure, selecting appropriate crops and protecting soil moisture. Such changes require investment, training and reliable information. They should be supported as practical measures that strengthen both food security and the long-term health of water sources.

Cities and towns face a different but connected challenge. As populations expand, demand rises for drinking water, sanitation, housing, transport and industry. When growth outpaces planning, water systems may struggle to deliver safe supplies to every neighbourhood. Leaking pipes can waste treated water before it reaches households, while untreated sewage and industrial discharge can contaminate rivers and groundwater. Poor communities are often hit hardest: they may pay more for water from vendors, rely on unsafe sources or receive service for only a few hours a day. Fair access should be a central measure of good water management, not an afterthought.

Pollution does not always begin beside a river. Fertilizers and pesticides can run off fields; rubbish can wash from streets into drains; and untreated waste can travel downstream from homes and businesses. Once a source is contaminated, cleaning it can be far more difficult and costly than preventing pollution in the first place. Protecting water therefore requires cooperation across an entire watershed – the land area from which rain and streams flow into a shared river, lake or aquifer. Local authorities, farmers, industries and residents all have a role. Responsibility cannot stop at the boundary of a village, township or property.

Climate change is adding uncertainty to this already complicated picture. Higher temperatures can increase evaporation, while changing rainfall patterns may bring longer dry periods in some areas and heavier downpours in others. Sudden floods can damage water infrastructure and carry waste into sources used for drinking. Drought can reduce river flows, weaken harvests and put pressure on groundwater. These effects are not identical everywhere, and local conditions matter. But the risks highlight why communities need resilient systems: protected watersheds, maintained reservoirs, early warning, emergency plans and water supplies that do not depend on a single source.



Nature itself is part of the water system, not a competitor for water that belongs only to people. Wetlands absorb excess rain, filter pollutants and provide habitat for fish and birds. Forests and healthy soils help regulate runoff and reduce erosion. Rivers need sufficient flow to support aquatic life and the communities that depend on them. When wetlands are drained, forests cleared, or riverbanks built over, the consequences can reach beyond the damaged site. Flood risks may increase, water quality may decline, and local livelihoods may suffer. Conservation is therefore not separate from development; it helps sustain the natural processes on which development relies.

Households can contribute through simple, consistent habits: fixing leaking taps, avoiding unnecessary running water, using only what is needed for washing and cleaning, and keeping rubbish, oil and chemicals out of drains. These actions matter, but they cannot solve the problem alone. It would be unfair to ask families to conserve while public systems lose water through unrepaired leaks or industries discharge waste without proper treatment. Individual responsibility must be matched by institutional responsibility. Clear standards, regular monitoring, transparent reporting and meaningful enforcement are essential if communities are to trust that water is being managed for the public good.

Education can help turn concern into lasting practice. Children who learn where water comes from and how pollution travels through a watershed may carry those lessons into their homes and communities. Public information should explain not only how to save water, but also why local sources are vulnerable and what people can do when they see contamination or waste. Community participation can improve decisions, too. Residents often know which wells dry up first, where flooding repeatedly occurs, and which streams are affected by dumping. Listening to that knowledge can help planners design responses that fit actual conditions rather than relying on assumptions.

Governments and local authorities have a responsibility to treat water as a shared public resource. This means maintaining supply and sanitation networks, protecting recharge areas, monitoring quality and planning for periods of scarcity as well as floods. It also means bringing different users to the table before conflicts become severe. Decisions about dams, irrigation, extraction and land use can affect people far beyond the project site. Transparent assessments and genuine consultation help ensure that benefits and burdens are considered fairly. Cooperation between neighbouring communities and regions is especially important where rivers and aquifers cross administrative boundaries.

Valuing freshwater ultimately means recognizing that access to clean water is tied to health, dignity, livelihoods and opportunity. It also means understanding that water taken from nature faster than it can be replenished, or returned polluted, cannot support people indefinitely. No single action will protect every river, lake or aquifer. Progress will depend on many decisions: how farms irrigate, how towns manage waste, how businesses use water, how authorities plan and how communities care for local sources. Freshwater is too essential to be treated as limitless. Protecting it today is an investment in the security and wellbeing of generations to come.

Let's protect water resources to counter El Niño

By Than Zaw (Homalin)

Water is an essential natural resource for human survival, agricultural development, livestock breeding, industrial growth, and the maintenance of a lush, green natural environment. However, the availability of water resources changes over time due to climate change and natural climate phenomena. One such natural climatic phenomenon that impacts water resources is El Niño.

El Niño is a natural climate phenomenon characterized by warmer-than-normal sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean. This phenomenon can alter global atmospheric circulation and rainfall patterns, potentially leading to droughts in some regions, while causing heavy rainfall and flooding in others. Although the specific impacts of El Niño vary depending on location and local climatic conditions, the resulting changes in the availability of water resources are a challenge that will be experienced universally.

Impact of El Niño on Water Resources

The El Niño phenomenon can have significant impacts on the availability, distribution, and quality of water resources. Key impacts include:

- Water scarcity may occur due to reduced rainfall: Prolonged periods of drought can lead to decreased flow in rivers and streams, as well as a decline in water storage levels within dams, reservoirs, and ponds. Furthermore, excessive extraction of groundwater can cause the groundwater table to drop.
- Temperatures may rise: Higher temperatures increase the rate of evaporation, which can reduce soil moisture and the volume of water stored in reservoirs. These conditions can make it more difficult to obtain sufficient water for drinking, agriculture, livestock breeding, and industrial use.
- Rainfall patterns may change: Shifts in rainfall patterns can lead to flooding and soil erosion. While El Niño may cause a decrease in rainfall in some regions, it can trigger heavy, intense rainfall in others. Heavy rainfall can lead to soil erosion, an increase in silt and sediment in rivers and streams, and a deterioration in water quality.
- It can negatively impact aquatic ecosystems: In drought-prone areas, reduced water flow and rising water temperatures can threaten the survival of aquatic organisms and damage aquatic ecosystems.

The Impact of El Niño on Myanmar

Myanmar is an agriculture-based nation that relies on various water resources, including rainfall, river water, water from dams and reservoirs, and groundwater. The rising temperatures and shifts in rainfall patterns triggered by El Niño can significantly impact these water resources.

In regions that already receive low rainfall, an intensification of drought conditions could create serious challenges in securing sufficient water for both drinking and agricultural use. A shortage of drinking water can adversely affect public health. Similarly, insufficient irrigation water may reduce crop yields, require changes to planting schedules, and lead to a decline in farmers' incomes.

Furthermore, rising temperatures can increase water demand. At the same time, declining water levels in rivers, streams, and reservoirs may affect households, industrial operations, and electricity generation. Since the impacts of El Niño vary from one region to another, appropriate planning and management should be based on weather forecasts and reliable water resource data.

Ways to Conserve and Protect Water Resources

To reduce the risk of water shortages caused by climate phenomena such as El Niño, water resources must be managed and conserved systematically.

- Rainwater should be collected and stored during the rainy season using rainwater harvesting systems, storage reservoirs, and household water tanks. This ensures a reserve of water is available for use during periods of drought.
- Water should be used efficiently without unnecessary waste. Household water consumption can be reduced by adopting water-saving practices and repairing leaking pipes. In agriculture, water-efficient technologies, such as drip irrigation systems, should be introduced to minimize water loss.
- Forests must be protected and trees planted. Forests facilitate the infiltration of water into the soil and help reduce soil erosion. Furthermore, rivers, streams, watersheds, and wetlands must also be conserved.
- Water quality must be monitored, and necessary purification processes must be carried out before the water is used for drinking. Industrial waste and agricultural chemicals must also be controlled to prevent them from contaminating water sources.
- The public, local organizations, and relevant government departments must work together. Obtaining timely weather forecasts, identifying areas prone to water scarcity in advance, and developing water allocation plans are crucial steps in proactively preventing water-related problems.

SEE PAGE 11

NATIONAL

DaikU's completed laterite road paving work inspected

YESTERDAY, officials inspected the completion status of the village internal road laterite paving work carried out in U Bo Yin Su Village, DaikU Township, Bago Region, under the Village Development Project (VDP) with VDP grant funding and community contributions for the 2026-2027 financial year, according to reports.



Officials inspect the completed village internal road laterite paving work in DaikU Township.

District Head U Yan Naing Nyunt of the Department of Rural Development for Nyaunglebin District, Township Head U Aung Myint Htun of the Department of Rural Development for DaikU Township, and staff, together with members of the Village Work Implementation Committee, observed and inspected the status of the village internal road laterite paving work in the village. Afterwards, the district officer met village personnel and members of the Village Work Implementation Committee and discussed and instructed them to use the completed laterite road beneficially and for all relevant parties to jointly maintain it for long-term use.

In U Bo Yin Su Village, DaikU Township, the village internal road laterite paving work – 910 feet long, 12 feet wide, and six inches high – was implemented by the villagers themselves starting 1 October with technical assistance from engineers of the DaikU Township Department of Rural Development, using K15 million in VDP grant funding and K1 million in community contributions, totalling K16 million.

It is now 100 per cent complete. Upon full completion, the villagers of Uboyinsu Village now have easier travel, according to U Aung Myint Htun, Township Head of the DaikU Township Department of Rural Development. — Ko Naing (Rural)

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 9 November 2026

	US$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,655.00~3,671.00	555.30~558.70	124.90~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	11,155,734.98	10,757,658.16	20,322,617.47	

Concrete road construction inspected in Wundwin

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection yesterday to monitor progress on intra-village concrete road construction in Ywathit Village, Wundwin Township, Mandalay Region. The project is being executed under the Village Development Project (VDP) with government grant funds and public contributions, according to the Department of Rural Development.

U Win Zaw, Head of the Meiktila District Department of Rural Development, U Aung Ko Ko Oo, Head of the Wundwin Township Department of Rural Development, and responsible officials, together with village elders and members of the Village Development Committee, inspected the ongoing concrete road paving work in Ywathit Village. The district head instructed those responsible to prioritize completing the work on time in line with specified quality standards and coordinated the necessary requirements.



Officials oversee the progress on the intra-village concrete road project in Wundwin Township.

The concrete paving of the intra-village road in Ywathit Village, measuring 1,150 feet in length, 12 feet in width, and six inches in thickness, is being carried out using a budget allocation of K15 million from the 2026-2027 financial year Village Development Project (VDP) grant, along with K51.96 million contributed by the community, totalling K66.96 million. Villagers themselves initiated the construction work in the first week of October this year under the close supervision of department staff, and 90 per cent of the project has now been completed. Once fully completed, the road will ensure smooth and convenient transport access, contributing to the socioeconomic development of local communities in Ywathit Village. — Naw Lu (DRD)

Dawei University to offer Gem Identification Course in Dec

THE Geology Department of Dawei University will conduct a Gem Identification course for the 2026-27 academic year in December under the Human Resource Development programme.

Applicants must have passed the matriculation examination. Civil service personnel must present documentation permitting course attendance from the head of their department. The course runs for three months (basic and advanced levels) and begins on 3 December. Classes will be held from 7:30 to 9 am from Monday to Friday. Applications will be accepted starting from 25 November and will close on 2 December. Applications must be submitted to the Geology Department of Dawei University. The class will accept about 60 trainees. Interested individuals can enquire about details through the Geology Department Office Building (C) of Dawei University at 09 791337871, 09 4222040531 or 09 401556945, according to the head of the Department of Training Affairs at Dawei University. — NN/KK

Tenders invited for machinery rental for 2 projects in Mandalay

THE Bridges Department under the Ministry of Construction called for an open tender for the purchase of construction equipment and the rental of machinery for the TadaU International Airport access road and new Dokhtawady Bridge projects, according to Construction Group 1 and Bridge Special Unit 4 of the department. Construction Group 1 from Mandalay will carry out work under union capital (construction) expenditure of the 2026-27 financial year. It is inviting open tenders for the purchase of construction equipment valued at more than K200 million for the new Bridge 3/5 on the TadaU International Airport access road. It also seeks equipment purchases and machinery rentals, delivered to the worksite and paid in kyats, for the new Dokhtawady Bridge project on both the Yangon and Mandalay sides at mileposts 358/1-3 on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway, using funds from the second allocation of the National Natural Disaster Management Fund.

Tender forms will be sold at the office of the Director (Civil), Bridges Department, Construction Group 1, Mandalay and at the office of the Deputy Director (Civil), Bridges Department, Bridge Special Unit 4, Mandalay by 4:30 pm on 11 November. Tenders will be opened at 9:30 am on 13 November. Tenders will be submitted, scrutinized and selected at the bridge clearance hall at the new Dokhtawady Bridge project site (Mandalay side).

Individuals can enquire about tender forms, conditions and detailed information through Construction Group 1, Mandalay, at 09 426042699 or 09 402766175, and Bridge Special Unit 4, Mandalay, at 09 448548585 or 09 781300409. — NN/KK

ARTICLE/LIFE&SOCIAL
WORLD

"Godzilla Minus Zero" tops North American box office in opening weekend

JAPANESE science-fiction film "Godzilla Minus Zero" opened at the top of the North American box office with an estimated US$31.6 million this weekend, according to data from measurement firm Rentrak on Sunday.

The new monster film, a direct sequel to the 2023 Oscar-winning "Godzilla Minus One" and the 39th instalment in the Godzilla franchise, has reportedly set a record for the biggest opening ever for a live-action foreign-language film in North America, surpassing Zhang Yimou's "Hero", which earned $17.8 million in 2004.

The film, distributed in North America by GKIDS, received largely positive reviews from both critics and audiences. It holds a 90 per cent approval rating on the review-aggregation website Rotten Tomatoes, based on 170 reviews, and earned an "A" grade on CinemaScore's A+ to F scale, based on audience polling. Another newcomer, Warner Bros. Pictures Animation's fantasy film "The Cat in the Hat", based on the 1957 children's book of the same name, came in second, earning $20.5 million. — Xinhua

From scandalous game to mass entertainment: is GTA going soft?

FROM 24-hour news channel parodies and extreme stereotypes to a twisted Statue of Liberty, the Grand Theft Auto series has consistently mocked the excesses of US capitalist society.

But with days to go before the release of the hugely popular video game's new instalment, players and analysts are wondering if changes in studio Rockstar's creative team suggest a possible shift into less controversial territory, and an end to the punk-rock transgressions that helped turn GTA into a cultural phenomenon. In marketing and communications leading up to the release of the new "GTA VI" on 19 November, Rockstar seems keener to steer the conversation towards its Bonnie-and-Clyde-style protagonists trying to survive in a fictionalized, crime-ravaged Miami. — AFP



An aerial view shows the "Vice City" sign on the rooftop of Kaseya Centre ahead of the launch of Grand Theft Auto VI (GTA), in Miami, Florida, on 5 November 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

Sculptures by Japanese, Vietnamese artists on display in Yokohama



Ngo Phuong Ly (centre R), wife of Vietnamese President To Lam, and Kanagawa Governor. Yuji Kuroiwa (L) inspect an exhibition of sculptures created by artists from Japan and Vietnam in Yokohama on 9 November 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

AN exhibition of sculptures created by artists from Japan and Vietnam has begun in Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture near Tokyo, to mark the Vietnamese leader's visit to Japan.

More than 30 works made from stone, wood, metal and ceramics, among other materials, are on display at the event running from Sunday to Wednesday, according to the prefectural government.

"Art has the power to connect people beyond national borders. I hope this exhibition will deepen mutual understanding and develop exchanges," Kanagawa Gov Yuji Kuroiwa said during the opening ceremony Monday, also attended by Ngo Phuong Ly, wife of Vietnamese President To Lam.

The event had been proposed by the Vietnamese side, according to the prefecture, which has maintained friendly ties with the South-East Asian country for over 10 years. — Kyodo

Spanish investigators slam TikTok's inaction on child abuse

A Spanish anti-disinformation foundation accused TikTok on Monday of not doing enough to prevent paedophiles from accessing child sexual abuse material or soliciting images from children on the platform.

"Material you would expect to find only on the dark web is on TikTok," the Maldita.es association said.

In the investigation published Monday, Maldita.es catalogued more than 1,000 videos of child abuse footage, which had been viewed a total of 48 million times.

"The findings of this investigation seriously call into question the effectiveness of TikTok's measures against child abuse, and also point directly to its platform features being actively exploited by child predators," the association said.

TikTok was yet to reply to an AFP request for comment.

According to Maldita.es, TikTok removed only one-tenth of the content it had flagged and blocked just 26 per cent of illegal posts in Spain.

The widely popular platform, owned by Chinese parent company ByteDance, faces a wave of lawsuits and investigations over accusations that it has failed to protect minors, which the company has frequently denied. — AFP

Let's protect water resources to counter El Niño

FROM PAGE 9

Safeguarding the Future

El Niño is a natural phenomenon that can alter global climate and rainfall patterns, potentially impacting both the availability and quality of water resources. In nations like Myanmar, where agriculture relies heavily on rainfall, special attention must be paid to the consequences of water scarcity.

Therefore, it is essential to prioritize the responsible use of water, rainwater harvesting, the conservation of forests and watersheds, and the systematic management of water resources. Since water is a fundamental requirement for human survival and national development, conserving water resources goes beyond merely protecting the water itself; it also safeguards human health, the economy, the natural environment, and our future.

Although water covers the vast majority of the Earth's surface, not all of it is available for human use. Seawater is saline and unsuitable for direct human consumption. Furthermore, freshwater sources that are suitable for drinking and daily use are limited. Therefore, everyone has a responsibility to conserve water by avoiding unnecessary waste, protecting water sources from pollution, and managing and preserving water resources sustainably. By working together to protect these valuable resources, we can help ensure a more secure and sustainable future for all.

ECONOMY
WORLD

ANA, Vietnam Airlines plan joint venture to coordinate fares

JAPAN'S All Nippon Airways Co and state-owned Vietnam Airlines agreed Monday to pursue a joint venture to coordinate fares and flight schedules on routes including those between the two countries.

The deal would deepen a partnership dating back to 2016, when ANA's parent, ANA Holdings Inc, bought a stake in Vietnam Airlines. ANA Holdings currently owns 5.62 per cent of the carrier.

The airlines already cooperate on code-sharing flights, frequent flyer programmes and airport services but set fares and schedules separately.

After securing approval from authorities in Japan and Vietnam, including an exemption from antitrust rules, the venture will aim to attract more passengers by offering a wider range of fares and operate flights more efficiently. A launch date has yet to be set.



All Nippon Airways Co President Juichi Hirasawa (C, L) and Vietnam Airlines President Le Hong Ha (C, R) pose for photos at a press conference about their planned joint venture in Tokyo on 9 November 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

"Passenger traffic between Japan and Vietnam is expected to grow, so we want to make travel as convenient as possible," ANA President Juichi Hirasawa told a press conference in Tokyo.

Vietnam Airlines President Le Hong Ha said in a joint release that the partnership could contribute to "stronger economic and tourism ties between our two countries". — Kyodo

Slovakia's residential property prices rise 2.6% in Q3 amid strong demand

RESIDENTIAL property prices in Slovakia rose 2.6 per cent quarter-on-quarter in the third quarter of 2026, with the average price reaching 3,120 euros (US$3,475.5) per square metre, according to data released Sunday by the National Bank of Slovakia (NBS).

The average price increased by 78 euros ($86.9) per square meter from the previous quarter, while the year-on-year growth rate accelerated slightly to 10.9 per cent, the NBS said. The continued rise in property prices reflects strong market demand, despite higher borrowing costs. Buyers have apparently brought forward their home purchases amid expectations of further increases in mortgage interest rates, said Roman Vrbovsky, a macroeconomic analyst at the NBS. — Xinhua

Japan stepped in to buy one-day record 7.98T yen in July: govt data

JAPAN intervened in the foreign exchange market on 30 July, buying a record 7.98 trillion yen ($50.4 billion) to stem the Japanese currency's slide against the US dollar, according to data released Monday by the Finance Ministry.

The 30 July intervention was part of a series of yen-buying, dollar-selling operations totalling 15.4 trillion yen on 30, 31 July and 3 August, data on foreign exchange intervention operations for the July-September quarter showed.

On 31 July, Japan and the United States jointly intervened to buy yen for the first time in 28 years, with Japan spending the equivalent of 5.55 trillion yen, according to the data.

The interventions came after the yen weakened to the upper 163 range against the dollar in late July, its lowest level in 39 years and eight months, prompting authorities to step in on an unusually large scale.

The previous record for a yen-buying intervention was 6.28 trillion yen, set on 30 April.

Following the interventions, the yen surged temporarily to the lower 155 range against the dollar on 3 August, its strongest level in about three months. — Kyodo


File photo taken on 5 August 2026 shows the Finance Ministry building in Tokyo. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Tajikistan's agricultural output up 8.5% in first 3 quarters

TAJIKISTAN'S agricultural output totalled 67.1 billion somoni (about US$7.3 billion) in the first three quarters of 2026, up 8.5 per cent year on year, the Khovar news agency reported Sunday, citing data from the country's Ministry of Agriculture.

The Khatlon Region accounted for the largest share of agricultural output at 53.3 per cent, followed by the Sughd Region at 31.4 per cent. Dushanbe and the cities and districts under republican subordination accounted for 14.2 per cent, while the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region accounted for 1.1 per cent. — Xinhua

Cambodia attracts US$6.16B in fixed-asset investments during Jan-Oct period

CAMBODIA attracted US$6.16 billion in approved fixed-asset investment projects during the first 10 months of 2026, signalling a steady rise in investor confidence in the kingdom, according to a press release from the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) on Sunday. Between January and October, the CDC and provincial investment subcommittees greenlit 419 investment projects, which are projected to create approximately 236,000 jobs nationwide, the press release said.

In October alone, the Southeast Asian nation approved 37 projects valued at $246 million, expected to generate roughly 19,000 jobs, it added. "The industrial sector remained the primary engine for investment over the 10-month period, while special economic zones, agriculture, tourism, and infrastructure projects continued to drive economic diversification and employment," the press release said.

Penn Sovicheat, a secretary of state and spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce, said these new investments will inject fresh capital and advanced technologies, boosting local productivity and expanding job opportunities. He added that this continuous influx of foreign direct investment is a direct result of Cambodia's expanding trade footprint, anchored by the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership and bilateral free trade agreements with China, South Korea, and the United Arab Emirates. — Xinhua

S Korea's initial jobless claims rebound in Oct

SOUTH Korea's initial jobless claims rebounded in four months due to higher applications in the health, welfare and retail sectors, government data showed Monday.

The number of new applicants for job-seeking benefits increased 7.5 per cent from a year earlier to 81,000 in October, marking the first growth since June, according to the Ministry of Employment and Labour.

The service industry led the upward trend, with claims in health and social welfare, wholesale and retail, business support services, and accommodation and food services growing in double digits.

Applications in the manufacturing and the construction sectors declined 4.1 per cent and 19.0 per cent, respectively.

The government offers job-seeking benefits to help the unemployed find work, accounting for the majority of unemployment benefits. It is financed by the state employment insurance fund.

The number of benefit recipients totalled 571,000 in October, down 0.7 per cent from a year earlier.

It was driven by a substantial contraction of beneficiaries in the construction industry, the number of which dropped 24.4 per cent last month. — Xinhua



Pedestrians walk past food stalls and shops at the Myeongdong shopping district in Seoul on 12 October 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

Rakuten, AST SpaceMobile to form firm to create satellite network in Japan

RAKUTEN Group Inc on Monday said it will establish a joint venture this month with US satellite manufacturer AST SpaceMobile Inc in the hopes of creating a satellite communications network in Japan by the end of March 2029.

Rakuten hopes to establish an autonomously operated and managed service that will strengthen Japan's communications infrastructure in the event of a disaster, while competing against a growing reliance on Starlink, the satellite communications service operated by US company SpaceX.

Rakuten, which is an investor in AST SpaceMobile, will hold 51 per cent of the voting rights of the new company Rakuten AST Inc.

"The satellite will be Japanese, while Rakuten will be responsible for its management and operation," Chairman and President Hiroshi Mikitani said during a press conference in Tokyo.

The Japanese government has decided to provide up to 148 billion yen ($936.78 million) in subsidies to the project across three years as it supports the move to reduce dependence on SpaceX from an economic security perspective. — Kyodo



Rakuten Group Inc Chairman and President Hiroshi Mikitani (2nd from R) poses during a press conference in Tokyo on 9 November 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Thai rice exports to ASEAN more than double in Jan-Sept

THAI rice exports to ASEAN countries rose 109 per cent in the first nine months of 2026, the government said on Monday.

Deputy Government Spokesperson Lalida Periswiwatana said that the Ministry of Commerce is expanding export opportunities, promoting value-added agricultural products, and strengthening oversight of purchasing practices.

Citing data from the Department of Foreign Trade, Lalida said that Thailand exported about 1.25 million metric tonnes of rice to ASEAN countries from January to September 2026, a year-on-year rise of 109 per cent, with the Philippines and Malaysia as key growth markets. – Xinhua

German exports rise more than expected in Sept

GERMAN exports rose more than expected in September on strong demand from other European countries, official data showed Monday, the latest positive sign for the manufacturing powerhouse. Exports increased two per cent from the previous month to 141.1 billion euros ($158 billion), rebounding after two months of declines, statistics agency Destatis said. That was above a rise of 0.5 per cent forecast by analysts surveyed by the financial data firm FactSet. It follows recent positive growth and manufacturing data, fuelling hopes that Europe's biggest economy has turned a corner after a long period of stagnation.

The September export data was lifted by a 3.5 per cent increase in shipments to other European Union countries, according to the provisional data from Destatis. – AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC HAODE VOY.NO. (2622S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC HAODE VOY.NO. (2622S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **9-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V BAL XIAMEN VOY.NO. (110W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V BAL XIAMEN VOY.NO. (110W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V FSL SINGAPORE VOY.NO. (258N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V FSL SINGAPORE VOY.NO. (258N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **10-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Indian capital chokes with pollution after Deepavali fireworks

TOXIC air in parts of India's capital New Delhi soared to more than 58 times the World Health Organization's recommended daily limit Monday, after fireworks for the Hindu festival of Deepavali, air monitor data showed.

Millions celebrate the annual festival of lights with fireworks in one of the world's most polluted capitals, worsening winter smog fuelled by vehicle emissions, farm fires and industry.

The Supreme Court this month allowed the limited use of so-called "green" firecrackers, designed to produce fewer emissions, during Deepavali.

But restrictions are routinely flouted, with the city reverberating with explosions.



Tourists visit the Taj Mahal as thick smog engulfs the city skyline in Agra on 9 November 2026 a day after the Hindu festival of lights 'Deepavali'. **PHOTO: AFP**

On early Monday morning, around eight hours after the peak of the bursting fireworks, levels of cancer-causing PM 2.5 microparticles hit 879 microgrammes per cubic metre in the Mandir Marg locality, according to monitoring organization IQAir, which cited data from a city government station.

That is nearly 59 times the WHO's recommended daily maximum.

Authorities have in recent weeks implemented restrictions on traffic and construction as they seek to curb smog in New Delhi, home to more than 30 million people. — AFP

Africa CDC condemns attack amid Ebola outbreak in DR Congo

THE Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) has condemned a deadly attack on civilians in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

"The attack comes at a critical moment in the response to the ongoing Ebola outbreak. Health facilities have been attacked and patients, including hundreds of people with confirmed or suspected Ebola infection, have fled in search of safety, raising serious public health concerns," the Africa CDC said in a press statement issued late Sunday.

The attack was reportedly carried out by the Allied Democratic Forces overnight from Thursday into Friday in Cantine-Aloya, a locality in Beni territory of the North Kivu Province, the statement said.



This photo taken on 31 January 2024 shows the headquarters of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

The Africa CDC emphasized the critical need to ensure a "corridor of peace, protection of civilians, patients, health workers and health facilities, as well as safe and sustained access to affected communities".

The African Union's specialized continental public health agency urged all parties to the conflict in the eastern part of the DRC to respect the protection afforded to healthcare under international humanitarian law.

"In an Ebola outbreak, every interruption to patient care, contact tracing, and disease surveillance creates additional risks for communities already facing extraordinary hardship," the agency said. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Trump to discuss denuclearization with Putin, Xi Jinping in China

US President Donald Trump said that he would discuss denuclearization during a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping in China. "We'll talk a lot of things, including denuclearization," Trump told reporters. Earlier, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov announced that Russia, China, and the United States were working on organizing a meeting between the leaders during the APEC summit, which is set to take place in the Chinese city of Shenzhen from 18-19 November. — SPUTNIK

Death toll from Egypt's train collision rises to 7, with 112 injured

THE death toll from Sunday's collision between two trains in Egypt's Giza governorate has risen to seven, with 112 others injured, Egypt's Ministry of Health and Population said. The ministry said in a statement that 45 patients had been discharged after their conditions improved and they received the necessary treatment, while seven others were expected to be discharged soon. The remaining injured were continuing to receive treatment under medical observation. — Xinhua

Austria sees over 1,000 heat-related deaths in single summer for first time

AUSTRIA recorded more than 1,000 heat-related deaths for the first time in a single summer, with an estimated 1,008 fatalities between June and September this year, according to figures released by the country's ministry of health on Monday.

It exceeded the estimated 989 heat-related deaths recorded in the summer of 2024 which was also marked by exceptionally high temperatures.

Among all the states in Austria, Vienna reported the highest number of heat-related deaths this year, with 229 fatalities, followed by the neighbouring state of Lower Austria with 223, according to the data.

Austria experienced the hottest summer this year since the measurements began, and the country's all-time temperature record was also broken. On 4 August, temperatures in Vienna reached 41 degrees Celsius, surpassing the previous national record of 40.5 degrees Celsius set in 2013. — Xinhua



A very low water level of the river Wienfluss (Vienna river) cutting through the City park (Stadtpark) is seen on a sunny and hot day in Vienna, Austria, on 28 May 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

SPORTS

MLBB Esports Team congratulated on winning gold medal at CAEC 2026

THE MLBB Esports Team, which won the gold medal at the China-ASEAN Esports Competition (CAEC 2026) held in Nanning, the People's Republic of China, from 6 to 8 November, returned to Yangon International Airport with the championship trophy at 5:30 pm yesterday. They were warmly welcomed back officials from the Myanmar Esports Federation, the public, and the families of the competitors.



The gold medallist MLBB Esports Team are seen being welcomed at Yangon International Airport. **PHOTO: ZWE MARN**

MLBB Esports and Falcon Esports teams competed in two sports from the Myanmar Esports Federation in the China-ASEAN Esports Competition (CAEC 2026). The team defeated the host Chinese team and the top teams, and defeated the experienced Indonesian team 2-0 in the semifinals to win the gold medal.

"The CAEC competition held in China was first held in 2024. Although the competition was not given the same conditions, this year's competition saw us beat the top teams with more experience and win the national gold medal. This is the golden age of Esports, as we have said, and we are very happy and proud to have won consecutive gold medals. For the competition to be held in Thailand, we will continue to win national medals and enhance national pride through sports," said U Kyaw Htet Lin, Vice-President of the Myanmar Electronic Sports Federation.

The China-ASEAN Esports Competition (CAEC-2026) featured top teams from 11 countries, including host China, Myanmar, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Brunei, and Timor-Leste.

The China-ASEAN Esports Competition 2026 (CAEC 2026) is a regional competition aimed at promoting friendship between China and ASEAN countries and the development of the electronic sports (Esports) sector. A total of six MLBB Esports teams and six Falcon Esports teams represented Myanmar and won the national gold medal in the MLBB Esports sport. — Thitsa(MNA)/MKKS

Czechia, France claim junior tennis team titles in Cairo

CZECHIA and France claimed the girls' and boys' titles, respectively, at the Billie Jean King Cup Juniors and Davis Cup Juniors Finals in Cairo on Sunday, with both championship ties decided in doubles.

In the girls' final, Czechia defeated Japan 2-1 after Jana Kovackova and Katerina Zajickova beat Sakino Miyazawa and Ran Wakana 6-1, 4-6, 11-9 in a deciding match tiebreak.

Zajickova had given Czechia the lead with a 6-2, 6-4 victory over Japan's Yui Komada, before Miyazawa leveled the tie by defeating Kovackova 6-3, 6-1. The victory gave Czechia its sixth title in the girls' competition and its first since 2021. In the boys' final, France defeated Czechia 2-1, with Benoit Geldof and Pablo Pradat beating Tommy Luxa and Matyas Marsik 6-3, 6-2 in the decisive doubles match. Geldof had put France ahead after recovering from a set down to beat Luxa 6-7, 6-1, 6-4, but Marsik kept Czechia's title hopes alive by defeating Pradat 2-6, 7-6, 7-5 to force the doubles decider. — Xinhua



Jana Kovackova of the Czech Republic competes against Sakino Miyazawa of Japan during the final match between the Czech Republic and Japan at Billie Jean King Cup Juniors in Cairo, Egypt, 8 November 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Brighton moves second, Liverpool returns to winning ways

BRIGHTON moved above Manchester City into second place in the Premier League with a 2-0 home victory over Brentford on Sunday.

The win left Brighton five points behind league leader Arsenal, which played on Saturday.

Diego Gomez put the host ahead in the 15th minute with a powerful long-range strike into the top corner.

Brighton's task became easier when Brentford forward Igor Thiago was shown a straight red card for striking Chema Andres in the face with his arm. The referee upgraded his initial yellow card following a VAR review.

Pascal Gross doubled Brighton's lead with an emphatic penalty in the 42nd minute, and the host comfortably controlled the second half against its 10-man opponent.

Liverpool ended a run of consecutive defeats with a 3-1 victory away to Crystal Palace, piling further pressure on Palace manager Pierre Sage, whose side suffered a fourth successive league defeat.

The match at Selhurst Park was evenly contested until Alexis Mac Allister headed Liverpool into the lead in the 40th minute.

Florian Wirtz doubled Liverpool's advantage in the 54th minute with a first-time finish, before Alexander Isak made it 3-0 in the 89th. — Xinhua



Players celebrate following the English Premier League football match between Manchester City and Brighton and Hove Albion at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, north west England, on 31 October 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson Becker wants new contract

LIVERPOOL goalkeeper Alisson Becker has urged the club to extend his successful stay at Anfield by handing him a contract beyond this season.

Becker has played a key role in Liverpool's Premier League and Champions League triumphs since signing from Roma in 2018.

The 34-year-old Brazilian has made 347 appearances for the Reds, winning seven major trophies.

Becker is out of contract at end of the current campaign and has been linked with a move, but is keen to prolong his time on Merseyside with a new deal.

"Yes (I want to stay), in my mind. I'm focused on playing every game but in my mind I'm happy to stay," Alisson said after Sunday's 3-1 win at Crystal Palace in the Premier League. — AFP

Former Real Madrid star Raul to coach Oviedo

FORMER Real Madrid striker Raul Gonzalez was appointed as coach of Spanish second-division side Real Oviedo on Monday.

"Oviedo have reached an agreement to hire Raul... as the new first-team coach until June 2028," said the Asturian side in a statement.

Oviedo, who were relegated from La Liga last season, dismissed coach Julian Calero earlier Monday with the team ninth in the table.

"My way of understanding football is with respecting the talent (in the squad) but asking for unconditional effort," said Raul in a video published by the club on social media platform X. "The team has to fight from the first minute to the last for victory so the fans are proud of them." Raul, 49, previously coached Real Madrid's reserve side from 2019 to 2025. — AFP

Indian capital chokes with pollution after Diwali fireworks

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WORLD

African experts meet to tackle illicit financial flows

AFRICAN financial experts on Monday began a five-day meeting in Uganda's capital, Kampala, to discuss ways to combat the growing threat of illicit financial flows fuelled by digital technologies, complex financial systems and cross-border criminal networks.

The Africa Financial Intelligence Summit 2026 has brought together delegates from 36 countries under the theme "Securing Africa's Financial Future: Intelligence, Innovation and Integrated Enforcement in an Era of Borderless Financial Crime".

Uganda's Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development Henry Musasizi said Africa was at a defining moment as financial crime continued to grow in scale, speed and sophistication alongside the rapid expansion of digital finance, financial technology, virtual assets and cross-border transactions. — Xinhua

Iran says 2-day plan to reopen Hormuz Strait still on table



This photo taken on 20 June 2026 shows the Strait of Hormuz near Khasab, a small town in northern Oman. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

IRAN'S Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei said on Monday the country's two-day plan for the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz is still on the table.

"Our position regarding the negotiations is completely clear and transparent. Iran's two-day plan per se is indicative of the country's utmost good faith," Baghaei said at a weekly press conference in Tehran.

He added the plan is the "most logical proposal" available, stressing that if the United States meets Iran's demands, the West Asia region will witness the unfolding of positive events within two days and security will be restored.

He emphasized that the United States should really make its decision "if it has correctly understood its people's message".

Iran conveyed to the United States a seven-day proposed plan in September to cease hostilities and reopen the Strait of Hormuz. The country later voiced its readiness to reduce the proposal's implementation period to two days should Washington meet Tehran's conditions. — Xinhua

COP31 opens with leaders under pressure to tackle climate crisis

The COP31 climate talks kicked off Monday with an early fight over money as the UN's chief urged world leaders to "get serious" about tackling the crisis after a year of devastating weather extremes.

Antonio Guterres made his plea as thousands of participants descended on a sprawling expo centre in the Turkish Mediterranean city of Antalya for the UN's annual two-week climate conference.

The summit comes after a year of punishing heatwaves in Europe, major wildfires in Indonesia and catastrophic floods in Nepal, with an exceptionally strong El Nino weather phenomenon fuelling more climate chaos.



A woman stands in front of the entrance to the Antalya Expo Centre on 8 November 2026, ahead of the opening of the UN climate conference. **PHOTO: AFP**

"We have entered a new age of climate extremes," Guterres said in a statement.

The UN secretary-general urged leaders to "get serious by cutting emissions faster, accelerating a just transition from fossil fuels and delivering the finance and protection vulnerable countries need".

The COP31 opening ceremony opened an hour-and-a-half late without explanation.

Negotiators had been locked in discussions late Sunday over demands by developing nations to include items on climate finance in the official agenda.

"This has already been a difficult start for COP31," said Jasper Inventor, head of Greenpeace's COP31 delegation.

Under UN climate agreements, developed countries, which are historically responsible for most greenhouse gas emissions, have provided financial support to help developing nations adapt to climate impacts and transition to cleaner energy. But poorer countries say the sums remain insufficient. Inventor said developed countries took a "hard line" over whether to include a platform, agreed at COP30 in Brazil last year, aimed at discussing how wealthy nations should provide funds to developing nations. — AFP

EU, Russia differ over European participation in upcoming Ukraine talks

THE European Union will participate in this week's Ukraine peace talks in Abu Dhabi, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said on Monday, while the Kremlin insisted that the negotiations would be joined by Russia, Ukraine and the United States, without European officials.

Von der Leyen said she had a "good call" with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky ahead of the talks, adding that the EU would be present alongside its partners. Zelensky said on social media X that the two had coordinated their positions ahead of the meeting and were working to "ensure that the trilateral format delivered results".

However, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said on Monday that the talks, scheduled for 10-11 November, would involve only Russian, Ukrainian and US delegations. He noted that Ukraine and the United States each had separate channels of communication with European counterparts, according to Reuters.

Von der Leyen also reiterated support for Zelensky's call for a ceasefire covering food and energy infrastructure, and said "freedom of navigation in the Black Sea must be restored and preserved" amid growing security threats in the region. — Xinhua



This photo taken on 17 February 2026 shows the scene of trilateral talks among Ukraine, the United States and Russia in Geneva, Switzerland. **PHOTO: BEATRICE DEVENES/ THE SWISS FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**