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

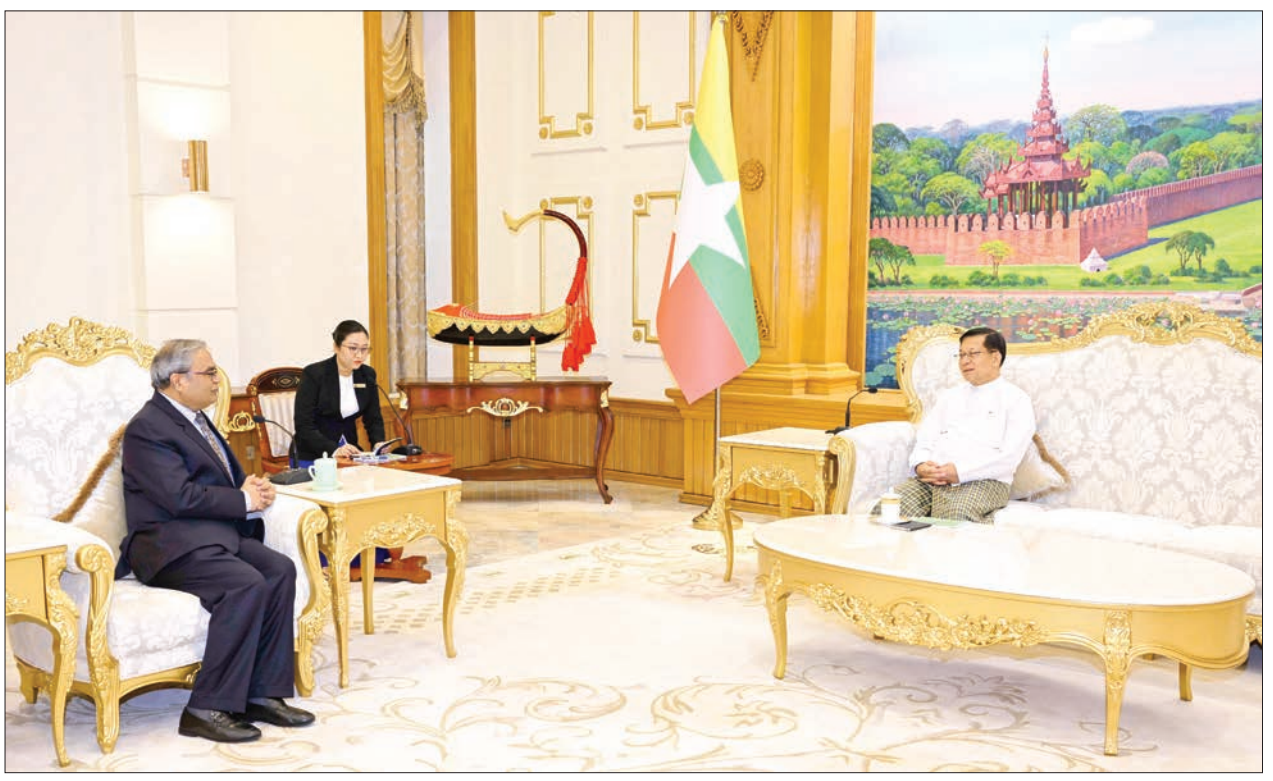
The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

Vol. XIII, No. 215, 11th Waxing of Tazaungmone 1388 ME | www.gnlm.com.mm | Friday, 20 November 2026

DIPLOMACY

BIMSTEC Members Deepen Cooperation to Support Landlocked States

Myanmar will soon assume the BIMSTEC Secretary-Generalship and stands ready to discharge its responsibilities with utmost dedication and commitment.



Secretary-General Mr Indra Mani Pandey of the BIMSTEC pays a courtesy call on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing in Nay Pyi Taw.

BIMSTEC Secretary-General Mr Indra Mani Pandey paid a courtesy call on President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing at the Presidential Palace Reception Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, they cordially exchanged views that the BIMSTEC grouping is an organization in which member states maintain good cooperation without interfering in one another's internal political affairs, and Myanmar is actively participating in its activities to the fullest extent.

They also discussed that Myanmar will assume the responsibilities of the BIMSTEC Secretary-General soon, with the vow to serve duties to the best of its capabilities, and the need for BIMSTEC member states to extend collective assistance to the landlocked member countries, Nepal and Bhutan, in their development efforts, disaster preparedness, prevention, relief and rescue operations.

They highlighted the arrangements for the upcoming celebration of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of BIMSTEC, and ways to further strengthen relations and promote closer interactions and exchanges among the governments and peoples of BIMSTEC member states.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister at the President's Office U Khin Maung Yi, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Maung Swe and officials. The BIMSTEC Secretary-General was accompanied by officials. — MNA/TTA

MSME Help Desk Boosts Women-Led Enterprises

THE Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Network (MYANWEN) launched an MSME Help Desk on 19 November 2026, in recognition of Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW).

This initiative aims to provide support for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with a special focus on women-led businesses by creating a network of consultants and partners.

The help desk offers various services, including answering enquiries, providing guidance, establishing connections

SEE PAGE 4



This image displays a leaflet on how the MSME help desk works.

Ayeyawady Launches Drive to Promote Alternative Farming

THE Ayeyawady Region government announced that extensive farmer awareness programmes would be conducted across the region to encourage farmers to replace broadcast seeding with alternative cultivation methods to achieve targeted crop yields.

The programmes will promote modern and systematic cultivation techniques, including

SEE PAGE 5



This photo features a demonstration of cultivation using alternative planting methods in progress.

OPINION

Nurturing children and enhancing their lives

PAGE 8

NATIONAL PAGE 4



Vice-President receives Sri Lankan Ambassador to Myanmar

NATIONAL PAGE 5



MNPIFER Union Minister receives Belarusian Charge' d'Affaires ai

NATIONAL

Motto of 106th National Victory Day 2026

Strive together for national prosperity

10th Waxing of Tazaungmone, 1388 ME
4 December 2026

Objectives for 106th National Victory Day

10th Waxing of Tazaungmone 1388ME
4 December 2026

- To establish a peaceful, prosperous and modern nation through the unity of all ethnic people
- To preserve and protect the national dignity, integrity, cultural heritage and characteristics
- To put special emphasis on the development of human resources and modern technology sectors of the State
- To nurture young people's capabilities, creativity and leadership qualities, enabling them to serve as a key driving force in the nation's future development.

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Pathein hosts traditional handicraft festival



The logo of the Pathein Umbrella and Traditional Handicrafts Festival.

A festival showcasing the art of Myanmar's Pathein umbrella and traditional products crafted by hand will be organized in Pathein Township, Ayeyawady Region, according to the organizing committee.

Organized by the regional government, the event will take place from 24 to 31 December at Kanthonsint in Pathein. At the festival, stages of making Pathein umbrellas and traditional handcrafted products will be demonstrated; in addition, a flower festival and light decorations will be included.

Booths can be hired starting from 13 November, and Pathein umbrellas and Myanmar traditional handicrafts made of bamboo and rattan, local products of Ayeyawady Region, and food and business brands can participate. — TWA/ZS

UMTA donates loom for Matho Robe Weaving at Kaba Aye Pagoda

THE Union of Myanmar Travel Association has donated one loom, so Matho robes can be woven and offered at Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda, according to the association.

The Matho robe offering ceremony will be held at 4 pm on 23 November at the Sunday corner of Kaba Aye Pagoda platform. UMTA is joining the 26th Matho robe weaving and offering ceremony, led by the board of trustees of Thiri Mingala Kaba Aye Pagoda, a historic site of the Sixth Buddhist Synod (Chantha Santayana), by donating one loom for weaving the robes. Ambassadors and embassy representatives from various countries have been invited to the ceremony. UMTA invited its members to attend and make merit themselves, or to bring their company employees and foreign tourists to observe and take part.

UMTA also urged all members to take part in preserving and promoting Myanmar's traditional culture and Buddhism. — NN/KK

Weather

Severe Cyclonic Storm News, No 9, 2026

Issued at 2 pm MST on 19 November 2026

Severe Cyclonic Storm Condition

ACCORDING to the observations at 12:30 pm MST today, the Severe Cyclonic Storm AKVAN over the Westcentral Bay of Bengal has moved Northwards. It is centred at about 470 nautical miles west of Coco Island (Myanmar), 200 nautical miles south-southeast of Visakhapatnam and 295 nautical miles south of Puri (India).

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

Position of Severe Cyclonic Storm, centre pressure and wind

The Severe Cyclonic Storm is located at Latitude 14.9 degrees North and Longitude 85.3 degrees East; the centre pressure of the Severe Cyclonic Storm is 998 hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is 60 miles per hour at 12:30 pm MST today.

Next 36 hours forecast

It is likely to continue to move north-northwestwards and cross North Andhra Pradesh and South Odisha Coasts between Narsapur and Puri, close to Gopalpur, India, on 20 November 2026.

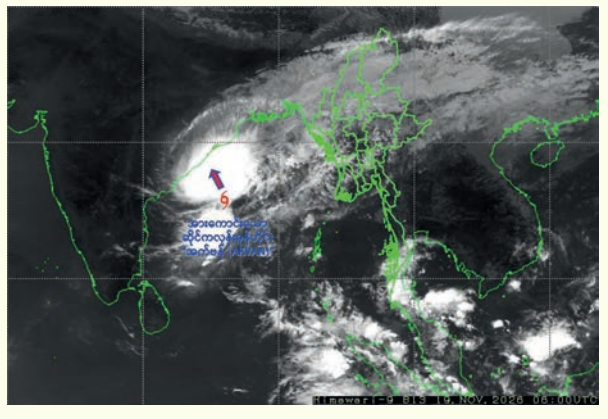
General caution

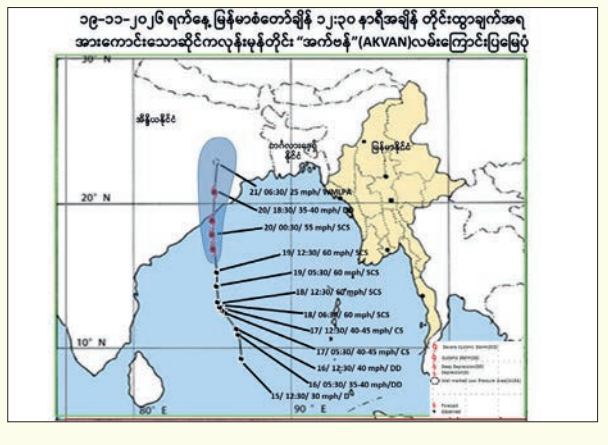
Due to the Severe Cyclonic Storm "AKVAN", rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread to widespread in Mandalay, Magway and Sagaing Regions and Kayah, Chin, Rakhine and Shan States and isolated to scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin State from this noon to 20 November 2026.

Occasionally, squalls with rough seas will be experienced in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 35 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of natural disasters such as heavy rainfall with strong winds, flash floods, and landslides in hilly areas and near small rivers and streams. Necessary preparations should also be made for inland water transport, domestic flights, and fishing vessels and ships operating in the Deltaic, off and along the Rakhine Coasts. — DMH





NATIONAL

Government offers Kathina robes, offerings worth more than K270M

THE government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar held a ceremony to offer Kathina robes for 2026 at Agga Dhipati Sasana Beikman in the precinct of Maravijaya Buddha Park in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning, and President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla donated Kathina robes and offerings to members of the Sangha.

At the outset, the President paid homage to the Naungdawgyi Buddha Image in the Sasana Baikman building and offered alms in the alms-bowl, fruits, flowers, water and oil lights.

The President, his wife and dignitaries viewed the preparations of donation structures.

The congregation, led by the President and his wife, took the Nine Precepts from State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman Presiding Patron of Thanlyin Minkyaung Pahtamabyan Buddhism Learning Centre, Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dr Bhaddanta Candima Bhivamsa. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

The President and his wife donated Kathina robes and alms to Thanlyin Minkyaung Sayadaw and Sayadaw Bhaddanta Tejobhasa from the Razadani Thamanaykyaw Monastery in Ottarathiri Township.

Vice-President U Nyo Saw and his wife offered Kathina robes and alms to SSMNC Secretary Mandalay Masoeyein Taikthit Presiding Patron Dhammathameikdi Monastery Sayadaw Aggamaha Pandita Aggamaha Saddhammajotikadhaja Maha Dhammakathika Bahujanahitadhara Bhaddanta Vasettha Bhivamsa while Vice-President Nan Ni Ni Aye donated Kathina robes and offertories to Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Adiccavamsa from Wegyi Pariyatti Buddhist Learning Centre in Pobbathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw.



President U Min Aung Hlaing and Spouse Daw Kyu Kyu Hla offers Kathina robes and alms to the Thanlyin Minkyaung Sayadaw.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi and his wife, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe and his wife, Chief Justice of the Union U Tha Htay, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo and his wife, Union-level dignitaries, and Union ministers donated Kathina robes and offertories to members of the Sangha.

The President, his wife and congregation listened to the Kathina question-and-answer session staged by Nay Pyi Taw Sangha Nayaka Committee member Tatkon Ngwetaung Tawya Monastery Administrator Sayadaw Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Kodañña and member of the State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Pyinmana Ohntaw Monastery Sayadaw Aggamaha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Tissa.

Dhamma Thameikdi Monastery Sayadaw delivered a sermon, where the congregation shared merits gained.

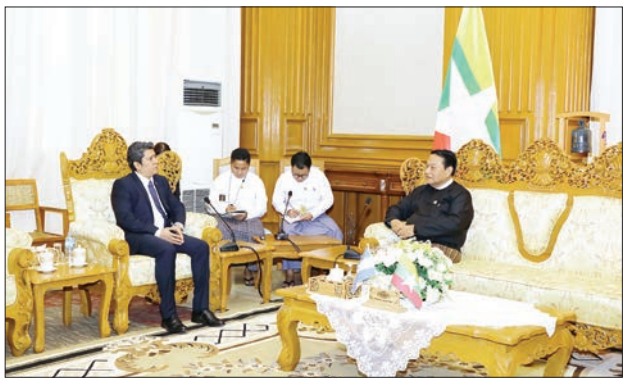
After the ceremony, the President, his wife and dignitaries offered day meals to venerable members of the Sangha led by Thanlyin Minkyaung Sayadaw.

At the ceremony, the Union government donated 48 donation structures worth more than K104.6 million and K167.1 million in cash, totalling K271.7 million. — MNA/TTA

DIPLOMACY

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Nicaraguan Ambassador

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi received Mr Segundo Martin Calero Escorcia, Ambassador of Nicaragua to Myanmar, at the Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.



The Nicaraguan ambassador calls on Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi.

U Khin Yi congratulated the envoy on his appointment as Nicaragua's first ambassador to Myanmar, noting that the two countries established formal diplomatic relations on 6 August 2020, and have successfully opened embassies in each other's capitals.

Ambassador Escorcia expressed his commitment to strengthening government-to-government, inter-parliamentary, party-to-party, and people-to-people cooperation during his tenure. He proposed swiftly signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate parliamentary delegation exchange visits, experience sharing, and broader sectoral collaboration.

In response, U Khin Yi welcomed the proposals, highlighting that although formal diplomatic ties are relatively recent,

SEE PAGE 4

DIPLOMACY

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker meets Nicaraguan Ambassador

AMYOTHA Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe received Nicaraguan Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Segundo Martin Calero Escorcia at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.



Nicaraguan Ambassador Mr Segundo Martin Calero Escorcia calls on Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe.

They exchanged views on strengthening diplomatic relations between the two countries, the opening of embassies, support for Myanmar's elections and the formation of a new government, the role of the Myanmar Hluttaw, and cooperation in international parliamentary organizations. They also discussed ways to promote friendship and exchanges of experience between the two parliaments.

The meeting was attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker Jeng Phang Naw Taung, the chairperson and secretary of the International Relations Committee, and officials from the Amyotha Hluttaw. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

DIPLOMACY

Vice-President receives Sri Lankan Ambassador to Myanmar

VICE-PRESIDENT U Nyo Saw received Mrs Prabashini Ponnamperuma, Ambassador of Sri Lanka to Myanmar, at the Parlour of the Office of the President in Nay Pyi Taw at 2 pm yesterday.



Sri Lankan Ambassador Mrs Prabashini Ponnamperuma calls on Vice-President U Nyo Saw yesterday.

Both sides cordially and candidly exchanged views on ongoing efforts to promote economic development, further strengthen existing bilateral relations between Myanmar and Sri Lanka, and explore prospects for cooperation in trade and investment, religious affairs and culture, tourism, air transport and defence sectors.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister at the President's Office U Khin Latt, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ko Ko Kyaw and responsible officials. — MNA/TH

DIPLOMACY

Myanmar and Sri Lanka discuss agri & aquaculture cooperation

UNION Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Min Naung received Sri Lankan Ambassador Mrs Prabashini Ponnamperuma at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

They discussed cooperation in agriculture and related sectors, including the promotion of agricultural education, research and technology exchanges between Myanmar and Sri Lanka, joint research, capacity building and the creation of new opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation in the agricultural sector. They also discussed cooperation in shrimp farming, sea cucumber farming, fish fry production, aquatic animal disease prevention and control, and digital aquaculture management technologies. — MNA/MKKS



Union Minister U Min Naung receives Sri Lankan Ambassador Mrs Prabashini Ponnamperuma.

HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker ...

FROM PAGE 3

MYANMAR and Nicaragua are long-standing friends that have cooperated in international forums such as the UN, NAM, WTO, and IPU. He acknowledged the ambassador's ongoing efforts to foster cooperation in education, agriculture, livestock, fisheries, culture, and tourism, and affirmed that the Pyithu Hluttaw will move forward with establishing inter-parliamentary friendship groups and committee-level ties.

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn, International Relations Committee Chairman Dr Pwint Hsan, and other parliamentary officials also attended the meeting. — MNA/ST

Falam District IPD office, retaining wall reconstructed

THE District Immigration and Population Department Office and its retaining wall in Falam have been fully reconstructed after being partially damaged by terrorist attacks. The office has resumed operations with solar lighting installed, while staff housing has also been fully renovated and is now occupied by employees.



Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han inspects the Falam District Immigration and Population Department.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han, accompanied by Chin State Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Khin Maung Htwe and members of the state rehabilitation and reconstruction committee, inspected the renovated staff housing and the fully repaired office yesterday morning. He also cordially met with the residents visiting the office to apply for CSCs.

The township office is providing daily services, including issuing CSCs to citizens aged 10 and 18, replacing damaged or lost identity cards and household registration lists, and processing household registration changes, transfers, births and deaths.

The deputy minister also inspected renovation work at the Audit Office and staff housing, urging officials to complete the work on schedule and resume office operations promptly.

He later inspected the fully renovated Township Highways Department Office, its solar system and staff housing. As the staff housing building is more than 100 years old, he instructed officials to preserve its original architectural features during maintenance and renovation. — IPRD/KTZH

MSME Help Desk Boosts ...

FROM PAGE 1

with professionals, and facilitating training and consultancy opportunities.

Additionally, it shares valuable information about market potential, digital technology and financial services, while also collecting feedback on results.

Users can submit their questions via a Viber channel by filling out a provided Google Form. Responses will be sent within one to five working days, or users may be connected with a relevant expert, consultant or partner organization based on their enquiries. — Htun Htun/ZS

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NATIONAL

DIPLOMACY

MNPIFER Union Minister receives Belarusian Charge' d'Affaires ai

UNION Minister for National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations U Aung Kyaw Hoe received Mr Aleh Holubeu, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Republic of Belarus to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, yesterday at Office 1 of the Ministry of National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations in Nay Pyi Taw.



The Belarusian charge' d'affaires ad interim calls on Union Minister U Aung Kyaw Hoe.

Both sides held frank and cordial discussions and exchanged views on the progress of implementation of the bilateral agreements reached during the Second Meeting of the Myanmar-Belarus Joint Committee on Trade and Economic Cooperation and the Second International Industrial Exhibition (INNOPROM) held in Belarus, the promotion and development of bilateral trade, investment and economic cooperation, as well as plans and areas of further cooperation. — MNPIFER

Ayeyawady Launches ...

FROM PAGE 1

the use of drum seeders, riding-type and walk-behind paddy transplanters, and seedling nursery systems.

As part of the initiative, relevant regional ministers will conduct field visits at the township level and coordinate with agricultural development and yield promotion committees.

Ayeyawady Region has more than 4.8 million acres of net cultivated land, including approximately 2.89 million acres suitable for multiple cropping and intercropping during the summer and winter seasons. Paddy is the region's primary cash crop, with monsoon and summer paddy widely cultivated, including on government-established model plots, producing high-quality Pawsan varieties and other fine-quality local rice.

Following the monsoon paddy harvest, black gram and green gram are widely grown as winter and double crops. To achieve edible oil self-sufficiency, the Department of Agriculture and local farmers are also expanding the cultivation of oilseed crops, including groundnut, sesame, sunflower, Niger seed and soybean.

Other seasonal crops, including grain corn, sweet corn, chilli, flowers and various vegetables, are also cultivated according to local conditions. — ASH/TH

Myanmar hosts ReCAAP ISC Cluster Meeting 2026

MYANMAR hosted the ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) Cluster Meeting 2026 at Parkroyal Hotel in Yangon on 17 and 18 November.

The meeting was attended by ReCAAP ISC officials, representatives from member countries-Bangladesh, India and Thailand; observer countries, Malaysia and Indonesia; Tatmadaw (Navy); and representatives from 19 maritime-related organizations in Myanmar.

At the opening session, the ReCAAP ISC Governor for Myanmar delivered the welcome remarks, followed by an opening address by ReCAAP ISC Executive Director Vijay D Chafekar.



A group documentary photo session of the Myanmar-hosted ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre Cluster Meeting 2026.

Participants discussed piracy and armed robbery incidents in regional waterways, the current maritime security situation, potential security challenges, preparedness measures and ways to strengthen information exchange and regional cooperation. During their stay, the delegates also visited prominent landmarks in Yangon before departing for their respective countries by air yesterday afternoon. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar wins 3 golds, 2 bronzes in 34th ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet, ranking fourth

THE Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team, which competed in the 34th ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet (34th AARM) held in Malacca, Malaysia, from 30 October to 18 November, returned to Nay Pyi Taw Airport yesterday evening. The team was welcomed by Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Zaw Hein and senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief.



Gold and bronze medallists from the Myanmar Tatmadaw shooting team are pictured being welcomed.

Led by team leader Lt-Col Thein Soe Tun, the Myanmar Tatmadaw delegation comprised 55 members, including administrators, coaches and shooting athletes from the rifle, carbine, machine gun, men's pistol and women's pistol teams.

The Myanmar Tatmadaw athletes won a total of three gold medals and two bronze medals, including one gold and two bronze medals in the team events and two gold medals in the individual events. Myanmar finished fourth among the participating nations. — MNA/MKKS

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 19 November 2026

	US$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,655.00~3,671.00	558.70	125.30~125.70	43.6
Trading amount in the market	17,817,013.70	-	13,667,650.13	-



NATIONAL

MNHRC Statement in Commemoration of World Children's Day

Statement 12/2026

WORLD Children's Day, which falls on 20 November 2026, marks the 37th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). It serves as a reminder to the international community to respect, protect, and fulfil the rights of every child worldwide.

The theme of this year's World Children's Day, "My Day, My Rights, My Future", reflects the interconnection between children's daily lives, the rights they are entitled to enjoy, and their future aspirations. As children are not only the leaders of tomorrow but also vital members of today's society, it is essential to listen to their voices, views, and wishes, and to allow them to participate in decisions that affect their lives and futures.

Many children around the world continue to face challenges such as poverty, malnutrition, lack of access to education and healthcare, violence, exploitation, trafficking in persons, child labour, and neglect. Furthermore, due to the misuse of digital technologies, children are also exposed to online risks including cyberbullying, scams, and sexual exploitation.

Therefore, all relevant stakeholders must collaborate to prevent violations of children's rights, prioritize and address the needs of children in vulnerable situations, and ensure that affected children receive appropriate protection and remedies.

As a State Party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Myanmar enacted the Child Rights Law in 2019 and continues to respect, protect, and fulfil the rights of children. Under the Commission Law, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission is diligently carrying out its mandate to promote and protect human rights, including cooperating with relevant departments to raise awareness of and protect child rights, as well as urging and recommending compliance with the respect for and protection of the rights of the child.

In commemoration of World Children's Day, the Commission earnestly urges parents, guardians, relevant departments, social organizations, and the entire public to work together to create a safe and non-discriminatory environment that upholds the rights, dignity, and best interests of every child, who represent the future generation of the nation.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
Date: 20 November 2026

Thayawady's MSY village project loans disbursed

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held a ceremony to disburse revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Upper Nwekhwe Village, Thayawady Township, Bago Region, yesterday.



An MSY village project fund disbursement ceremony in progress in Thayawady Township.

Thayawady Township Department of Rural Development Head U Naing Min Tun explained the objectives, benefits and entitlements of providing revolving funds under the MSY Village Project to residents of Upper Nwekhwe and Lower Nwekhwe villages to increase household incomes.

Project officials and staff then explained the applicable interest rates, loan repayment periods, and rules and regulations to be followed when receiving loans. Officials handed over K51.1 million in revolving funds to members of the Mya Sein Yaung Project Implementation Committee.

Upper Nwekhwe and Lower Nwekhwe villages are implementing family income-generating activities using K51.1 million from the MSY Village Project. The 11th round of revolving loans at low interest rates was disbursed by the project implementation committee to 196 members from the two villages engaged in systematic agricultural, livestock breeding and other income-generating activities. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

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DaikU's completed development projects inspected

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection yesterday of the completion status of local development works carried out in Lekyamyaung Village, by the Department of Rural Development, DaikU Township, Bago Region, using Village Development Project (VDP) funds and contributions from village residents for the 2026-2027 financial year.

District Head U Yan Naing Nyunt of the Nyaunglebin District Department of Rural Development, Township Head U Aung Myint Tun and staff of the DaikU Township Department of Rural Development, together with members of the Village Project Implementation Committee, inspected the completed village internal laterite road paving and the installation of a water purification machine in Lekyamyaung Village. After viewing and inspecting the completed works, the district head met village responsible persons and Village Project Implementation Committee members and discussed and instructed them to use the laterite road and water purification machine beneficially and for all relevant persons to jointly maintain them for long-term use.



Officials inspect the progress of local development projects in DaikU Township.

In Lekyamyaung Village, DaikU Township, the village internal laterite road paving – 845 feet long, 12 feet wide, and six inches high – and the installation of a water purifier producing over 200 gallons of purified water per hour were carried out with Village Development Project (VDP) funds of K15 million, village residents' contribution of K1.06 million, totalling K16.06 million. The work was implemented by villagers themselves starting from 8 October with technical assistance from engineer staff of the DaikU Township Department of Rural Development, and is now 100 per cent complete. Because all these projects have been completed 100 per cent, 129 households and 667 people in Lekyamyaung Village are now beneficially using the laterite road and water purification machine, according to Township Head U Aung Myint Tun of the DaikU Township Department of Rural Development. — Ko Naing (DRD)

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NATIONAL

Tatmadaw Captures 28 Terrorist Camps in Kyaikto-Shwegyin Area

TATMADAW columns have been conducting systematic operations to attack and clear temporary bases and hideouts occupied by combined armed terrorist groups, including the KNU, KNLA, CRPH, NUG and their subordinate PDFs, in Kyaikto Township, Mon State, and Shwegyin Township, Bago Region.



Images reveal triumphant Tatmadaw troops alongside seized weapons and ammunition following the capture of serveral terrorist camps.

Previously, Tatmadaw columns reportedly captured 11 temporary camps, including the Special Regional Military Headquarters of the CRPH and NUG armed groups, near Hteeklar Creek and Point 480 Hill in Shwegyin Township, seizing a large quantity of weapons and ammunition.

Subsequently, Tatmadaw columns continued regional security operations, with the cooperation of local communities, to prevent the groups from re-establishing bases in the area.

The operations resulted in the capture of two temporary camps near Hteeklar Creek, northeast of Theinzayat Town, on 9 November; two camps near Kawthtee Creek on 10 November; two camps near Kawtkalaw Creek on 12 November; and another two near Kawthtee Creek on 13 November. One camp near Kawkat Village was captured on 15 November, followed by three camps near Natsin and Kyaukphya villages on 16 November.

On 17 November, Tatmadaw columns captured a hideout used by the armed groups for medical treatment near Chaungsauk Village. The following day, they took control of Chaungsauk Village, which the groups had reportedly occupied by force and used as a military camp and main operational base.

Continuing the advance, Tatmadaw columns captured three additional temporary camps near Chaungsauk Village on 19 November while pursuing the retreating armed groups.

During these operations, 13 engagements reportedly took place, resulting in the capture of 17 temporary camps belonging to the combined groups. The seized items included seven bodies, including those of two group leaders, 37 assorted weapons, 8,345 rounds of ammunition, 63 magazines, 363 grenades and shells, 113 mines, 2,158 assorted accessories, two four-wheel-drive vehicles and one locally made vehicle.

Other seized items included camouflage uniforms, bulletproof vests, helmets, tents, communication radios, firing trenches, bunkers, office equipment and computers, materials used in bombings and destructive activities, food supplies, medical equipment and other utility items.

The report stated that the combined armed groups suffered heavy casualties and losses and retreated in disarray following the operations conducted under the Tatmadaw's motto, "Advance Bravely, Attack Bravely, Annihilate Bravely".

Overall, from 3 to 19 November, 18 major and minor engagements reportedly took place during operations to clear the groups' temporary bases in Kyaikto and Shwegyin townships. Tatmadaw columns captured 28 camps belonging to the KNU and KNLA, including the Special Regional Military Headquarters of the CRPH and NUG groups. The operations resulted in the seizure of seven bodies, 134 assorted weapons, 13,719 rounds of ammunition and large quantities of mines, grenades, shells and other related equipment.

The report further stated that the combined groups, including the KNU, KNLA, CRPH, NUG and their subordinate PDFs, had been taking shelter in remote forests and mountainous areas along the Theinzayat-Kyaikto border between Mon State and Bago Region. Using proceeds from various illegal activities, they had reportedly purchased and stockpiled weapons, ammunition and explosives for destructive operations.

It also alleged that the groups had used armed force to intimidate and oppress local ethnic residents by establishing temporary camps in and around villages, constructing sandbag bunkers inside homes, religious buildings and schools, extorting money, and forcibly recruiting new members.

According to the report, they had also labelled Buddhist monks, local communities and civil servants who did not support them as informants, subsequently arresting, torturing and killing some of them. Other alleged activities included extorting money from cargo trucks and passenger vehicles, planting mines along transport routes, and destroying roads and bridges.

The Tatmadaw is continuing to intensify regional security operations in cooperation with residents to prevent armed groups from establishing bases, taking shelter or carrying out activities that threaten national peace, stability and regional development. — 100/ST

Demolition of scam hubs in Shwe Kokko Phase II continues

THE systematic demolition of illegal buildings used for online scams and gambling is continuing in Phase II of the Shwe Kokko area to prevent such activities from resuming.



Map shows systematic dismantling of scam hubs in the Shwe Kokko Phase II crackdown.

Of the illegal buildings in Phase II, a five-storey building being demolished using heavy machinery was 70 per cent demolished as of yesterday, while work on another five-storey building had reached 10 per cent completion, according to reports.

A total of 63 illegal buildings in Phase II of the Shwe Kokko area, which were used for online scam and gambling activities, have been classified according to their demolition methods: those to be demolished using heavy machinery, those to be brought down through controlled explosions, and those near residential buildings to be dismantled floor by floor by manual labour.

Of these, 12 buildings – four through controlled explosions and eight using heavy machinery – have already been demolished. The remaining 51 buildings will also be systematically demolished, according to reports.

The Government is working with neighbouring and other regional countries to completely eliminate online scams and gambling activities, which threaten global socioeconomic development and national security. — 100/KZL

El Niño awareness talk held in Papun

THE Papun Township Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, organized an awareness talk on El Niño disaster prevention in Kyundaw Village yesterday.

U Pyae Oo Ko Ko, Head of the Papun Township Department of Rural Development, discussed the potential onset of El Niño, its possible impacts, the department's planned response measures in the event of drinking water shortages caused by El Niño, preventive steps to mitigate its effects, actions to be taken during its occurrence, as well as the dos and don'ts.

Subsequently, staff members of the Papun Township Department of Rural Development distributed educational pamphlets on El Niño disaster prevention. According to the Papun Township Department of Rural Development, town and village elders as well as residents from Kyundaw Village attended the awareness talk. — Ko Ko Soe (Rural)

OPINION

Nurturing children and enhancing their lives

World Children's Day is UNICEF's Global Day of Action for children, by children, marking the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 20 November. Around the world, children are standing up and talking about their lives, their hopes, and their rights.

Children are the most fundamental human resource in society. By nature, human beings are born, grow up, age and eventually pass away. Therefore, throughout the course of life, from birth to death, children must be nurtured and educated to become future leaders of society. Only by teaching and training children to develop sound knowledge, proper understanding and positive ways of thinking can they lead society towards a better future when they reach adulthood.

> The theme for World Children's Day 2026, observed globally on 20 November by UNICEF and the United Nations, is "My day. My rights. My future". Therefore, efforts must begin now to nurture, educate and empower children, not only for the benefit of individual countries but also to confidently entrust the future of the world to the children who will become tomorrow's leaders, enabling them to shape a better destiny for all humanity.

At present, while efforts are being made to nurture, train and educate children, there are also cases in which unscrupulous individuals exploit them in ways that undermine and destroy their future. Using children to engage in bad habits and criminal activities is tantamount to destroying the future of the world. In addition, children around the world are being deprived of opportunities to receive an education and acquire vocational skills for various reasons.

The future of children from families caught in the crossfire of armed conflicts remains uncertain. The future of the world is becoming increasingly bleak as children continue to lose their lives and limbs in armed conflicts. Around the world, there are still children who, for various reasons, are forced to work prematurely to earn a living for themselves and support their families. Therefore, every government in every country has a responsibility to ensure that children have a bright future and enjoy security and stability in their lives.

Responsible authorities must take the necessary measures to restore the rights that children have lost and ensure that they fully enjoy the rights to which they have not yet had access. Only through comprehensive consideration of all aspects of child development and the implementation of both short-term and long-term plans can children be assured of a secure future, enjoy improved living conditions and be empowered to shape their own future.

The theme for World Children's Day 2026, observed globally on 20 November by UNICEF and the United Nations, is "My day. My rights. My future". Therefore, efforts must begin now to nurture, educate and empower children, not only for the benefit of individual countries but also to confidently entrust the future of the world to the children who will become tomorrow's leaders, enabling them to shape a better destiny for all humanity.

ARTICLE

Peace is First, Peace is Second, Peace is Third

By Ko Thet

In the near future, significant and crucial peace negotiations are likely to emerge for Myanmar. At this juncture, I would like all stakeholders who come to the negotiating table to set aside past hatreds and animosities, and reflect with open hearts upon our nation's historical trajectory as well as the historical lessons of the international community.

It is heartbreaking that the scars of "Divide and Rule" have not only failed to heal to this day, but that these wounds continue to be ruthlessly prodded so that they grow larger and incurable. If we still delude ourselves into thinking that old and new colonial systems – which are swallowing us up to our very throats – are merely "teasing us out of affection," things will become exceedingly difficult. It is undeniable that most countries suffering from relentless armed conflict and lacking peace today do so because of the direct and collateral damage of the colonial system.

If we carefully re-examine our country's civil war and ethnic issues, it is truly sorrowful. There are no fundamental or insurmountable reasons for us to remain unpeaceful among ourselves. These are not unresolvable issues like religious wars or genocides; rather, we are merely suffering from and trying to remedy the poisonous legacy of the old policy of "Divide and Rule" left behind by former colonialists.

In essence, what is a peace negotiation if not a process of give-and-take, of making mutual concessions and adjustments? If the majority of stakeholders genuinely and sincerely wish to deliver the peace that the people are desperately yearning for, the single key is "Equality in Give-and-Take" when it comes to the distribution of authority and resources.

When compared with the most devastating wars in world history, the conflicts among us are merely "like throwing a pebble in the dirt" from a historical perspective – no more significant than a minor family disagreement among brothers and sisters. International examples clearly and vividly bear witness to this. Allow me to highlight a few:

1. World War II: Forging Friendship from the Ashes of an Old Enemy. The war between the United States and Japan during World War II was among the fiercest in history. Japan suffered two atomic bombs, leaving its cities in ashes and hundreds of thousands dead, while America's Pearl Harbour was utterly devastated. Though far more terrifying than our own civil war, once the war ended, they did not dwell on revenge. For its own strategic interests, the US helped rebuild Japan into a major global economic power, and today Tokyo and Washington have become the closest of economic partners and best of friends.

2. US-Vietnam: A Diplomatic Turning Point. The Vietnam War was a bitterly hateful conflict that claimed millions of lives on both sides, with chemical weapons deployed. Yet, shortly after the war ended, they turned their backs on that bitter history and re-established diplomatic ties. By placing national interests first and cooperating mutually, Vietnam has today become one of the fast-growing economies in Asia.

3. The South African Revolution and Forgiveness: South Africa deeply suffered the scars of Apartheid. Black people were not even counted as human beings, and revolutionary leader Nelson Mandela endured 27 long years in imprisonment. Many revolutionary leaders were assassinated, and attempts were even made to assassinate Mandela himself. Yet, miraculously escaping death, when he triumphed and came to power—despite having every right to exact revenge upon those who had tortured him—he chose not to. Showing the world that "even if they are crude, we will not be," he chose "Truth and Reconciliation," curing the nation's wounds through forbearance and forgiveness so that the country's prosperity would not perish. Reflecting upon the above events, we can clearly see that they prioritized the future interests of their countries and peoples far above individual or group sentiments.



Conclusion

Compared to the casualties and devastation of foreign conflicts, our nation's problems can be resolved sooner rather than later if we maintain fairness in give-and-take, asking for what is reasonable, giving what is proper, and taking what is due. We have already shed enough blood and tears, affecting our common people, mothers, and children, as a result of falling victim to "Divide and Rule." Everyone knows what it is like to live through this with a sense of indignity, humiliation, and dejection. Myanmar's history proves that ethnic solidarity is the very history of Myanmar itself. Placing the interests of the country and the people above all else, abandoning the path of armed struggle, negotiating with fairness and a balanced give-and-take at the peace table, setting aside hatreds and arrogant egos – I earnestly urge all relevant stakeholders to unequivocally choose: "Peace is First, Peace is Second, Peace is Third" for the enduring development and prosperity of our country.

Author's note:

(I am now in the twilight of my life, an elderly man nearing the age of 90. Having been born into an era of colonial subjugation and having witnessed decades of turmoil, I hold the values of true freedom, unity, and tranquillity dearer than anything else in this world. At this advanced stage of my life, I harbour no personal ambitions or worldly desires – my sole remaining wish is to see my homeland healed. Even if I were to catch just a fleeting breath of the gentle breeze of genuine peace, or catch a brief glimpse of the dawn of reconciliation before I pass on to the next world, I would be able to close my eyes for the final time with a truly contented and peaceful smile, knowing that a brighter, harmonious future awaits the grandchildren and future generations of Myanmar.)

Agricultural Cluster is an Important Pathway to Economic Progress

By Than Zaw (Homalin)

The rapid growth of the global population and climate change have become major challenges to global food security. Climate change has had a significant impact on the agricultural sector, causing considerable damage and losses. Meanwhile, the steadily increasing population has placed growing pressure on food production, making it necessary to shift from traditional production methods to more productive and efficient systems. Adopting an integrated, conglomerate-style model for agricultural production can contribute not only to food security but also to the promotion of exports and the advancement of the national economy.

Development of Clusters and Cluster-Based Economies

A cluster is a group of interconnected businesses, suppliers, service providers, and consumers operating within the same field in a country or region and linked through geographical proximity and cooperation.

The establishment of clusters not only helps businesses gain access to the capital they need but also enhances their competitiveness and production capacity. Through cluster development, businesses can share essential inputs, technologies, and resources, enabling them to upgrade their operations and achieve sustainable growth. Cluster development is an important pathway to economic progress, as it can support macroeconomic stability, facilitate market development, and reduce production costs.

Agricultural Clusters

An agricultural cluster is a group of stakeholders involved in agriculture who work together toward common goals and share the benefits of their collective efforts. Establishing and operating agricultural clusters can promote the development of the agricultural economy while simultaneously encouraging the growth of agro-based industries.



Formation of Clusters

The organizational structure of a cluster can vary depending on its objectives, the nature of its activities, and the needs of its members. In the modern era, clusters are increasingly being established through more flexible organizational arrangements. They may take the form of cooperatives, business partnerships, or joint ventures. Although clusters can be organized in various ways, selecting a structure that aligns with the objectives of the business is a critical factor in achieving success.

Potential Areas of Collaboration

Forming clusters is a strategy that combines the individual strengths of various enterprises to achieve greater outcomes. Enhanced collaboration among businesses accelerates growth by enabling the shared use of technology, resources, and experience. Through such clusters, entities can collectively address matters related to labour, marketing, integrated management, research and development, and the assessment of agricultural efficiency.

By fostering collaboration across multiple sectors and facilitating the efficient utilization of resources, the formation of business clusters plays a vital role in the success of individual enterprises and the overall economic development of the nation.

Benefits of Cluster Formation

Forming business clusters allows for the integration of individual business strengths, leading to greater collective success. This approach serves as an effective method to overcome the limitations faced by individual enterprises. Key benefits include the ability to organize large-scale operations, undertake complex tasks that would be difficult for a single entity to manage alone, foster mutual support, enable large-scale production, cultivate a thriving business ecosystem, enhance communication, establish a distinct regional identity, and facilitate engagement with major corporate entities. The formation of business clusters offers significant advantages across economic, social, and managerial spheres, serving as a vital strategy that contributes to sustainable development.

Strategies for Agricultural Development

The agricultural sector serves as the foundational economic pillar of a nation and plays a vital role in ensuring food security and improving livelihoods. Developing sustainable agricultural areas, establishing frameworks for the procurement and sale of local crops, and creating agricultural showcases are key steps toward fostering the development of agricultural clusters. The formation of agricultural clusters facilitates the systematic development of the agricultural sector; it is a strategy that simultaneously promotes food security, economic growth, and social development.

Requirements for Establishing Agricultural Clusters

The success and long-term sustainability of a cluster depend largely on the quality of its organizational structure and management. Key factors for successfully establishing an agricultural cluster include having clear goals and objectives, developing a well-structured framework, providing effective leadership, ensuring representation of the members, holding regular meetings, collaborating on priority issues, and managing diverse perspectives.

A Successful Agricultural Cluster

An agricultural cluster can achieve sustainability and growth if its members, who are generally located in close geographical proximity, effectively share benefits, collaborate to resolve challenges, generate significant employment, respect the socioeconomic development of the local community, and implement precise, well-defined management practices.

SEE PAGE 11

NATIONAL

Shan State to expand 16,138 acres of edible oil seed cultivation

SHAN State plans to expand edible oil seed cultivation by 16,138 acres in the 2026-2027 financial year, bringing the total planned cultivation area to 453,549 acres, according to the Shan State Department of Agriculture.

The state aims to increase edible oil self-sufficiency by expanding oilseed cultivation and improving crop yields. Self-sufficiency stood at 71.57 per cent in 2025-2026 and is targeted to reach 74.31 per cent in 2026-2027, meeting the needs of more than six million residents.


A thriving plantation of edible oil crop in Shan State.

Regarding edible oil self-sufficiency in Shan State, the production coverage rates in 2025-2026 were 107.39 per cent in southern Shan, 53.15 per cent in northern Shan and 37.20 per cent in eastern Shan, bringing the overall rate to 71.57 per cent. To improve oil sufficiency, the Shan State Department of Agriculture is targeting 107.61 per cent in Shan State (South), 58.63 per cent in Shan State (North) and 37.76 per cent in Shan State (East), with an overall target of 74.31 per cent for the state in 2026-2027," said U Nyein Tun, deputy director of the department.

Groundnut, sesame, sunflower, mustard, Niger and rapeseed are cultivated annually across southern, northern and eastern Shan State. By the end of September 2026, a total of 150,552 acres had been planted with three major oilseed crops, including 105,252 acres of groundnut, 31,760 acres of sesame and 13,540 acres of sunflower. Of the total planted area, 109,484 acres had been harvested.

To improve edible oil self-sufficiency, special oilseed cultivation zones were established in Taunggyi, Nyaungshwe and Pindaya townships in 2024-2025. A total of 22,433 acres of groundnut and sunflower were cultivated in 2025-2026. For 2026-2027, the programme is being expanded to Taunggyi, Nyaungshwe, Pindaya, Langkho and Mongton townships, with plans to cultivate 24,579 acres of groundnut, sesame and sunflower.

To increase oilseed production, the Shan State Government is also providing fertilizer support from its regional budget to seed production farmers in southern and eastern Shan. In 2026-2027, farmers cultivating seed production plots of rice, sunflower, groundnut and soybean will receive one bag of urea fertilizer, one bag of compound fertilizer and four bags of organic fertilizer per acre. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

Mahlaing's MSY Village Project activities inspected

YESTERDAY, officials conducted a field inspection of activities implemented under the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Yonedaw Village, Mahlaing Township. The project is overseen by Officials of the Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, specifically through its Mahlaing Township office, Mandalay Region. The initiative aims to create employment opportunities for rural residents, increase household income, and reduce poverty.


Officials oversee an agricultural project in Mahlaing Township.

Township Head Daw Aye Thet Thet Khaing of the Mahlaing Township Department of Rural Development, accompanied by project staff, examined agricultural activities in Yonedaw Village that were supported by K30 million in funding from the MSY Village Project. The head of the Department of Rural Development in Mahlaing Township, inspected the status of livestock and livelihood activities, as well as the completeness of the monthly reporting forms, and provided the necessary coordination and guidance.

According to the Township Head of the Department of Rural Development in Mahlaing Township, 100 individuals in Yonedaw Village have received loans amounting to K30 million. This includes 68 individuals engaged in agriculture (receiving K20.8 million), 22 individuals in livestock farming (receiving K6.5 million), and 10 individuals engaged in other livelihood activities (receiving K2.7 million). — Hein Htet Soe (Mahlaing)

UMFCCI, Harbin Municipal Government explore business cooperation

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and China's Harbin Municipal Government discussed promoting cooperation on business opportunities at a meeting held on 17 November at the federation's third-floor meeting room, according to UMFCCI.

A delegation led by Mr Yang Aiguo, deputy secretary general of the Harbin Municipal Government, met the federation officials to discuss opportunities for economic and trade cooperation.

UMFCCI Vice-President Dr Win Si Thu; joint secretaries U Myo Thant, U Kyaw De Wa, Daw Nan Kalaya Win and U Kyaw Soe Han; and central executive committee member Dr Aye Aye attended the meeting. Dr Win Si Thu explained UMFCCI's history and its engagement with business organizations in China.

The Harbin delegation discussed development and emerging opportunities in their region, including modern trade as well as growth in the pharmaceutical sector and traditional medicine. Delegation members also discussed food businesses and tourism linked to the Harbin Ice and Snow Festival, according to UMFCCI. — NN/KK

MFSPEA notifies farmers of reporting fertilizer overpricing

THE Myanmar Fertilizer, Seed and Pesticide Entrepreneurs Association (MFSPEA) notified farmers that they could file complaints about shops charging above-normal prices for fertilizer. Under the supervision of the Urea Fertilizer Purchase, Distribution and Sales Steering Committee, MFSPEA announced the reference prices set for Yangon Region until 30 November at K124,600 per 50-kilogramme bag for urea fertilizer (large granular) and K150,000 per bag of di-ammonium phosphate.

Farmers can contact the association to arrange direct and discounted bulk purchases in Yangon or through the Nay Pyi Taw Council, region and state governments and local authorities. The association will connect buyers with the relevant companies. Farmers can also report shops charging above normal prices, according to the announcement.

Interested individuals can enquire about details through the Myanmar Fertilizer, Seed and Pesticide Entrepreneurs Association at 09-988539360.

Under the guidance of the Urea Fertilizer Purchase and Distribution Leading Committee, the association will use the distribution price competition system for December to import quality DAP-based 15-15-15 compound fertilizer at fair prices.

Member companies wishing to import DAP-based 15-15-15 compound fertilizer under the system must email the Leading Committee at ureacommittee@gmail.com and the association at info@mfspea.com, vicepresident-3@mfspea.com, jgs-1@mfspea.com, and generalsecretary@mfspea.com, and apply no later than 2 pm on 26 November. — NN/KK

ARTICLE/LIFE&SOCIAL
WORLD



People visit the 49th Kuwait International Book Fair in Hawalli Governorate, Kuwait,18 November 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

49th Kuwait International Book Fair opens with 592 exhibitors from 34 countries

THE 49th Kuwait International Book Fair opened Wednesday at the Kuwait International Fairground in Hawalli Governorate, with more than 500 book titles on display at the Chinese pavilion.

Jointly set up by the China Cultural Centre in Kuwait and China Intercontinental Press, the pavilion displays more than 800 copies of books, about 80 per cent of which are in languages other than Chinese, mainly Arabic and English, according to the centre.

The collection covers Chinese governance, literature, history and culture, humanities and social sciences, and Chinese language learning.

Kuwaiti Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology Affairs and Acting Minister of Information and Culture Omar Al-Omar, Qatari Minister of Culture Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al Thani, and Mohammed Khaled Al-Jassar, secretary-general of Kuwait's National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters (NCCAL), visited the Chinese pavilion earlier in the day to learn about the books on display and literary exchanges between China and Kuwait.

Running through Nov. 28 and held by NCCAL, this year's fair brings together 592 exhibitors from 34 countries and regions under the theme "We Read ... We Rise," with Qatar as the guest of honor. — Xinhua

Japanese photographer's nuclear legacy lives on in Pacific classrooms

The book sparked deep curiosity, helping students grasp the reality of the tragedy.

AFTER 50 years of documenting the human toll of US nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands, 87-year-old Japanese photojournalist Kosei Shimada has completed his final reporting trip to the Pacific nation. However, his work continues to educate a new generation through an English-language picture book now used across the country's public high schools.



Shimada posed with students at Marshall Islands High School in Majuro on 24 August 2026, alongside copies of the picture book "Longing for My Home Island", which is used in classrooms there. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Shimada first visited the islands in 1974. Meeting a Rongelap Atoll resident dying of cancer from the 1954 Bikini Atoll hydrogen bomb fallout inspired him to follow the community's story. Between 1985 and 1991, he lived in Majuro to photograph displaced residents who relocated due to severe health issues and radiation.

During his final visit to Marshall Islands High School in August, Shimada watched students read his book, Longing for My Home Island. English teacher Joy Dalma noted the book sparked deep curiosity, helping students grasp the reality of the tragedy.

While Shimada is ending his trips to photograph other countries, he remains angry that smaller nations bear the brunt of powerful countries' actions. — Kyodo

Employment rate of working moms in South Korea hits record high

THE employment rate of married women raising minor children, often called working moms, in South Korea hit a record high in the first half, statistical ministry data showed Thursday.

The hiring rate for married women aged 15 to 54 living with children under 18 rose 1.9 per centage points over the year to 66.2 per cent in the first half, marking the highest since related data began to be compiled in 2016, according to the Ministry of Data and Statistics. — Xinhua



The employment rate for mothers with two children climbed 2.2 percentage points to 66.8 per cent. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/PEXELS**

Agricultural Cluster is an Important Pathway ...

FROM PAGE 9

Vietnam: A Successful Example of Agricultural Clusters

Vietnam has emerged as a leading global exporter of high-quality rice, a success largely attributed to its "Cooperative Farming System". The country's agricultural sector has achieved remarkable progress through a combination of collective management and the integration of technology.

In the past, farmers worked independently; however, issues such as inconsistent seed quality, inadequate irrigation systems, and limited market access hindered growth in both production and income. To address these challenges, the government and relevant organizations encouraged farmers to organize themselves into cooperatives.

Following the formation of these cooperatives, farmers were able to collectively procure and utilize high-quality seeds and establish systematic irrigation infrastructure. Furthermore, they were able to learn and implement new agricultural technologies, soil management practices, and pest control methods as a group. The sharing of resources and experiences has led to improvements in both the quantity and quality of rice production, enabling Vietnam to become one of the world's leading rice exporters and boosting national revenue.

Vietnam's agricultural cooperative system has facilitated the systematic management of farming operations, allowed for the efficient use of resources, and enhanced competitiveness in the market. This success serves as a valuable lesson for other developing nations.

Ensuring Food Security and Promoting Exports

By establishing clear objectives, implementing sound management, and formulating accurate plans, while fostering mutual understanding, trust, and appreciation among all stakeholders, the agricultural sector can effectively drive food security, increase exports, and stimulate the growth of related industries.

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ECONOMY
WORLD

Global maritime leaders highlight Hong Kong's role in shipping industry upgrade

The future of maritime trade depends on keeping shipping lanes open, upholding international maritime law and standards.



Global maritime leaders gather at the World Maritime Merchants Forum 2026 in Hong Kong to discuss shipping industry upgrades. **PHOTO: HKSAR GOVERNMENT**

HONG Kong (SAR)is poised to leverage its status as a trade and maritime centre and its service-sector strengths to help drive the green transition in the shipping industry and maintain stability in global trade, industry insiders said at the World Maritime Merchants Forum 2026, which concluded on Wednesday.

Hong Kong has long understood that its prosperity depends on being connected to the wider world, said John Denholm, chairman of the International Chamber of Shipping.

"That makes this an appropriate place to have this conversation, and an appropriate moment to ask how we ensure that the maritime system remains capable of supporting global trade through another period of profound change," he said.

John Lee, chief executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, said the future of maritime trade depends on keeping shipping lanes open, upholding international maritime law and standards, and promoting unhindered economic cooperation across East and West, North and South.

Hong Kong stands as a reliable "safe harbor" for the international maritime community amid shifting geopolitical landscapes and supply chain restructuring, said Lee. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan automakers to standardize parts, materials to boost competitive edge

JAPANESE automakers will standardize vehicle materials and parts, starting with steel, resins and wire harnesses, to strengthen the industry's competitive edge against overseas rivals, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association said Thursday.

Through cooperation across manufacturers, the association aims to gradually expand the range of standardized parts and materials to cut procurement costs. Automakers hope to devote more resources to areas such as next-generation vehicles amid rising competition from overseas rivals. – Kyodo

Nepal opens alternative investment sector to foreigners

NEPAL is preparing to open its alternative investment fund sector to foreign investors for the first time as the country's securities market regulator seeks to roll out broader capital market reforms, according to local media reports.

The Securities Board of Nepal (SEBON) released the draft Alternative Investment Fund Regulation 2026 on Wednesday, proposing to allow foreign institutional investors and fund managers to enter the country's private equity and venture capital market through locally established subsidiaries or licensed domestic fund managers. – Xinhua

US retail sales growth slows as inflation weighs on consumers

U.S. consumers increased their spending at a slower pace in October, amid economic uncertainty and persistently high prices.

Retail sales rose just 0.2 per cent in October, down from an unrevised 0.8 per cent increase in the previous month, according to data released Tuesday by the US Commerce Department's Census Bureau.

"It was an okay report, once you pull out cars, which had been very high," Dean Baker, a macroeconomist and co-founder of the Centre for Economic and Policy Research, told Xinhua.

"It's consistent with moderate to strong consumption growth continuing. It looks like it is mostly being driven by high-end consumers spending stock gains. If those go into reverse, we could see some trouble," Baker said.



A customer shops for fresh produce at a farmers' market in Queens, New York City, the United States. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

However, the retail sales data came amid fresh evidence that inflation continues to squeeze consumers' budgets.

Elevated energy prices are spilling over into other sectors of the economy, driving up the costs of shipping, public transport and air travel. — Xinhua

Pakistan's IT exports surge 17.4% in Oct

PAKISTAN'S information technology (IT) exports reached a record monthly high of US$453 million in October 2026, registering a year-on-year increase of 17.4 per cent, according to figures shared by Khurram Schehzad, adviser to Pakistan's finance minister, on Wednesday.

The October earnings also marked a month-on-month increase of 4.1 per cent. Pakistan's IT exports totalled around US$1.73 billion during the first four months of the financial year 2026-27, from July to October, up 17.6 per cent compared with the same period last year.

Meanwhile, the country's freelance export earnings also reached a record monthly high of $210 million in October, representing a year-on-year increase of 53 per cent, according to the figures.

Freelance earnings amounted to $760 million during July-October of the current financial year, up 47 per cent year on year. The country's freelancers recorded annual export earnings of $1.76 billion d in financial year 2025-26. — Xinhua



Undated image shows people working at an unspecified location. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

China, US agricultural working group to hold first meeting soon: Commerce ministry



Farm owner Bill Pellett watches havested corn loading into a truck in a field of his family farm in Atlantic, a small city in the Midwestern state of Iowa, the United States, 14 October 2019. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

THE agricultural working group under the China-US Board of Trade will hold its first meeting in the near future, China's Ministry of Commerce said on Thursday.

The two countries' economic and trade teams have maintained communication at various levels, ministry spokesperson He Yadong said at a regular press conference.

The two sides held the first meeting of the Board of Trade under the China-US economic and trade consultation mechanism via video link on 13 November, the spokesperson added. — Xinhua

Singapore tourism outlook remains subdued despite Oct arrivals recovery

SINGAPORE'S tourism sector is expected to remain weak through 2026 despite a return to positive year-on-year growth in tourist arrivals in October, as geopolitical tensions and weaker demand from key source markets continue to weigh on travel, BMI, a unit of global financial information services company Fitch Group, said on Wednesday.

"October arrivals were broadly in line with 2025 levels, but the weaker monthly performance since April reinforces our view that arrivals' growth will remain subdued through the remainder of 2026," the research unit said in a note.

BMI said uncertainty surrounding the ongoing US-Iran conflict has dampened West-East travel demand, with higher fuel prices and geopolitical risks discouraging travelers from Europe and the Americas. Arrivals from Indonesia, Singapore's second-largest source market, have also declined sharply. — Xinhua



Tourists visit the iconic Merlion statue on the Marina Bay waterfront in Singapore on 14 March 2025. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

NDB's cumulative panda bond issuance surpasses 100 bln yuan

BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) announced on Thursday that it has issued an eight billion yuan (about US$1.2 billion) panda bond in the China Interbank Bond Market, which means the bank's cumulative panda bond issuance has surpassed the 100-billion yuan milestone.

The latest transaction included three-year and five-year tranches with two-way claw-back flexibility, allowing the NDB to reallocate volumes between maturities to optimize pricing and size. The issuance comprised three-year Bonds with a final issue size of six billion yuan, and five-year Bonds with a final issue size of two billion yuan.

With this transaction, the bank's cumulative panda bond issuance has reached 102.5 billion yuan. — Xinhua

Changing Trade Name for Registered Pesticide

The Pesticide manufactured by Jinan Tianbang Chemical Co.,Ltd and distributed by Northern Aung Power Agro Chemical Company Limited is changing trade Name as follow.

No.	Previous Name	New Name	Registration No.
1	MC-Benta	Htoo Pyant	P2026-7078

Any Objection regarding to this changing can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within (14) days.
Northern Aung Power Agro Chemical Company Limited. No.CA-316, Cherry 1st, FMI City, Hlaing Tharyar Township, Yangon Division, Myanmar. 09250406611

International air passengers to Cambodia fall 11%

CAMBODIA'S international air passenger traffic fell 11 per cent year-on-year to 5.02 million during the first 10 months of 2026, according to a State Secretariat of Civil Aviation (SSCA) report released Thursday.

International flights to Cambodia dipped two per cent to 51,865 from January to October. By contrast, air cargo volume rose 14 per cent to 85,730 tonnes over the same period.

SSCA Secretary of State and Spokesperson Sinn Chanserey Vutha noted in the report that 36 airlines, 32 international and four domestic, operate routes linking Cambodia to 18 countries and regions across ASEAN, East Asia, West Asia, and South Asia. — Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V TC MESSENGER VOY.NO. (182N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V TC MESSENGER VOY.NO. (182N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **20-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (297W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ISEACO GENESIS VOY.NO. (297W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **20-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Panama vows to block COP31 deal unless demands on oil, science are met

Nearly 200 nations participate in the UN climate summits but decisions are taken by consensus, meaning deals can be blocked by a single country.

PANAMA vowed Thursday to block any deal at the COP31 climate summit that does not meet its demands including a cap on oil production and a strident defence of science.

In a letter to the COP31 hosts, Panama's environment minister Juan Carlos Navarro said his country would "not join any consensus, and will formally object in the closing plenaries, to the adoption of any decision that does not lead to an outcome satisfactory to our principles and our values".



A symbolic windmill is installed by Greenpeace activists at the venue during the COP31 UN climate summit in Antalya on 19 November 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

Nearly 200 nations participate in the UN climate summits but decisions are taken by consensus, meaning deals can be blocked by a single country. Countries at the COP31 talks in Turkiye are still trying to hammer out a deal before the negotiations are scheduled to wrap up on Friday.

But Navarro — a vocal critic of the COP process and its consensus-based rules — said Panama would "not lend its name" to "complacent or ineffective language" in the final pact.

In a letter seen by AFP, the Central American nation listed eight priorities, including capping global oil production at current levels and immediate steps to eliminate the super-pollutant methane. — AFP

Thai floods expose waste pollution in 'garbage dump' region

FATHER of four Adisorn Lakonburee used to catch fish for his family's dinner, but stopped after floodwaters brought oil slicks and foul chemical smells into his village in eastern Thailand.

"Now I'm too afraid to catch or eat them," the 43-year-old homebuilder told AFP at his home in Prachinburi province, adding that he and his family are also too scared to drink the tap water.

Located between the capital Bangkok and Thailand's flagship industrial zone further east, Prachinburi has long faced concerns over waste pollution.


A local resident rides a motorcycle through floodwater in Bangkok, Thailand, on 6 October 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

But heavy flooding in September and October exposed the scale of the problem, spreading foul, rainbow-coloured water across rice paddies and waterways.

In water sampled near one landfill in October, Thai authorities found "unusually high" levels of petroleum hydrocarbons — chemicals associated with oil and fuel — as well as toxic concentrations of aluminium.

The landfill operator, Green Environment Technology, denied any wrongdoing, but after resident complaints, the industry ministry ordered it temporarily closed.

The ministry also suspended operations at two other waste facilities in the surrounding area and ordered a nationwide inspection of 3,000 similar plants across Thailand — with 300 already found to have breached regulations. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

South Korea court orders retrial of ex-PM Han in martial law case

SOUTH Korea's top court overturned former prime minister Han Duck-soo's 15-year sentence on Thursday for aiding a martial law declaration that briefly suspended civilian rule, sending the case back to a lower court.

The 2024 decree issued by the president at the time, Yoon Suk Yeol, plunged the country into chaos, but lasted only around six hours as opposition lawmakers scrambled to overturn it in a vote. Han, one of several top officials sentenced over the short-lived martial law bid, was handed a 23-year jail term in January for engaging in the declaration, which the court said threatened "the constitutional order" and amounted to insurrection. – AFP

Fast and furious: NATO wrestles with speed of AI-driven warfare

WITH growing concern, NATO militaries and defence giants are watching how artificial intelligence on the battlefield is forcing them into an ever-more urgent race against time.

Since Tuesday, military chiefs, officials and defence experts from the transatlantic alliance's 32 member states and Ukraine have gathered in the Turkish city of Izmir for NATO Edge, a three-day conference on critical technologies and digital warfare.

And the key message is this: success no longer depends on having information your enemy lacks, but on connecting the dots faster.

For Admiral Pierre Vandier, NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (SACT), the challenge is no longer about the available technology but "the speed at which we can integrate it, adapt it and scale it". – AFP

India, Japan unveil logo to commemorate 75 years of diplomatic ties

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Japanese counterpart, Toshimitsu Motegi, on Thursday unveiled a commemorative logo marking the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Japan in 2027, on the sidelines of the 4th India-Japan 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue in Tokyo.

The logo, selected from more than 850 submissions received from both countries, brings together cultural symbols of India and Japan to represent their 75 years of friendship and shared future. Sharing the development on X, Jaishankar said, "Joined FM Toshimitsu Motegi for the unveiling of a logo to mark the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India & Japan in 2027."

Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs also announced the selection of the commemorative logo, saying, "In 2027, Japan and India will celebrate the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations. We are pleased to announce that the commemorative logo has been selected from over 850 submissions received from both countries! Thank you to everyone who submitted a design." — ANI

SPORTS

Defence Ministry teams win men's and women's volleyball titles

THE final matches and prize presentation ceremony of the 2026 Inter-Ministerial Volleyball Tournament (Men's and Women's) were held at Gymnasium B of Wunna Theikdhi Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.



Union Minister Dr Maung Thin presents the championship trophy to the winning ministry.

The tournament was organized under the supervision of the Ministry of Sports in collaboration with the Department of Sports and Physical Education and the Myanmar Volleyball Federation.

Union ministers, deputy ministers, officials, staff, the president of the Myanmar Volleyball Federation and other officials attended the event and watched the final matches.

In the women's final, the Ministry of Defence team defeated the Ministry of Home Affairs team 3-2 to claim the championship title. In the men's final, the Ministry of Defence team beat the Ministry of Sports team in straight sets to secure the title.

At the prize presentation ceremony, trophies and cash awards were presented to outstanding players in both categories. No 4 Ma Yu Nandar of the Ministry of Sports won the best women's server award, while No 6 Ma Sabei Tin of the Ministry of Defence received the best women's libero award. No 1 Ma Nan Myinzu Thaka Hlaing of the Ministry of Defence won the best women's setter award, No 17 Ma Thuza Aung of the Ministry of Home Affairs received the best women's spiker award, and No 14 Ma Naw Ma Lay of the Ministry of Home Affairs won the best women's blocker award.

In the men's category, No 1 Maung Nay Lin Aung of the Ministry of Home Affairs received the best server award, No 12 Maung Khine Min of the Ministry of Defence won the best libero award, No 30 Maung San Nyunt Maung of the Ministry of Defence received the best setter award, No 14 Maung Kyal Sin Phyo of the Ministry of Sports won the best spiker award, and No 9 Maung Ye Lin Aung of the Ministry of Sports received the best blocker award.

Union Minister Dr Maung Thin presented trophies and cash awards to the tournament's best female player, No 11 Ma Khin Cho Htet, and best male player, No 8 Maung Shein Thu Aung, both from the Ministry of Defence.

Union Minister U Ye Myint Tun presented individual medals and cash awards to the fourth-placed teams: the Ministry of Education women's team and the Ministry of Immigration and Population men's team. Union Minister U Maung Myint presented the same awards to the third-placed teams: the Ministry of Sports women's team and the Ministry of Home Affairs men's team. Union Minister Dr Charlie Than presented awards to the runners-up: the Ministry of Home Affairs women's team and the Ministry of Sports men's team.

Union Minister Dr Soe Win presented individual medals, cash awards and the championship trophy to the Ministry of Defence women's team, while Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Phone Myat presented the corresponding awards to the Ministry of Defence men's team.

The 2026 Inter-Ministerial Volleyball Tournament (Men's and Women's) featured 19 men's teams and nine women's teams. The competition was held at Gymnasium B of Wunna Theikdhi Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw from 5 to 19 November. — MNA/KZL

Yangon to host December Showjumping Cup

THE December Sports Season Cup Showjumping Competition will be held on 13 December at the Myanmar Equestrian Federation's equestrian field in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, Yangon Region, according to the federation.

The competition will feature three showjumping categories: 40-60 centimetres, 60-70 centimetres and 80-90 centimetres. Each horse may compete in no more than two categories.

Riders and horses taking part in the competition must be registered with the Myanmar Equestrian Federation. Riders under the age of 18 must also submit written consent from their parents or guardians.

Interested riders must complete the prescribed application form and submit it to the federation's office by 5 December, according to the federation. — ASH/KZL



Riders participating in the competition are shown.

Russia's Daniil Dubov wins Jerusalem Open chess

FORMER world rapid chess champion Daniil Dubov of Russia claimed victory at the Jerusalem Open rapid chess tournament on Wednesday, scoring eight points out of a possible nine.

The tournament attracted 446 players from 34 countries and regions, with the 30-year-old grandmaster taking first place on tiebreaks ahead of Serbia's grandmaster Alexey Sarana, a former European classical chess champion.

The two leaders faced each other in the final round and agreed to a draw after just 11 moves, thereby securing their places in the four-day Jerusalem Masters rapid chess tournament, which starts Monday.

It will bring together 12 top grandmasters and offer a total prize of US$250,000. — Xinhua



New Manchester United manager Mauricio Pochettino prepares to lead the struggling English club ahead of Sunday's Premier League clash at Liverpool.
PHOTO: AFP

Pochettino vows to ease pressure on struggling Man Utd players

MAURICIO Pochettino said he wants to ease the pressure on Manchester United's under-performing players as he prepares for a baptism of fire at Liverpool on Sunday.

The former Tottenham and Chelsea boss, who wrapped up his reign as United States coach just days ago, said he would "start from zero" as the new manager at Old Trafford.

Pochettino, 54, who replaces the sacked Michael Carrick, has a huge job on his hands, with the 20-time English champions in the relegation zone after their worst start to a league campaign for 40 years. The Argentine, speaking to in-house media in his first full interview as United boss on Thursday, said he wanted to free up his players as he aims to create a winning culture. — AFP

Ex-Argentina midfielder Banega retires at 38

FORMER Argentina midfielder Ever Banega announced his retirement on Wednesday after a professional career spanning almost two decades.

The 38-year-old confirmed the decision after participating in a seven-a-side tournament in Buenos Aires organized by former Argentina teammate Sergio Aguero.

"It's time to do other things," said Banega, who has not played competitively since parting ways with Defensa y Justicia in May.

"I'm starting a new phase of my life and I want to enjoy football from the other side." — Xinhua

Panama vows to block COP31 deal unless demands on oil, science are met

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WORLD

Putin and Trump meet on sidelines of APEC summit

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin and US President Donald Trump held bilateral talks lasting nearly one hour on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit on Thursday, according to the White House press pool.

Ahead of the discussions, Trump referred to Putin as his friend, expressing pleasure at seeing him and adding that he looked forward to a productive meeting. Putin echoed the sentiment, stating he was also glad to meet with the US leader.

Joining Putin on the Russian delegation were Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Presidential Aide Yury Ushakov, Finance Minister Anton Siluanov, and Kirill Dmitriev, the Russian president's special representative for investment and economic cooperation with foreign countries. — SPUTNIK

Ten nations sign Super Intelligence security declaration

THE United States and nine partner countries, including India, have signed the San Francisco Declaration on the Secure Foundations of Enduring Prosperity, committing to strengthen cooperation on sensitive technologies, critical infrastructure and supply chain security underpinning the emerging Super Intelligence (SI) era.

The US Department of State, in a press release, said the declaration was signed on 15 November during the Pax Silica Founders Retreat in San Francisco, convened by US Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs Jacob Helberg. The signatories include the United States, Australia, India, Israel, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Qatar, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom.

According to the US Department of State, the declaration establishes a shared understanding among the participating countries that economic security is fundamental to national security and that protecting the technologies and infrastructure supporting SI supply chains requires coordinated international efforts. — ANI

Russia-China-US Trilateral Meeting: Key Statements

The meeting between the President of Russia Vladimir Putin, the US President Donald Trump and China's President Xi Jinping is taking place in Shenzhen on the sidelines of the APEC Summit.



The meeting between President of Russia Vladimir Putin, US President Donald Trump and China's President Xi Jinping is taking place in Shenzhen on the sidelines of the APEC Summit. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

Xi Jinping's Statements:

- The world is turbulent, making cooperation among major powers essential
- China, Russia, and the US should work together to address global problems and uphold peace and stability
- When major powers get along, the world is at peace. When they clash, it falls into chaos
- All nuclear weapons to be banned and destroyed, they are a "sword of Damocles" hanging over humanity

Vladimir Putin's Statements:

- At the start of the meeting, Putin proposed to discuss global and regional ties, as well as energy security.
- Russia, China, and the United States can contribute to strengthening global stability if they engage in constructive cooperation
- Russia, the US, and China are united by their status as victors in the WWII, as well as by a shared responsibility for maintaining international peace
- As the UN founding nations, Russia, China, and the US bear the responsibility of strengthening the international law system
- Russia, the US, and China share many common interests regarding the resolution of regional conflicts, including the conflict in Ukraine
- International terrorism and transnational crime are among the threats faced collectively by Russia, the United States, and China

Donald Trump's Statements:

- Donald Trump thanked China for hosting the summit, called it an honour to attend, and expressed hope that the talks would produce concrete results.
- The US, Russia, and China bear a special responsibility for world affairs and have much to discuss
- Trump is ready to engage in dialogue and criticized former world leaders for refusing to talk with countries they disagreed with
- Reducing nuclear arsenals is difficult, but the three countries should discuss it and work together to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons
- Ukraine would be on the agenda; all three countries have an interest in ending the conflict, and efforts towards a settlement are moving in the right direction
- The International Criminal Court has gotten out of control

SPUTNIK



Chinese President Xi Jinping chairs the 33rd Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting and delivers important remarks titled "Building an Asia-Pacific Community and Writing a New Chapter of the Asia-Pacific Miracle" in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, 19 November 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Xi meets Trump, calling for continued efforts to steer China-US relations on right course

CHINESE President Xi Jinping met with US President Donald Trump on Thursday in Shenzhen, calling for continued efforts to jointly steer the giant ship of China-US relations in the right direction toward the future.

Trump is in the southern Chinese city for the 33rd Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting on 18-19 November. During the meeting, Xi said that China-US relations have generally maintained a stable and positive trajectory, bringing tangible benefits to people of both countries and injecting stability and certainty into the world.

Xi said that he and Trump had jointly explored the right way for China and the United States, as two major countries, to get along, established a new vision to build a constructive China-US relationship of strategic stability, and given it new substance grounded in respect, fairness and reciprocity. — Xinhua