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The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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Major Development Projects Advance Across Nay Pyi Taw

The Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, the nation's capital, is undergoing a transformation into a modern, well-developed urban centre that reflects the standards and attributes of a capital city.





President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing inspects the construction of the Yonbin Creek Bridge in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing yesterday morning made an inspection tour of efforts to implement development projects in Union Territory Nay Pyi Taw to meet urban characteristics.

Accompanied by Vice-President U Nyo Saw, Union ministers U Khin Maung Yi, U Tin Aung San and U Myo Thant, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Kan Myint Than, deputy ministers and officials, the President inspected the construction of a new road leading to the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport and building Yonbin Creek Bridge on the road.

As officials reported on the progress of construction projects, the President stressed that roads and bridges should also be constructed with due consideration given to the projected increase in the use of vehicles and motorcycles in the future. Close supervision should be exercised to ensure the durability and structural integrity of bridges and roads, as well as the proper construction and maintenance of road shoulders and embankments.

SEE PAGE 3



Indonesia EXPO 2026 held in Yangon.

Myanmar, Indonesia Ink Cooperation Pacts at Indonesia EXPO 2026

MYANMAR and Indonesian businesspeople signed memorandums of understanding on cooperation at Indonesia EXPO 2026 held on 30-31 October at the Novotel Hotel in Yangon.

The MOUs between business leaders from the two countries were signed and exchanged on 30 October.

The MoUs covered cooperation in the energy sector, the education sector and cooperation among banks, according to Ahmad Jaka, commercial counsellor of the Indonesian Embassy in Myanmar.

SEE PAGE 7

Zhong Tong EV Express Service Debuts on Yangon-Pathein Route

ZHONG TONG electric vehicles will be used to operate express bus services on the Yangon-Pathein route, according to the Ayeyawady Region Automobile Production and Distribution Entrepreneurs Association.

Zhong Tong-brand electric express buses are expected to begin operating on the Yangon-Pathein highway, a major transport route serving the Ayeyawady Region. Although plans were previously made to test electric taxis on this route, preparations are now underway to introduce larger electric express buses.

The operation of these electric express buses is expected to provide passengers with quiet, smooth and comfortable journeys while helping to reduce environmental pollution. As thousands of vehicles travel along the Yangon-Pathein highway every day, the introduction of electric express buses is expected to make travel more convenient and comfortable for the public.



This photo shows Zhong Tong electric express buses designated for the Yangon-Pathein route.

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NATIONAL PAGE 6

MoU signed between Skynet and UniTV



NATIONAL PAGE 7

Arrivals of 58 container vessels scheduled in Nov

NATIONAL

Teachers, students visit Nay Pyi Taw

A group of students and teachers from Toungoo District, Bago Region, visited Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning to learn about Myanmar's history and national heritage.



This photo shows students and teachers at the National Museum in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The tour was organized under the supervision of the Bago Region government, with arrangements made by the Toungoo District Management and Administration Committee. It aimed to help young people develop greater historical awareness, patriotism and love for their country, while gaining inspiration from the achievements and sacrifices of historical figures who contributed to the nation throughout different periods.

A total of 240 participants, comprising 200 students and 40 teachers and supervisors from townships across Toungoo District, yesterday travelled in nine vehicles to visit the Maravijaya Buddha Image, the National Museum, the Defence Services Museum and the Memorial to the Fallen Heroes in Nay Pyi Taw.

Students first paid homage to the Maravijaya Buddha Image and took commemorative photographs. They then visited the National Museum (Nay Pyi Taw), where they explored exhibits featuring Myanmar's history from prehistoric times, including the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages, and artefacts from successive historical periods such as Tagaung, Sri Ksetra, Bagan, Inwa and the Konbaung Dynasty. They also observed royal regalia and traditional artefacts, Myanmar's traditional artworks, traditional costumes and cultural objects of ethnic people, as well as exhibitions featuring fossils discovered in Myanmar and information about the country's natural environment.

The group subsequently visited the Defence Services Museum (Nay Pyi Taw). At the outdoor Air Force exhibition, they viewed various aircraft formerly used by the Myanmar Air Force, while the Navy exhibition featured scale models of naval vessels. The students showed keen interest in the displays and took commemorative photos.

Inside the museum, they continued their tour of exhibitions featuring the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Defence Services), archival photographs of the Tatmadaw, military equipment and historical records. Museum officials provided explanations and briefings on the exhibits. They finally visited the Memorial to the Fallen Heroes and returned to Toungoo at 5 pm. — Zaw Ko Ko (Toungoo)/KTZH

India's ITEC Programme Trains 4,000+ Myanmar Professionals in a Decade



The ITEC Day 2026 commemoration ceremony held at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

INDIAN Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Abhay Thakur stated that over the past 10 years, 4,057 trainees from Myanmar have attended short-term courses under India's Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme.

The Ambassador remarked at the ITEC Day-2026 commemoration ceremony held on the evening of 30 October at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the ceremony, the Ambassador highlighted that the ITEC programme serves as a key pillar in India's development partnership and is significantly contributing to human resource development and technical capacity building in Myanmar.

In addition, Union Minister for National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Aung Kyaw Hoe, who also attended the ceremony, stated that the ITEC programme has been continuously supporting capacity-building training across various sectors for Myanmar since 1996.

The ITEC Day-2026 commemoration ceremony was attended by Union Minister U Aung Kyaw Hoe, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue Dr Kan Zaw, Indian Ambassador, and officials from relevant departments. — TWA/ZN

Depression News, No 1, 2026

Issued at 7 pm MST on 31 October 2026

Depression Condition

According to observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Well-Marked Low-Pressure Area over the Southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining Andaman and Nicobar Islands has intensified into a Depression. It is centred at about 3.5 nautical miles northwest of Coco Island (Myanmar), 615 nautical miles east-southeast of Chennai and 650 nautical miles southeast of Machilipatnam, India.

It does not intend to move towards the Myanmar coast at the present stage, and therefore the Depression is coded as yellow stage.

Position of Depression, centre pressure and wind

The Depression is located at Latitude 10 degrees North and Longitude 90.2 degrees East; the centre pressure of the Depression is 1004 hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is 30 miles per hour at 7:30 pm MST today.

Next 72 hours forecast

It is likely to move nearly west-northwestward and further intensify into a Deep Depression over the Southeast Bay of Bengal during the next 12 hours, and intensify into a Cyclonic Storm over the Southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining Southwest Bay of Bengal and Westcentral Bay of Bengal on 1 November 2026 and may reach the Andhra Pradesh Coasts, India, on 2 November 2026.

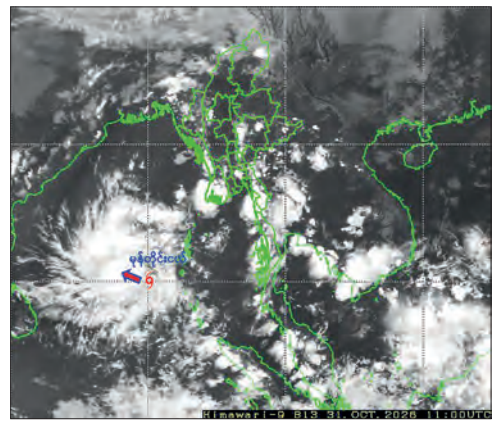
General caution

Due to the Depression, rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, Chin and northern Shan states and fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan states with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Mon State from tonight to 3 November 2026.

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

Advisory

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



NATIONAL

Major Development Projects Advance ...

FROM PAGE 1

The President viewed along Razathingaha Road from the airport by car to inspect beautification efforts and cultivation of shade and windbreak plants along both sides of the road.

On arrival at the construction project of Nay Pyi Taw People's Square, the President heard reports by the Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman and the Union Minister for Construction on facts about the square, plans to keep statues and reliefs of prominent individuals made of marble stones around the square, and arrangements to construct parks, sidewalks, entertainment square, shop houses, car parks and other necessary buildings, and the progress of the project.

In giving guidance, the President underlined that it was necessary to implement measures from all aspects to transform the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, the capital of the State, into a modern, comprehensively developed urban centre that meets the standards and characteristics of a capital city. Construction projects should be systematically carried out to ensure their completion within the designated timeframe, long-term durability and structural strength, and compliance with established standards. In incorporating statues and bas-relief sculptures into construction projects, advice should be sought from distinguished Myanmar traditional arts and fine arts painters and sculptors to ensure their proper and systematic implementation.

The President and party proceeded to the construction site of the Union Commemoration Mausoleum, where the Union Minister for Construction reported on the progress of the project and the accomplishment of the guidance given by the President, and the 3D design of the mausoleum and greening activities.

After hearing the reports, the President said that the Union Commemoration Mausoleum is being constructed as a tribute to those who established the Union and the ethnic nationals born in the Union who have collectively worked to preserve its unity and perpetuity. Therefore, it should be magnificent and built to high standards. The design and construction should also make appropriate provisions to enable ethnic brethren from all regions and states, as well as visitors from foreign countries who come to pay their respects, to do so in a dignified and orderly manner.

He pointed out that designated areas for laying wreaths should also be systematically incorporated into the project, and adequate and well-organized parking facilities should be provided. In addition, evergreen trees and flowers should be systematically planted to maintain a green, pleasant and aesthetically appealing environment.

After viewing the construction site of the mausoleum, the President gave necessary guidance to officials. — MNA/TTA

8th Myanmar-India Army-to-Army Staff Talks held in Nay Pyi Taw

LT-GEN Ni Lin Aung of the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army) and senior Tatmadaw officers and a delegation led by Indian Armed Forces Maj-Gen Mahipal Singh Rathore (Additional Director-General of International Cooperation) attended the Eighth Myanmar-India Army-to-Army Staff Talks held at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.



The Indian Armed Forces delegation visits the Maravijaya Buddha Image in Nay Pyi Taw.



The Eighth Myanmar-India Army-to-Army Staff Talks in progress at the Parkroyal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.

The two leaders first made greeting speeches, respectively. The two sides then continued the discussion, read out decisions made at the meeting and completed undertakings.

The two leaders also exchanged gifts and had a documentary photo taken.

Lt-Gen Ni Lin Aung of the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army) hosted a dinner for delegates of the Indian Armed Forces.

During the visit to Myanmar, the Indian Armed Forces delegation visited Maravijaya Buddha Image, Uppatasanti Pagoda and Maha Sakyaransi Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw. Moreover, they paid a visit to the Inlay Lake in Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State (South). — MNA/KTZH

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MoEE UM discusses Myanmar-Thailand-Russia energy cooperation

UNION Minister for Electricity and Energy U Ko Ko Lwin, who is currently in Thailand to undertake energy-related activities, held separate meetings yesterday with Thailand's Minister of Energy Mr Akanat Promphan and Russia's Minister of Economic Development Mr Maxim Reshetnikov, accompanied by the Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand. The meetings focused on trilateral cooperation in the energy sector among Myanmar, Thailand and Russia.



Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin meets Thailand's Minister of Energy Mr Akanat Promphan in Thailand yesterday.

During the discussions, they exchanged views on the potential of the Dawei Special Economic Zone projects in Myanmar to become a strategic hub for regional trade and commerce. They also discussed efforts to accelerate the implementation of projects that would benefit all three countries and the invitation of investment to support the development.

The meetings also covered the growing energy demands of Myanmar and Thailand and efforts to address these needs through bilateral cooperation. As liquefied natural gas (LNG) is considered a cleaner energy source that can be transported in a compact form, its role has become increasingly important amid the ongoing global energy transition, contributing to the growth of international LNG trade. They also discussed the possibility of transporting LNG from Russia to Myanmar for shared use with Thailand, which could help address the energy challenges facing both Myanmar and Thailand, and the possibility of constructing an LNG terminal in the Dawei region by utilizing existing natural gas pipeline infrastructure connecting the region with Myanmar and Thailand. They discussed that Myanmar and Russia have already signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the export of petroleum products, including LNG, while Myanmar and Thailand are expected to sign an MoU on cooperation in the electricity and energy sectors in the near future. These developments were viewed as creating favourable conditions for launching trilateral energy trade and cooperation. They also discussed plans to continue investment and development projects in the Dawei region as part of Myanmar-Thailand-Russia cooperation. — MNA/KTZH

NATIONAL

Symposium of Research Paper Presentation on Intellectual Property Rights held

ORGANIZED by the Supreme Court of the Union to enhance the judicial and legal research capabilities of judicial officers, as outlined in Strategic Action Area 4 and Strategic Objective 4.2 of the Year 4 Action Plan (2026)and the Judicial Strategic Plan (2023-2027), the 'Symposium of Research Paper Presentation on Intellectual Property Rights' was held yesterday at the Judicial College of the Supreme Court of the Union in a hybrid format (in-person and virtual), with Union Chief Justice U Tha Htay attending the event and delivering opening remarks.



Symposium of Research Paper Presentation on Intellectual Property Rights in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yestersay.

At the symposium, Daw Naw Say Say Wah Poe, Assistant Director of the Alternative Dispute Resolution and Case Specialization Department of the Supreme Court of the Union, presented a research paper titled "Strengthening Online Platform Responsibility for Trademark Protection in Myanmar," while Dr Zin Thu Win, Additional Township Judge of the Wakema Township Court in Ayeyawady Region, presented a research paper titled "Trademark Dilution in the Digital Age". U Myo Thein Oo, Township Judge of the Nattalin Township Court in Bago Region, presented a research paper titled "Author's Right Protection in Myanmar", while Daw Kaung Myat Nay Chi Htoo, Deputy Township Judge of the Chanmyathazi Township Court in Mandalay Region, presented a research paper titled "Legal Protection of Moral Rights under Copyright Law in Myanmar".

The symposium was attended by judges of the Supreme Court of the Union, chief justices and judges of the High Courts of the Regions and States, directors-general of the Supreme Court of the Union, the deputy permanent secretary, a deputy director-general, an assistant secretary, directors, and judicial officers, judicial officers of the Region and the State High Courts, judges of the Courts of Self-Administered Zones and judges of the District Courts, and 140 individuals attended in-person and 345 individuals via online, and a total of 485 judges and judicial officers joined the event. — MNA

Falam's rehabilitation works inspected

DEPUTY Minister for Construction Dr Thaung Naing, together with Chin State Minister for Electricity, Energy, Industry, Road and Transport U Nay Lin Aung and members of the Chin State Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee, yesterday inspected rehabilitation works being carried out by the Rural Road Development Department, as well as the offices of the Falam District Deputy Director (Civil) and the Township Chief Officer (Civil), and Taung Zalap housing.

Company representatives and department heads responsible for the works explained the progress of the rehabilitation activities, and the deputy minister coordinated the requirements.

Furthermore, the deputy minister and his delegation inspected public recreational and sports facilities in Falam Township, including the Hrang Thio Football Ground in Fartoi Ward and the Independence Monument Viewpoint in Kyinmai Ward, to ensure that these facilities provide suitable spaces for public recreation and physical exercise.



Deputy Minister Dr Thaung Naing and members of the Chin State Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee inspect the Taung Zalap hall in Falam on 30 October 2026.

Yesterday morning, the deputy minister also inspected roadside cleaning along Viewpoint Road, the installation of lighting around the trees lining the road, and landscaping work at the Haranhtiyo Football Ground using a JCB machine.—District IPRD/MKKS

Police beef up security in Yangon Region

POLICE personnel from township police stations across Yangon Region, in cooperation with traffic police and local administrative officials, conducted operations to strengthen the rule of law and prevent crime.

As part of the operations yesterday, police personnel from Thingangyun, South Okkalapa, Wanetchaung and Yankin townships, together with members of the traffic police units in Kamayut, Dala and Hlinethaya (West), carried out various activities. These included vehicle and motorcycle patrols, law enforcement patrols and public awareness campaigns to encourage pedestrians to use designated pedestrian crossings.

Yesterday evening, police personnel from Tamway, Sangyoung, Kyauktan, Thanlyin, Mingala Taungnyunt, Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (North), Kyimyindine and Mingaladon townships conducted patrols using police vehicles equipped with flashing lights. They also carried out night patrols, vehicle checks, inspections of KTV venues and checks of guest lists. — Aung Thu/MKKS



Police officers petrol by vehicles in Yangon Region. **PHOTO: REGION POLICE FORCE**

Gold Market Rate as of 31 October 2026

THE price of one tical (16.329325 grammes) of gold with density of 19.25 grammes per cubic centimetre and above is K7,050,000, as established by the Mineral (Gold) Reference Price Determination Committee.

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NATIONAL

Bago installs IoT systems to develop AI-powered modern rice zone

THE Bago Region government stated that Internet of Things (IoT) systems for collecting data via the internet have been installed in Bago Township, Bago Region.

An AI-powered modern rice cultivation zone will be developed near Ohbo Village in Bago Township. The Myanmar Space Agency is responsible for installing IoT devices and establishing internet connectivity in the designated rice cultivation zone.

The project aims to promote rice production through the use of AI technology and data-driven agricultural techniques. It also seeks to use satellite data to improve the accuracy of estimates of rice cultivation areas and production.

If successful, the project will help transform traditional farming practices into a modern agricultural system based on technology and data. — ASH/MKKS



This photo shows the completed installation of an IoT system for collecting data via the internet.

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Illegal buildings demolished in Shwe Kokko

THE Government is cooperating with neighbouring and regional countries to eliminate online scams and online gambling, which threaten global socio-economic affairs and national security. As part of these efforts, illegal buildings in the Shwe Kokko area, where online scam and online gambling activities were extensively conducted, are being systematically demolished to prevent such activities from resuming.

In this regard, systematic demolition work is continuing on the remaining illegal buildings in the second phase of the Shwe Kokko area that were used for online scam and online gambling activities. Of the buildings being demolished using heavy machinery, one six-storey building had been 50 per cent demolished as of today, while the demolition of another six-storey building had reached 20 per cent completion.

Of the 63 buildings scheduled for demolition in the second phase of the Shwe Kokko area, four designated for demolition using explosives and another four designated for demolition using heavy machinery have already been demolished. The remaining 55 buildings will also be systematically demolished.



This new image reveals the ongoing demolition of scam-related structures, buildings, and facilities in the Shwe Kokko Phase II area, Myawady, Kayin State.

The Government is carrying out effective measures to combat online scams and online gambling as a national responsibility. — 100/KZL

Water levels reduced at Ma Mya Reservoir after slope subsidence

WATER levels at Ma Mya Reservoir in Myaungmya Township, Ayeyawady Region, continue to be lowered following subsidence of an embankment slope, while joint cleaning activities are being carried out in nearby villages.

Following repair work on the affected section of the reservoir embankment, water has been released through the emergency spillway to lower the reservoir's water level from its original storage level of 315 feet. As of the evening of 31 October, the reservoir's water level had fallen to 296 feet, a reduction of approximately 19 feet through water discharge.



Affected residents receive healthcare services.

Meanwhile, residents of villages near the affected slope are receiving necessary healthcare services. Personnel from local military units and residents are also working together to clear bushes and weeds at monasteries and schools and provide other necessary assistance.

Officials from the respective command inspected the activities and coordinated the provision of further assistance. — 100/KZL

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Saturday, 31 October 2026

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Well-Marked Low-Pressure Area over the Southeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining Andaman and Nicobar Islands has intensified into a Depression. It is centred at about 3.5 nautical miles northwest of Coco Island (Myanmar), 615 nautical miles east-southeast of Chennai and 650 nautical miles southeast of Machilipatnam, India. Weather is a few clouds to partly cloudy over the North Bay of Bengal and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 1 November 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kayin, Mon and southern Shan states, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Bago regions and Kachin and Rakhine states and isolated in the remaining regions and states with isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions. 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, lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions and Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan states. In areas along the movement of cumulonimbus clouds, weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur, and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 8-10 feet in the Deltaic, the Gulf of Mottama, off and along the Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along the Rakhine Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 25-30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 6-8 feet off and along the Rakhine Coast.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of a slight decrease in night temperatures in Kachin, Chin and northern Shan states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 November 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 November 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 November 2026: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 60 per cent. — DMH

NATIONAL

Weekly Roundup

25 October

Vice-President applauds Performing Arts Contestants

Vice-President U Nyo Saw watched the competitions of contestants at the 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition, which was held on the fourth day.

26 October

President and wife enjoy performing arts competition

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing and his wife, Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, enjoyed the performances at the 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition at the Hsinbyushin Hall and the Pobbathiri Gymnasium in Nay Pyi Taw.

28 October

President and wife grace Performing Arts Competition

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla watched the competitions of contestants at the 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition at Hsinbyushin Hall and Pobbathiri Gymnasium in Nay Pyi Taw.

Vice-President attends cultural competitions

Vice-President U Nyo Saw, accompanied by Union ministers, senior military officers, deputy ministers and officials, attended the singing and instrumental music competitions on the seventh day of the 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition and encouraged the contestants.

29 October

President receives Russian Areal Group delegation

A delegation led by Mr Vladislav V Sviblov, Head of the Areal Group of Companies of the Russian Federation, paid a courtesy call on U Min Aung Hlaing, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall.

Union government meeting held

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing attended the Union government meeting at the President's Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

30 October

Prizes presented to winners in Performing Arts Competition

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech at the awarding of the 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition at the Myanmar International Convention Centre I (MICC I) in Nay Pyi Taw.

President attends Performing Arts honorary dinner

The ceremony to present certificates of honour and host a dinner for the 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition was held at Myanmar International Convention Centre I (MICC I) in Nay Pyi Taw, attended by President U Min Aung Hlaing of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

31 October

VP attends cybersecurity central committee coordination meeting

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

500-kV Power Grid System Set for Launch Soon



The delegation led by Union Minister U Ko Ko Lwin holding talks with his Belarusian counterpart.

UNION Minister for Electricity and Energy U Ko Ko Lwin announced that Myanmar will soon launch its 500 kV power grid system.

The delegation led by the Union minister, currently attending the 30th Energy and Ecology Forum in Minsk, Republic of Belarus, made the statement during an afternoon meeting on 28 October with the minister of Energy of Belarus to practically implement the bilateral electricity and energy sector roadmap.

Regarding this matter, the Union minister further stated that he would like to dispatch skilled engineers for practical, on-the-job training to streamline transmission and monitoring processes, and emphasise technical cooperation to reduce line losses in transmission, switchyards, and transformers.

During the meeting, he expressed interest in replacing ageing high-tension cables with high-conductivity, durable composite cables manufactured by Belarus, and emphasised the desire to collaborate as quickly as possible to reduce losses in electricity and natural gas.

Similarly, the minister of Energy of Belarus replied that they possess the best available technologies for natural gas and electricity transmission and distribution – ensuring minimal losses – and stand ready to cooperate with Myanmar. — Htun Htun/ZN

Zhong Tong EV Express Service Debuts on Yangon–Pathein Route

FROM PAGE 1

The Yangon-Pathein highway covers a distance of 113 miles and two furlongs. In addition to connecting Yangon and Pathein, the highway provides access to Hinthada, Myaungmya, Labutta and Wakema via Bo Myat Tun Bridge over the Ayeyawady River at milepost 41/3, as well as to Maubin Township via milepost 33. According to reports, approximately 3,800 vehicles travel daily between Yangon and Bo Myat Tun Bridge, while around 2,700 vehicles travel daily between Bo Myat Tun Bridge and Pathein. — ASH/TH

MoU signed between Skynet and UniTV



An MoU signing ceremony of Skynet and UniTV.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Skynet and UniTV on 30 October at the Skynet head office. The purpose of this MoU is to facilitate television broadcasting and enhance media development in Myanmar.

Shwe Than Lwin Media sales head U Tun Lin Zaw and UniTV channel head U Win Chan Aye signed the MoU.

This partnership will introduce new and engaging TV shows, entertainment programmes and valuable information to the audience. It will also support the shared interests of both companies in the technology and broadcasting sectors.

Skynet and UniTV are committed to collaborating on sustainable media development, creating the best experiences and incorporating new technologies for their viewers. — TWA/ZS

NATIONAL

Arrivals of 58 container vessels scheduled in Nov



Container vessels are seen docking at Yangon Port.

A total of 58 container vessels are slated to enter Yangon Port in November 2026, the Myanma Port Authority announced.

Eleven container vessels each run by M/S Cosco Shipping Line, ten by M/S SITC Shipping Line, nine by M/S Maesk A/S Line, five each by M/S One Line and M/S MSC Line, three each by M/S Evergreen ASIA Line, M/S RCL Line, M/S Samudra Shipping Line and M/S Ti2 Container Line,

two each by M/S BLPL Shipping Line and M/S CMA CGM Line and one each by M/S Land and Sea and M/S BAY Line are scheduled to enter the Yangon Port in November.

Myanma Port Authority has arranged maritime trade channels to handle increasing imports to meet domestic demand, to bolster exports, and to improve port capacity for significant arrivals of ships. Myanma Port Authority notified that it will inform exporters and importers of ship arrival schedules promptly upon an extended schedule. Yangon Port handled 56 container vessels in October, 61 in September and 55 each in August, July and June, 57 in May, 53 in April, 59 in March, 60 each in February and 63 in January 2026.

After the new navigation channel (Kings Bank Channel) accessing the inner Yangon River was found, the draft extension work was accelerated. After that, the port can now handle larger ships. The container vessel MV SITC Zhaoming (185.99-metre LOA, 35.25-metre Beam, 29,232 GRT and 2,698 TEUs) of Hong Kong-based SITC Shipping Line docked at Asia World Port Terminal for the first time on 22 June 2024, which is the largest ship that AWPT Port has handled. — NN/KK

No 1 Garment Factory (Shwetaung) to buy chemicals, dyes, and auxiliary agents

THE No 1 Garment Factory (Shwetaung), operated under the No 3 Heavy Industries Enterprise, called for open tenders for procurement of chemicals, dyes and auxiliary agents needed to produce bleached fabric, dyed fabric and printed fabric.

Open tender forms for Lot 1, including 18 types of chemicals, dyes and auxiliary agents, will be sold starting at 10 am on 2 November. The tender closing date is 4 pm on 16 November. Interested individuals can contact the Administration Department of the No 3 Heavy Industries Enterprise, Office 37, Nay Pyi Taw, at 067 3408185. — NN/KK

Myanmar, Indonesia Ink Cooperation Pacts at Indonesia EXPO 2026

FROM PAGE 1

A memorandum of understanding on education loans was also signed by the Myanmar representative office (Nyana Empowers Co Ltd) of the Pahkasa flight training school and UAB Bank, to ease financial arrangements for Myanmar students attending the Pahkasa flight training school in Indonesia.

More than 70 booths were displayed at Indonesia EXPO 2026, including Indonesian booths and booths from partner countries. Seven Indonesian universities exhibited, along with energy companies, food and kitchenware booths, tourism booths and Indonesian batik booths.

Business discussions between Myanmar and Indonesia were also held during the two-day expo.

Indonesia eyes investing in Myanmar's energy sector and hopes the expo will lead to closer, stronger economic agreements between the two countries. — ASH/KK

Shwedagon to host 38th Matho Robe Weaving Competition on 23 Nov



This photo features the ceremony of offering the Matho Robe to the Buddha on the full moon day of Tazaungmone (Samañaphala Day) in 1386 ME.

THE 38th Matho robe weaving competition and offering ceremony will be held at Shwedagon Pagoda at 4 pm on the 14th waxing of Tazaungmone in the ME 1388 (23 November 2026), according to the pagoda's board of trustees.

The weaving competition will take place on the pagoda platform at the northwest corner of the Shwedagon Pagoda on that day. The award ceremony will be held at 1 am on the Tazaungmone full moon day (24 November 2026).

Matho robes will be offered to the four Buddha images inside the devotional archways, ruby-eyed Buddha image on the upper terrace of the Shwedagon Pagoda (Padamya Myet Shin Buddha Image).

Nine teams will compete in the weaving contest. Prizes are K4.5 million for first place, K4 million for second, K3.5 million for third, K3 million for fourth and K2 million each for five consolation prizes.

Pilgrims who wish to stay overnight for the Matho robe weaving and offering ceremony are notified to bring their citizenship scrutiny card and register for overnight stays with the board. — NN/KK

No 3 Heavy Industries Enterprise calls for tender to buy long-staple cotton

THE No 3 Heavy Industries Enterprise seeks an open tender to buy 650,000 viss of long-staple cotton (Grade A) needed by state-owned spinning mills within the financial year 2026-2027. Tender will close at 4 pm on 11 November. Tender forms and detailed information are available from the Production Department, the No 3 Heavy Industries Enterprise, Ministry of Industry and MSME Development, at Office 37 in Nay Pyi Taw at 067 3408138, 067 3408439 or 067 3408492. — NN/KK

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanma Alinn, the Kyemon and The Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mal, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.

News and Periodicals Enterprise

OPINION

Preserving, promoting and passing on traditional art forms to future generations

For a country to develop, it needs natural resources, modern technology and human resources. It is also essential to strengthen the foundations of national culture that nurture citizens' patriotism, national spirit, and sense of national pride and dignity.

The 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition has successfully concluded. These competitions showcasing Myanmar's culture are not merely artistic contests; they are also events that promote and preserve traditional cultural practices and customs based on the close friendship and cordial relations among the national brethren living under the Union Flag of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. They also serve as occasions for young artistes of the new generation to connect and build relationships with one another. In other words, these events bring together national brethren through culture, friendship and mutual understanding.

> Young people are responsible not only for preserving and developing the cultural and artistic skills they have acquired, but also for mutually respecting the traditional cultures of all ethnic nationalities and working to further strengthen the unity and solidarity of the Union. They should also make effective use of modern technologies and join hands in efforts to ensure the continued preservation, development and sustainability of Myanmar's traditional arts.

Amid the current global political landscape, every country can be seen protecting and advancing its own national interests. In Myanmar, too, safeguarding and advancing national interests requires nurturing and strengthening patriotism, national spirit, and love, respect and appreciation for traditional culture among younger generations. If these sentiments can be fostered through the power of the arts, the desire to protect and safeguard the interests of one's own country and people will become even stronger.

Myanmar's traditional culture encompasses the diverse traditional cultural heritage of all ethnic nationalities. It includes not only traditional attire, the languages of all ethnic groups, customs and traditions, and social ethics, but also valuable artistic heritage passed down through successive generations, including classical Myanmar song and music, old and modern songs, traditional musical instruments, traditional theatrical performances, and traditional marionette performances.

As the new generations of young people have been taught by experienced masters to understand and master the art of performing traditional Myanmar music and singing in the performing arts style, they have competed enthusiastically in competitions. Winning awards deservedly is recognition of their hard work and efforts. They must continue studying and practising to further improve their artistic skills and fulfil the important responsibility of passing on the art forms they have mastered to future generations.

Young people are responsible not only for preserving and developing the cultural and artistic skills they have acquired, but also for mutually respecting the traditional cultures of all ethnic nationalities and working to further strengthen the unity and solidarity of the Union. They should also make effective use of modern technologies and join hands in efforts to ensure the continued preservation, development and sustainability of Myanmar's traditional arts.

BOOKRACK

POEM



Book Title	-	Practical Financial Management
Author	-	Khin Zaw (Economics)
Publishing House	-	Zarti Myay Sarpay
Publication Date	-	June 2026 (1st Edition)
Price	-	K17,500

Practical Financial Management

WE would like to introduce a book written and published specifically for managers, business leaders, and professionals whose roles intersect with finance. Quoting that "Effective financial management is paramount to the success and sustainability of any enterprise," the work is entitled Practical Financial Management, authored by Khin Zaw (Economics).

The author states: "Business Financial Management is the process of effectively and productively deploying an enterprise's financial resources to attain its corporate objectives. For any organization, financial management is an indispensable function. Inadequate financial management within an enterprise is tantamount to digging one's own grave; it jeopardizes business owners and risks corporate insolvency."

In the foreword, Saya Thet Tun Oo – recipient of both the Htun Foundation Literary Award and the National Literary Award – noted: "Rooted in practical application and shaped by the author's professional standing as an accountant, Saya Khin Zaw Win's book feels thorough, engaging, and easy to read, presenting an expansive coverage of topics. Although he is an emerging author, his prose is lucid, explaining accounting and financial concepts so that non-accountants and non-finance graduates can readily grasp them. I warmly welcome his emergence as an impactful financial educator for our future.

This work is not meant for a single read-through; it serves as a desktop reference volume for managers to keep within reach in their offices and consult whenever needed. My sincere appreciation goes to Saya Khin Zaw Win for producing such an essential publication."

In the preface, the author outlines his objective:

"This book was written and published to help non-finance managers understand financial matters and enhance workplace efficiency; to enable readers to read and interpret financial statements; to clarify fundamental accounting principles and procedures; to foster closer cooperation and mutual understanding with accounting and finance personnel; and to allow departmental leaders to manage their financial affairs easily and effectively."

The book is structured into five core sections. Part 1 introduces the field, bridging basic record-keeping to broader finance. Part 2 explains foundational principles, classification of accounts, and workflows related to Financial Accounting. Part 3 delivers comprehensive coverage of financial statements, detailing their underlying concepts, components, computation formulas, and reporting formats. Part 4 examines the practical implementation of Financial Management, and Part 5 details Financial Analysis workflows.

This volume does not deal with personal finance, such as individual or family budgeting, saving methods, or personal investment vehicles. Rather, it focuses on the essential knowledge required in applied business finance. Even so, it is neither overly theoretical nor a translation of a foreign text. Drawing on concepts compiled, studied, observed, analyzed, and practically implemented by the author, the work distils technical insights into an accessible guide for non-specialists.

In addition to explanatory text, diagrams and structured tables are integrated to aid comprehension. Financial terminology has been rendered into Burmese as clearly as possible, with equivalent terms used interchangeably to familiarize readers with standard professional terminology.



Book Title	-	Data and Core Uses of Data
Author	-	Than Zaw (Homalin)
Publishing House	-	Myitta Yeik Nan
Publication Date	-	October 2026 (1st Edition)
Price	-	K10,000

Data and Core Uses of Data

WOULD readers object if one said, "Accurate data are essential to making sound decisions in any business"? Or would they want to raise an argument? If so, I would like to encourage you to read this book titled "Data and Core Uses of Data", and the author's name is Than Zaw (Homalin).

The book is not merely a superficial overview or a compilation of borrowed references: the author has built a career in statistics and data work, producing statistical information while helping users understand and correctly apply it, and helping data producers understand users' needs. The author has continually worked to foster good relationships between data producers and users and to improve statistical quality. Moreover, the author also attended discussions in ASEAN countries, China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Luxembourg, France, the Netherlands, Norway, the United States, Brazil, Uganda and Mexico on monitoring and evaluation of statistical development and the Sustainable Development Goals. He has also written articles for the Myanma Alinn, the Mirror, Myodaw and The Global New Light of Myanmar newspapers.

In the preface, the author writes: "In today's digital age, data has become a highly important resource. Data matters in decision-making. Any business needs accurate data to make the right decisions. Data matters in forecasting the future. By analyzing past and current data, future conditions can be predicted. Data helps solve problems. Problems that arise can be solved based on recorded data."

In the book's opening section, "Data is a collection of information, operational news, lists and research findings. Data is information generated from human activity, businesses, social relations and environmental conditions. Data can take the form of numbers, text, images, sound, video and other digital formats. Data is indispensable for achieving sustained development in the social, economic, education and technology sectors. Today, the internet, mobile phones and smart technologies are helping drive development with extremely large volumes of data."

The book also pointed out the essential role of data: First, data is an important foundation for decision-making. Whether an individual, an organization, a country or the global community, all use data as evidence when making important decisions. By collecting, analyzing and studying data, the best decisions can be made.

In a section titled "The Relationship between Data, Information, Knowledge and Wisdom, in the Data Age, where digital technology, artificial intelligence, big data and the Internet of Things are developing rapidly, massive amounts of data are being produced in social life, businesses, government administration, health, education and research. Managing and applying this data correctly has become an important factor determining an organization's success."



The Forgiveness of Contentment

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

The great world
My life
Borrowed for a moment.

Not looking forward to interest,
Assuming that recovering the
capital is not bad,
Free of care, peace is felt –
The heart going into raptures.

The huge world,
When blubbering with a
threnody,
Returned my life naughtily
With its hands empty –
Nothing was taken at all.

Oh, but I did not shed tears –
Quite contentedly,
I forgave it smilingly.

ရောင့်ရဲခြင်း၏ ခွင့်လွှတ်ခြင်း

လောကကြီးက
ငါ့ဘဝကို
ခဏတွေးယူသွားခဲ့သည်။

အတိုးမမြော်
အရင်းပေါ်က၊ တော်လေစွပ်
သောကငြိုးနွှာ၊ ချမ်းမြေ့ပါသည်
ရင်မှာပိတ် လိုင်းထလျက်။

လောကကြီးလျှင်
ရှိုက်ငင်ငိုကြွေး၊ မျက်ရည်တေးဖြင့်
ပြန်ပေးသောခါ၊ ဗလာနတ္ထိ
မရှိဟင်းလင်း၊ သူလက်တွင်းမှာ
ဘာမျှပါမလာခဲ့တော့ချေ။

အို...ငါမငိုပါ
ကျေနပ်စွာဖြင့်
ပြုံးခါ ခွင့်လွှတ်လိုက်ပါသတည်း။

ဒေါင်းနွယ်ဆွေ



Traditional Myanmar Arts Competition

By Min Min Zan

Across Myanmar, our arts shine bright,
Tradition blooms in colours alight;
With songs and dances, proud and true,
Our heritage lives in all we do.

The harp strings sing a melody,
While voices rise in harmony;
Young dancers move with grace and pride,
As Myanmar's treasures shine worldwide.
From young to old, the talents grow,

The seeds of culture proudly sow;
May arts endure through every year,
And Myanmar's beauty shine out clear.

Straightening it out

By Maung Swan Yi (Translated by Myint Zan)

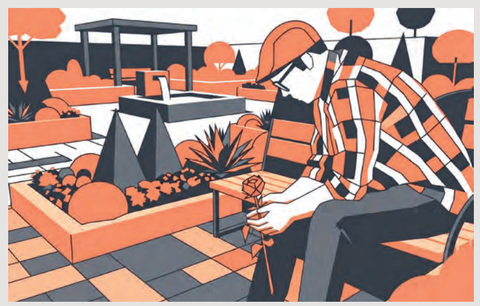
since (my) companion lover is afar
I am nostalgic and pining (for her)
alone:
to alleviate this
I walked hither and thither
while walking in the garden
missing and longing
I saw two flowers resplendent
in bloom
I felt jealous:
with excessive pride
and grimacing
I picked and cut
one flower
and happened to throw it to the ground

Translator's note: The poem by Maung Swan Yi (born 17 February 1937) appeared in the collection of his 37 poems first published in December 1960.
Translated on 30 October 2026.

ကြေးတန်းညှိမိ၏

ချစ်ဖော်ဝေး၍
လွမ်းဆွေးတစ်ကိုယ်
ဖြေဖြေပိုငြား
လမ်းသလားရင်း
ဥယျာဉ်တွင်းဝယ်
လွမ်းပွားကြွယ်စဉ်
တူယှဉ်လန်းတင့်
ပန်းနှစ်ပွင့်ကို
မနာလို၍
မာန်ပို့မိရှာ
ချိုးဖဲ့တစ်ပွင့်
ခြွေလွှင့်ပစ်လိုက်မိပါ၏။။

မောင်စွမ်းရည်



NATIONAL
Entertainment

SKYNET App to join Traditional Myanmar Bazaar as Official Media Partner



This image illustrates a poster for the Traditional Myanmar Bazaar with the SKYNET Application as its official media partner.

SKYNET Media announced that the SKYNET Application will participate as the official media partner of the Traditional Myanmar Bazaar, which will be held at the Yangon Convention Centre (YCC). "The Traditional Myanmar Bazaar will bring together Myanmar's traditional heritage in one place at YCC. We are proud to partner with this special festival as the official media partner through the SKYNET Application," a SKYNET representative said. The festival will feature traditional Myanmar foods, while the SKYNET booth will offer exciting lucky draws and special gifts for visitors. Admission is free, and the event will run from 10 am to 6 pm between 6 and 8 November at YCC. — Htun Htun/KTZH

Music stars to ignite Day 2 of balloon festival concert



Singers Myo Kyawt Myaing and Ni Ni Khin Zaw, who will perform on Day 2 of the BBTT concert.

VETERAN singer Myo Kyawt Myaing and popular singer Ni Ni Khin Zaw will perform on Day 2 of the Taunggyi Hot-Air Balloon and Music Night concert. "Let's meet at the Pa-O National Development Ground (Taboung Ground) in Taunggyi for a memorable musical night filled with nostalgic songs and heartfelt emotions," an event organizer said. The Bring Back The Tradition (BBTT) concert will take place on 14 November (Day 1) and 15 November (Day 2) at the Pa-O National Development Ground in Taunggyi. — TWA/KTZH

Filming of 'Lan Pya Kyel' series begins



A filming ceremony for the Myanmar television series 'Lan Pya Kyel'.

THE filming ceremony for 'Lan Pya Kyel', a Myanmar television series produced by Yee Mon Aung Film Production, was held on 23 October at the South Okkalapa Pagoda in Yangon. Director Wida wrote the story, while Eric Lin wrote the screenplay. Wida will also direct the series.

"I will play the character of May Hnin Htet in 'Lan Pya Kyel.' She is a very strong, easygoing, boyish yet lovable girl. The story is quite good, and I believe audiences will enjoy it. I hope everyone will watch and share their feedback when the series comes out," actress Ok Aw Than Tha said. The series will be broadcast on Fortune TV and will feature Kaung Myat San, Oak Awe Than Tha, Poe Htet Thein Hmwe, Htoo Thar, Thar Thar, child actors Willie and Khit Myat Shwe Thone, along with many other artistes. — TWA/KTZH

Myanmar's first zombie film on screen 6 Nov

'ZOMBIE PLAZA', described as Myanmar's first zombie film, will be screened nationwide starting 6 November.

The film is jointly produced by Mega Moe Film Productions and Hein Production. Its executive producers are Kyaw Kyaw Moe and Dr Hein Htet Aye. Lae Yi Naing wrote the story and screenplay, while Aung Myat directed the film. The horror-comedy features Tyron, Htoo Aung, Phyo Ngwe Soe, Aung Yay Chan, Nay Htut, Thein Lin Soe, Phone Myat Thiri Kyaw and many artistes. — TWA/KTZH



A poster for the 'Zombie Plaza' film.

Funny series to be broadcast

THE romantic comedy series 'Mainma Alogya Ko Ko Bawa', produced by Shwe Nadi Shwe Yi Film Production, will premiere on 30 October through the HEY Play application and HEY Play YouTube channel. The Skyward Art Team wrote the story and screenplay, while director Ye Naung directed the series for Shwe Nadi Shwe Yi Film Production.

"Mainma Alogya Ko Ko Bawa is a fun television series about the married lives of close male friends. It is a romantic comedy designed to entertain audiences," director Ye Naung said. The cast includes Academy Shwe Htoo, Phyo Lay, Joker, Ye Lwin Oo, Htun Pale Yadana, Hsu Hlaing and other artistes. — TWA/KTZH



A poster for the 'Mainma Alogya Ko Ko Bawa' series.

3 vocalists ready for November Heartbreak Night

SINGERS Joe Lay, Eint Chit and Theikpan Htun will perform at the November Heartbreak Night concert on 5 November at THOR Bar in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon. The Daily Gita band will accompany the singers during their performances.

"Three musical friends rarely share the stage together, so this is a special night. The Daily Gita band will provide live music, while THOR Bar's resident singers and DJ artistes will also join us. We warmly invite everyone to come and enjoy the musical night," singer Joe Lay said. — TWA/KTZH



Artistes of the film 'Cherry Pyo Tae Saung' seen at a media conference.

'Cherry Pyo Tae Saung' film to highlight culture of Taunggyi hot-air balloon festival

THE media conference for 'Cherry Pyo Tae Saung', a Myanmar film produced by Frenzo Production, was held on 24 October at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Pabedan Township, Yangon.

Mae Khine wrote the story and screenplay, while director Kaung Zan will direct the film for Frenzo Production. "Wherever I go in the world, I believe my hometown of Taunggyi in Shan State is the most beautiful. I am incredibly proud and happy to be part of a film that showcases the essence of my home state. We filmed real hot-air balloon scenes last year and have continued filming this year to capture authentic views. We will even participate in the hot-air balloon competition to film the scenes. I am excited to portray the Taunggyi Hot-Air Balloon Festival on screen. I have dreamed of doing this for 10 years," said Academy Sai Sai Kham Leng.

The cast includes Academy Lwin Moe, Academy Sai Sai Kham Leng, Sai Si Tom Kham, Sai Bo Bo, Win Khant Moe, Academy Myo Thanda Tun, Naw Phaw Eh Htar, Yun Waddy Lwin Moe, Myat Yadana Kyaw and other artistes. — TWA/KTZH

WORLD

NEWS IN BRIEF

Protests erupt outside Poland's Constitutional Tribunal

PROTESTERS clashed with police outside Poland's Constitutional Tribunal in Warsaw on Friday night after the court's president was suspended amid an escalating dispute between Prime Minister Donald Tusk's government and the opposition over control of the judiciary.

Police detained three protesters who entered the court's premises. Several people were reportedly injured, according to local media.

Hundreds of demonstrators, including supporters of the opposition Law and Justice (PiS) party, gathered outside the tribunal, accusing Tusk's government of attempting to seize control of the court. PiS leader Jaroslaw Kaczynski and former Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki were among those present.

The confrontation followed months of disputes over judicial appointments. Poland's parliament, where Tusk's ruling coalition holds a majority, has elected eight judges to the tribunal this year. However, President Karol Nawrocki, an ally of the opposition PiS party, accepted the oaths of office of only three. — Xinhua

UK PM 'open' to slavery apology but not reparations

The Labour leader made the remarks days before attending a Commonwealth leaders summit in Antigua and Barbuda, as King Charles III tours the Caribbean.



British King Charles is under pressure to make amends for his country's central role in the transatlantic slave trade. **PHOTO: POOL/AFP**

PRIME Minister Andy Burnham said Saturday he was "open" to the UK issuing a formal apology for its role in the transatlantic slave trade, but ruled out financial reparations.

The Labour leader made the remarks days before attending a Commonwealth leaders summit in Antigua and Barbuda, as King Charles III tours the Caribbean.

"I want to express my sorrow and regret for the pain and suffering of so many millions and to recognize the way it still shapes our world today," Burnam wrote in the Guardian newspaper.

The transatlantic slave trade was a "brutal and barbaric violation" of the rights of those enslaved, he said.

The British premier added his government wanted a "structured dialogue with those affected".

"Listening to calls for a formal apology on behalf of the British state will form an important part of this process and I am open to them."

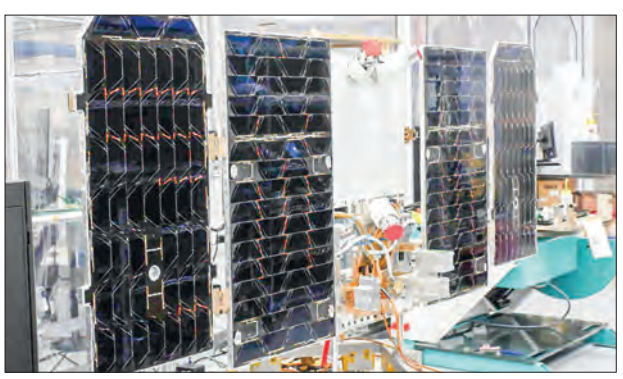
The king is due to address the Commonwealth summit, which runs from 1 to 4 November.

Britain's central role in slavery and the treatment of people in its former colonies has loomed over the 77-year-old monarch's Caribbean tour. — AFP

Google's 'Project Suncatcher' achieves first successful AI response from space

GOOGLE has successfully run an artificial intelligence (AI) model on a satellite in orbit and received its first complete response back on Earth, marking a key milestone in its Project Suncatcher initiative to explore the possibility of running AI computing infrastructure in space. Google CEO Sundar Pichai announced the development in a post on X, describing it as a "'hello world' milestone for Project Suncatcher". He said the team had sent a command to the satellite, booted up its Tensor Processing Unit (TPU), run a prompt and received the response back on Earth.

"After launching our prototype satellite a few weeks ago, we've now successfully sent a command up to orbit, booted up the TPU, ran the prompt, and received our first complete response back on earth - a haiku!" Pichai said. — ANI



A prototype of the Project Suncatcher satellite at the Planet Labs facility in San Francisco, California.
PHOTO: PLANET LABS PBC

Canada-EU summit closes with launch of "Alliance for the Future"

THE two-day 21st Canada-European Union Summit concluded Friday in Montreal, Canada, with the launch of an alliance to bolster collective strength, while Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said Canada is working toward becoming the EU's first "associate member".

According to a joint statement issued Friday, Canada and the EU launched the "Alliance for the Future" aiming to deliver ambitious cooperation in the following areas: trade and regulatory cooperation; digital, research and communications technologies; critical raw materials and energy; financial services and markets; security and preparedness; and people-to-people.

The prime minister's office said in a news release that the alliance is a new partnership of nations that will leverage the strategic capabilities of Canada, the EU, and a variable geometry of like-minded nations to address common issues.

Together, Canada and the EU will deliver more choice and lower costs for families, new export markets for businesses, and greater opportunities for young people to live, work, and study where they want, in Canada or the EU, according to the release.

In closing remarks, Carney said that the two sides are working toward the deepest possible partnership, short of accession, with Canada becoming the EU's first associate member. "Over the coming months, we will determine the substance, scale and scope of this form of membership," Carney said. — Xinhua



The EU and Canada want to strike a closer alliance.
PHOTO: AFP

ECONOMY
WORLD

India extends cotton import duty exemption till 31 December to ease textile costs

The extension comes amid concerns over domestic cotton availability and firm prices.

THE Centre has extended the customs duty exemption on cotton imports by two months till 31 December 2026, from the earlier deadline of 31 October, to improve raw material availability and ease input costs for the domestic textile and apparel industry.

The Union Ministry of Finance notified the extension on Friday, amending an earlier notification issued on 30 May 2026.

The government said the decision had been taken in the public interest.

Under the amendment, the date "31st day of October, 2026" in the earlier notification has been replaced with "31st day of December, 2026", extending the exemption period by two months.



This key regulatory extension aims to curb escalating domestic prices and secure contamination-free extra-long staple (ELS) cotton. **PHOTO: ANI**

The extension comes amid concerns over domestic cotton availability and firm prices. According to a Reuters report last week, domestic cotton prices had remained above Rs9,000 per 100 kilogramme, higher than the government's minimum support price of Rs 8,717 for the new season. — ANI

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ukraine's public debt up 130-fold in 20 years

UKRAINE'S total public debt, both external and domestic, has grown 130-fold since September 2006, according to statistical data analyzed by Sputnik.

Data from the Ukrainian Finance Ministry show that as of 30 September 2026, Ukraine's state and state-guaranteed debt stood at 9,538.35 billion hryvnias ($212.6 billion).

At the same time, according to data from the Ukrainian State Statistics Service, the country's total external and domestic public debt stood at 73.288 billion hryvnias at the end of the third quarter of 2006. This means that Ukraine's public debt has grown 130-fold over the course of 20 years. — SPUTNIK

WB calls for translating African urbanization into growth, jobs

THE World Bank (WB) has called on countries in sub-Saharan Africa to turn the region's rapid urbanization into a powerful engine of economic growth and job creation.

The region's urban population grew from 170 million in 1975 to 913 million in 2025 and is projected to reach 1.7 billion by 2050, the international financial institution said in a report, adding that around 15 million young people enter the region's labour market each year.

Sustained population growth in particular underscores the need for creating more jobs correspondingly for youth while expanding access to productive, better-paying employment, according to the report titled "Africa's Urban Awakening: Catalyzing Economic Growth and Job Creation", which was published Wednesday. — Xinhua

Sri Lanka launches US$665M agriculture modernization programme

SRI Lanka on Friday launched the Sri Lanka AgriConnect programme, backed by US$665 million from the World Bank Group and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), to modernize the country's agriculture sector and strengthen its contribution to the national economy.

The integrated implementation plan aims to connect 900,000 farmers more closely with agricultural value chains by 2030 through digitalization and other modernization measures. The World Bank Group will provide $550 million in investment support, while IFAD will contribute $115 million. The programme also aims to attract up to $170 million in additional private-sector investment over the next five years.

Officials said the initiative would focus on transforming Sri Lanka's agriculture and food sector into a more climate-resilient and market-oriented industry. The agriculture and food sector accounts for about 15 per cent of Sri Lanka's gross domestic product, 30 per cent of merchandise exports and around one third of total employment, according to information released at the launch. — Xinhua



Farmers harvest paddy rice in Gampaha, Sri Lanka, 6 February 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

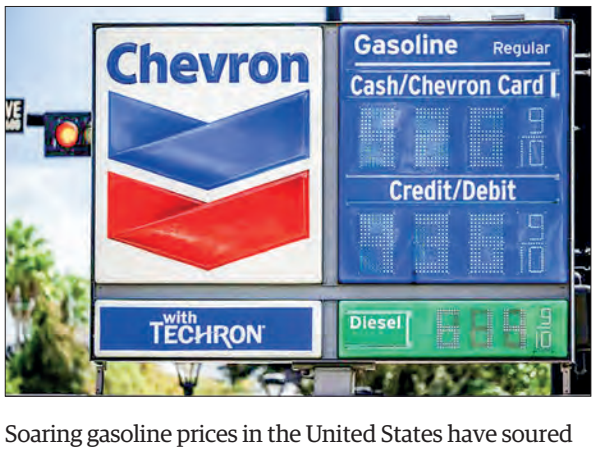
US oil companies aim to squeeze more out of refineries

US oil companies are investing to squeeze out more fuel from refineries and bringing shuttered plants back online in response to conflicts in Russia and Iran that have crimped supplies.

ExxonMobil Chief Executive Darren Woods said Friday the company had achieved "record fuels utilization" outside of the Middle East, pointing to 100 per cent crude utilization at US Gulf Coast refineries.

The statements come as US gasoline prices remain above the politically sensitive $4 per gallon level and as diesel prices linger near all-time highs above $6 per gallon.

"In the third quarter, we continued to rise to the challenge of meeting global energy needs," Woods said in a press release. But Woods told analysts on an earnings conference call that there were a "lot of variables" behind the crunch in supply of diesel and other key refined items. Besides lost capacity in the Middle East and Russia from Ukrainian drone strikes, Woods cited a decline in Chinese refined output. — AFP



Soaring gasoline prices in the United States have soured consumers as the country looks ahead to congressional elections on 3 November. **PHOTO: AFP**

Alibaba's Qwen AI model to integrate into Apple Intelligence in landmark partnership

CHINESE tech giant Alibaba Group announced a partnership with Apple on Saturday to integrate its Qwen AI model into Apple Intelligence.

The Qwen-powered feature will be available for testing in the latest iOS developer beta starting 4 November and roll out to Chinese users with the official iOS 27.3 release in December, according to Alibaba.



Chinese tech giant Alibaba Group announced a partnership with Apple on Saturday to integrate its Qwen AI model into Apple Intelligence. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

The partnership brings Qwen's AI capabilities to multiple use cases within Apple's operating system. Through Siri, Writing Tools, and Visual Intelligence, Chinese users will be able to tap Qwen's capabilities for text and image understanding and content generation.

Notably, users can choose whether to enable the Qwen integration and what information to share. Alibaba said it will not use user requests or generated responses for model training.

The feature will be available on iOS to users who purchase an Apple Intelligence-capable iPhone in China, or whose device location and Apple Account country or region are both set to China.

Eddie Wu, CEO of Alibaba Group, said Qwen drawing on Alibaba's AI expertise will integrate into Apple's ecosystem and work with Apple to deliver new AI-powered service experiences to Chinese users.

Wang Xiaojie, an AI expert at Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, said this is the first time a top global consumer hardware maker has used a Chinese large model as the primary system-level AI backbone in the Chinese market, a significant step in the commercial application of domestic large models. — Xinhua

India's Reliance Industries reports best ever quarterly sales in Q3

INDIAN conglomerate Reliance Industries on Friday reported its highest ever quarterly revenue, saying net profit rose 41 per cent in the third quarter, helped by strong performances from its core oil-to-chemicals arm and digital services division.

Reliance's July-September numbers come days after the impressive debut of Jio Platforms, the conglomerate's digital services arm, which raised more than $3 billion in the country's biggest initial public offering earlier this week.

The retail-to-refining giant led by billionaire tycoon Mukesh Ambani is India's most valuable company by market capitalisation. The conglomerate reported revenue of 3.62 trillion rupees ($38 billion), up 27.8 per cent year-on-year and its highest ever quarterly sales figure, according to a company statement. – AFP

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
HOLIDAY NOTICE

AS the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 8th November 2026 (Deepavali Public Holiday), Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

Restaurant operator Skylark to open 1st ghost kitchen in central Tokyo



Photo taken on 29 September 2026, shows a Gusto restaurant in Tokyo. **PHOTO: KYODO**

MAJOR restaurant chain operator Skylark Holdings Co is planning to open its first ghost kitchen in central Tokyo, seeking to capture demand from busy professionals living in high-rise apartments.

The plan, disclosed in a recent interview with company Chairman Makoto Tani, 74, is being considered ahead of a planned consumption tax cut on food products next year.

Restaurant chains operated by Skylark, which include Bamiyan and Gusto, are predominantly found in suburban areas, mostly alongside major roads. Tani noted that as restaurant options around apartments and high-rise buildings in Tokyo's 23 wards are limited, "we can create a highly profitable business model".

The company envisions offering menu items across its restaurant chains best suited to delivery. The ideal model would allow customers to order Chinese-style rice bowls and fried noodles alongside hamburger steaks, Tani said. — Kyodo

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V XIN HUA YUAN VOY.NO. (BY80R0S89)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V XIN HUA YUAN VOY.NO. (BY80R0S89)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S CMA-CGM SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V GLS HAIPHONG VOY.NO. (010W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V GLS HAIPHONG VOY.NO. (010W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-11-2026** 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MSC ACE II VOY.NO. (SB643A)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC ACE II VOY.NO. (SB643A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-11-2026** 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 MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V TD FORTUNE VOY.NO. (09-2026)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TD FORTUNE VOY.NO. (09-2026)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENCIES (S'PORE) PTE LTD

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



Armenia is hosting the UN COP17 biodiversity talks in its capital Yerevan.
PHOTO: AFP

31 OCTOBER

Nations commit to get nature goals back on track

NEARLY 200 nations reached hard-fought agreements at the COP17 UN biodiversity summit in Armenia to revive global efforts to halt and reverse nature destruction by 2030, though the outcome was dampened by missed opportunities, acrimonious debates, unresolved financial feuds, and political resistance to scientific evidence.

Delegates cheered as crucial texts were approved in overtime but the celebrations were tempered by acrimonious debates and regret over limited progress on some of the most contentious issues.

The COP17 summit in Armenia sought to revive a landmark commitment to halt and reverse the destruction of nature by 2030 after global efforts to meet that goal fell short.

Over two bruising weeks in Yerevan, nations were urged to correct course to keep the pact alive and protect the plants, animals and ecosystems. — AFP

30 OCTOBER

Toyota, Waymo to begin autonomous taxi trial service

TOYOTA Motor Corp and Waymo LLC, the self-driving vehicle unit of Google parent Alphabet Inc, said Friday they will launch a trial service of autonomous taxis in Japan in 2027.

The two companies aim to eventually commercialize the service following initial operations involving testing and validation using Toyota's bZ4X electric vehicles.

The trial will involve a fully driverless taxi service, the companies said, with plans to roll out the taxis sequentially in countries where Waymo already offers its service, including Britain, without disclosing such details as regions and the number of the vehicles. Toyota's plant in Toyota, Aichi Prefecture, will handle all procedures ranging from vehicle production to the installation of Waymo's autonomous driving equipment. — Kyodo

29 OCTOBER

Panama vies to host nature summit

DESPITE campaigning to host the next COP nature summit, Panama's Environment Minister Juan Carlos Navarro has a blunt view of the UN-led negotiations he says are little more than "hypocrisy contests".

"A lot of what's going on out here at the COP is just a bunch of baloney and beautiful speeches and BS," Navarro told AFP as diplomats thronged the halls at the COP17 biodiversity summit underway in Yerevan, Armenia.

It is an unorthodox message to broadcast as Panama bids against Ecuador to host the next edition of the biennial United Nations biodiversity negotiations in 2028.

There are only two candidates for COP18 and the winner could be announced this week in Yerevan, where nearly 200 nations are trying to salvage a stalling deal to protect nature. — AFP

28 OCTOBER

41,000 DHS names leaked in major hack

A NONPROFIT news leak group said Wednesday it has published data on more than 41,000 employees of the US Department of Homeland Security, including those working on President Donald Trump's immigration enforcement efforts.

Distributed Denial of Secrets (DDOS) said it obtained the sensitive information from a "hacktivist group" known as the Department of Peace, which created a tool named Icepick that facilitates detailed searches of employee names, offices and assignments.

"This dataset is massive in terms of both size and impact," an associated activist, Maia Arson Crimew, said in a DDOS statement.

"It provides an unprecedented look into the Department of Homeland Security's organizational structure, highlighting which people do what work across multiple DHS agencies, including ICE," the activist said, refering to US Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

DHS and ICE have been at the center of an immigration crackdown ordered by Trump at the start of his second term, in January 2025. — AFP

27 OCTOBER

Denmark mulls banning turbo chickens

DENMARK'S animal welfare minister said that he wants to introduce a ban on the farming of fast-growing "turbo chickens", first nationally but ultimately, across Europe.

"I want to work towards a national ban, but it's clear that this is something that has to be examined both from a legal standpoint and, of course, an economic one before we can move forward," Christian Rabjerg Madsen told broadcaster TV2.

"We are also working towards a ban at EU level," he added.

In neighbouring Norway there are also currently no restrictions, but under pressure from retailers, the country committed to phasing out turbo chicken breeds by the end of 2027.

One of the popular commercial breeds of broiler chickens for meat consumption takes only five weeks to raise a chick to its full weight, compared to 12 weeks for popular breeds of chickens that are allowed to roam pastures. — AFP

26 OCTOBER

Brazil's Lula among world's oldest leaders

ACCORDING to Pew Research Centre data covering 186 UN member states, Cameroon's 93-year-old President Paul Biya is the oldest leader globally.

Other notable figures include Malawi's president Peter Mutharika at 86 and Italian President Sergio Mattarella at 85, while Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega is approaching 81. Most elderly leaders govern countries classified as "not free", particularly across Africa.

This group also includes octogenarian leaders such as Côte d'Ivoire's Alassane Ouattara, Liberia's Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Equatorial Guinea's Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, Zimbabwe's Emmerson Mnangagwa, and leaders in Congo-Brazzaville, Uganda, Eritrea, Algeria, and Laos. — AFP

25 OCTOBER

UK pledges funding to guard against AI risks

THE UK government on Saturday outlined plans to expand funding for artificial intelligence safety amid growing concerns over the cyber risks posed by the increasingly advanced technology.

"The economic opportunities from AI will only be realized if our critical infrastructure, public services and businesses are resilient to cyber, biological and emerging AI-enabled threats," the government said in a statement ahead of its annual budget update on Wednesday. Concerns about AI safety have escalated in recent months after models developed by OpenAI and Anthropic were involved in security incidents during testing, piling pressure on governments to regulate the technology and protect against threats.

It will also invest £100 million to establish a national AI Biosecurity Lab. — AFP

SPORTS

Ayeyawady face N Korea in Asian Women's Champions League opener

THE Group A matches of the 2026-2027 AFC Women's Champions League will kick off today, with Myanmar hosting the group-stage fixtures.

The final group stage will run from 1 to 7 November, featuring 12 clubs, comprising six directly qualified teams and six qualifiers from the preliminary round. The teams have been divided into three groups of four.



Players of Ayeyawady Women Football Club of Myanmar. **PHOTO: AYWDFC**

Group A features Naegohyang (DPR Korea), Kobe (Japan), Bam Khatoon (Iran) and Ayeyawady (Myanmar). Group B comprises Hwacheon (the Republic of Korea), Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam), East Bengal (India) and April 25 (DPR Korea). Group C includes Melbourne City (Australia), Beijing Jiangtan (China), Kaya (the Philippines) and Nasaf (Uzbekistan).

The top two teams from each group, along with the two best third-placed teams, will advance to the quarter-finals, making eight teams in total.

Group A matches will be played at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon on 1, 4 and 7 November, with two matches scheduled each day. In today's opening fixtures, Kobe will take on Bam Khatoon at 3 pm, while Ayeyawady will face Naegohyang at 7 pm.

Ayeyawady face a challenging group, having been drawn against leading clubs from Japan and DPR Korea. However, the Myanmar side will be aiming to secure a place among the two best third-placed teams to reach the quarter-finals. Their final group match against Iranian side Bam Khatoon could prove particularly important. — Nyi Myat Thawda/KZL

Billiards & snooker competition continues in Yangon

THE 2026 Inter-State and Region Billiards and Snooker Competition continued yesterday at the National Indoor Stadium 1 in Thuwunna, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region.

Today's events featured men's and women's Snooker 15-Red, 9-Ball Pool, Snooker 6-Red and billiards competitions.

In the men's Snooker 15-Red event, Aung Nyi Nyi Maung of Yangon Region defeated Thet Hlaing Win of Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory 3-2. Arkar Lin of Chin State beat Soe Moe of Ayeyawady Region 3-1, while Marn Hein Kyaw of Mandalay Region overcame Thet Naung Win of Magway Region 3-2. Nyein Pyae Phyo of Bago Region defeated Myo Htet Htun of Rakhine State 3-2. Kaung Zan Htet of Magway Region beat Myo Min Thein of Nay Pyi Taw 3-1, while Ye Yint Hmu of Mon State secured a 3-0 victory over Soe Moe Than of Bago Region.

In the men's Snooker 6-Red event, Min Si Thu Htun of Mandalay Region defeated Htun Htun Lin of Rakhine State 4-0. Thawta Min of Kayin State beat Aung Paing Phyo of Bago Region 4-3, while Thura Zaw of Yangon Region overcame Shine Wunna Htun of Kachin State 4-0. Chit Moe of Nay Pyi Taw defeated Zaw Maung Maung of Mon State 4-1. Ko Ko Chit of Kayin State beat Chit Myo Oo of Mandalay Region 4-2, while Aung Naing Soe of Yangon Region defeated Kaung Myat Oo of Nay Pyi Taw 4-1.

In the men's billiards event, Thi Han Soe of Sagaing Region defeated Win Win Htun of Mon State 3-1. Khin Maung Tint of Chin State beat Soe Thiha of Bago Region 3-2, while Ye Lin of Shan State overcame Kyaw Soe Aung of Kachin State 3-1. Kyaw Htay of Magway Region defeated Zaw Ni Tun of Rakhine State 3-0. Kyaw Swa Win of Ayeyawady Region beat Ye Yint Shine of Kayin State 3-0, while Nay Lin Oo of Mon State defeated Kyaw Win of Sagaing Region 3-0.

In the women's 9-Ball Pool event, May Zun Moe of Ayeyawady Region defeated Su Nanda Nway of Yangon Region 5-0. Khin Wine Chit of Nay Pyi Taw beat Thida Nyein of Kachin State 5-3, while Khine Mar Aung of Shan State defeated Su Thet Paing of Taninthayi Region 5-3. May Chaw of Magway Region overcame Than Than Aye of Rakhine State 5-4. Khawnt San of Shan State beat Pyae Phyo Myat of Mandalay Region 5-3, while Nwe Ni Lin of Magway Region defeated Myint Myat Thu of Rakhine State 5-1. Tin Myo Hlaing of Chin State beat Aye Myat Mon of Kachin State 5-4. Win Mar Lar Aung of Mon State defeated May Zun Moe of Ayeyawady Region 5-1, while Thet Wah Win of Mandalay Region beat Soe Soe of Ayeyawady Region 5-1.

The competition will continue from 9 am tomorrow, 1 November 2026. Sports enthusiasts and members of the public are welcome to attend and watch the matches free of charge. — MNA/KZL



A player in action during the 2026 Inter-State and Region Billiards and Snooker Competition at the National Indoor Stadium 1 in Thuwunna, Yangon, yesterday.

Pogacar 'happy to be alive' after difficult Vuelta crash recovery

TADEJ Pogacar has revealed he suffered three fractured vertebrae in the crash that ended his season, admitting he is "just happy to be alive" after scans uncovered the full extent of injuries that also left him battling concussion-related balance problems.

The Slovenian rider had initially been diagnosed with a fracture in his neck and a broken collarbone following his Vuelta a Espana accident, but a follow-up scan in his home country uncovered further damage.

"There's actually a funny story. Two weeks ago, I was in Slovenia and I went to do another CT scan. I knew I had a C7 fracture, but then we saw I had two more broken vertebrae, the T1 and T2," Pogacar told The Athletic in an interview published Saturday.

"At that moment, I was happy I didn't do the European Championships, which had been my initial goal. When I saw I had three broken vertebrae? I'm just happy to be alive, actually, or just to be standing." — AFP

United legends enjoy Chelsea clash with Myanmar fans

FOUR former Manchester United players watched the Premier League match between Manchester United and Chelsea alongside Myanmar fans in Yangon at 7 pm on 31 October, according to singer and actor Htun Htun, a United supporter.



Four former Manchester United players meet Myanmar fans in Yangon. **PHOTO: HTUN HTUN EXAMPLEZ**

The four former players, Patrice Evra, Antonio Valencia, Anderson and Fabio Silva, arrived in Yangon on 30 October to attend the Legendary Players Meet & Greet in Yangon event.

The event was initially planned to feature Ryan Giggs, Dimitar Berbatov, Patrice Evra and Anderson. However, Giggs and Berbatov were unable to attend due to urgent media commitments shortly before the event. They were replaced by Antonio Valencia and Fabio Silva.

The four former players also attended a dinner at Melia Hotel on 30 October. On 31 October, they took part in six activities under the theme "Meet the Legends & Watch Party" at the same hotel before watching the Manchester United-Chelsea match with local supporters at 7 pm.

"United supporters love their club so much that meeting the players who once represented it feels like meeting close relatives," Htun Htun said.

Meanwhile, "The Grand Festival" is scheduled to take place at Yangon Convention Centre (YCC) from 2 pm to 11 pm on 1 November, featuring six activities. — Htun Htun/KZL

SUNDAY EDITION

Lifestyle

'Diabolical' Halloween festivities banned in Honduran towns

Shopping centres must "refrain from promoting and selling items" related to Halloween.

AT least six municipalities in Honduras have banned Halloween celebrations this year on the grounds that they promote wickedness. "Permits for events whose activities, themes, or content promote or incite terror or diabolical practices" will not be issued, authorities in the town of San Juan said in a statement.

Similarly, the northwestern municipality of La Libertad justified its ban as a "rejection of symbols such as witches, ghosts and monsters linked to the occult". Shopping centers must also "refrain from promoting and selling items" related to Halloween.



A pumpkin head is displayed ahead of Halloween celebrations in Tegucigalpa, Honduras on 29 October 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

Violators will be fined, it said. While the 31 October holiday does not have deep roots in Honduras — which is predominantly Christian, like other Central American nations — it has gained popularity in recent years among young people. Controversy over the holiday even reached Congress, where opposition lawmaker Dunia Jimenez has proposed banning such celebrations at schools nationwide. — AFP

Minsk International Film Festival opens in Belarus

THE 32nd Minsk International Film Festival Listapad opened Friday at the Moskva cinema in Minsk.

The festival features eight competitive programmes covering feature, documentary and animated films, children's and youth films under the Listapadzik banner, Cinema of the Young, short films, the National Competition and a competition of national film schools.

Its non-competition programme includes an evening commemorating Belarusian director Viktor Turov, national cinema days for Belarus, Russia, India, Kazakhstan, and Pakistan's National Cinema Days at the Pobeda cinema. A special programme marking the Year of Belarusian Women highlights films by women directors and works about notable female figures. — Xinhua

Japan's anime market tops 4T yen for 1st time

Overseas sales of Japanese animation surpassed domestic sales for the first time in 2020.



File photo taken in November 2025 shows fans of the Japanese manga and anime series "Demon Slayer" posing for photos in costumes at a movie theatre in Shanghai. **PHOTO: KYODO**

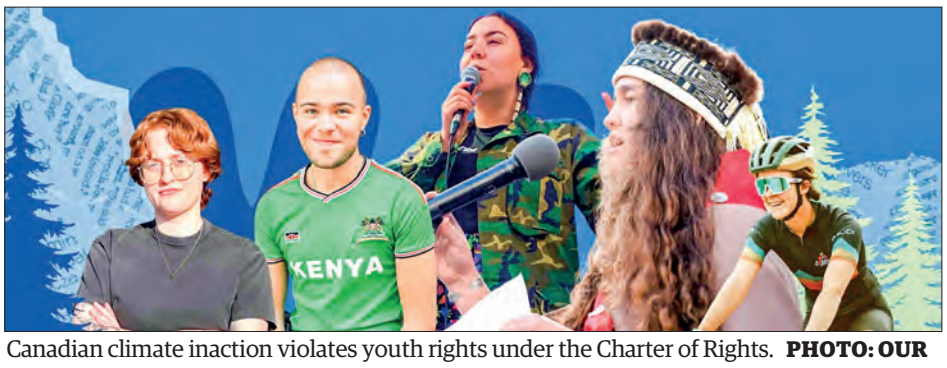
Japan's anime market reached 4.45 trillion yen ($28 billion) in 2025, topping 4 trillion yen for the first time on strong overseas sales, the Association of Japanese Animations said Friday.

The market more than doubled from 1.8 trillion yen in 2015, with overseas sales reaching 2.54 trillion yen, according to preliminary data from the association.

Overseas sales of Japanese animation surpassed domestic sales for the first time in 2020.

The growth appears to have been driven by the rapid expansion of streaming services such as Netflix, which have made Japanese animation more accessible to audiences at home and abroad amid a post-pandemic boom. The film "Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba — Infinity Castle", adapted from the popular "Demon Slayer" manga series, was among the works that contributed to the industry's growth in 2025. "The market and the potential of Japanese animation are expanding further, as it has become more familiar around the world," said Kazuko Ishikawa, the association's president, at an event in Tokyo. — Kyodo

Climate change causes young Canadians depression, anxiety, and eco-anxiety



Canadian climate inaction violates youth rights under the Charter of Rights. **PHOTO: OUR CHILDRENS TRUST**

Climate concerns are fuelling a general trepidation about the future.

AT a landmark Canadian trial in Vancouver, 15 young plaintiffs aged 17 to 25 are suing Ottawa over alleged policy failures and asking the court to impose legally binding greenhouse gas emissions targets. Part of the plaintiffs' case hinges on proving that the consequences of climate change are not hypothetical future risks, but that Canadians are already suffering.

Testifying in the case, child and adolescent psychiatrist Elizabeth Pinsky told the court that young Canadians have experienced depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, and "eco-anxiety" due to climate change. Young plaintiffs testified about how climate-linked extreme weather, such as toxic wildfire smoke and heat-related illnesses, has restricted their daily lives and outdoor activities.

Psychiatrist Pinsky testified that climate concerns are fuelling a general trepidation about the future, noting that 40 per cent of youth are unsure whether they want children because of global warming. Plaintiff Saj Starcevich testified through tears about her struggles and doubts regarding becoming a parent due to the state of the world.

The plaintiffs argue that successive Canadian governments have failed to protect their constitutional rights to life and security through insufficient action on climate change. Government lawyers counter that climate change is a global problem and that a court-ordered emissions target for Ottawa would not effectively protect Canadians from climate harms. — AFP