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

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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YCCC hosts Asia-Pacific Cooperation Dialogue

THE Asia-Pacific Cooperation Dialogue, entitled "Me and China", was held at the Yangon China Cultural Centre on 27 November.

Mr Han Jiajun, Director of the Yangon China Cultural Centre, delivered an opening address. Participants who had visited China and those who had travelled there as scholars shared their experiences and impressions of the country.

Social media influencers also shared their perspectives on China, while participants raised questions and exchanged views on topics of interest.

The event was attended by Mr Han Jiajun, Director of the Yangon China Cultural Centre; Dr Zaw Tun Aung of the Department of Basic Education, Ministry of Education; U Yan Naing Tun, Vice-Chairman of the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central); Dr Tin Tun Oo, Chairman of the Myanmar Press Council (MPC); Mr Huang Guodong, representative of the Myanmar Office of the China Foundation for Peace and Development (CFPD); officials from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Myanmar; and presidents of the China-Myanmar Economic Cooperation and Development Promotion Association (CMECD), the Myanmar Writers' Association, the Myanmar Chinese Calligraphy and Painting Association, the Myanmar Chinese Women's Association, the Hwa Chong Alumni Association and the Myanmar-China Culture and Tourism Promotion Association, as well as other invitees. — TWA/MKKS



Ms San San Aye, a PhD student at the Central University for Ethnic Minorities in Beijing, shares her experiences.



President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing receives a warm welcome upon his arrival at Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi, Vietnam.

President Arrives in Vietnam for 11th ACMECS, 12th CLMV Summits

A high-level Myanmar delegation led by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing left Nay Pyi Taw Airport by special aircraft yesterday afternoon to attend the 11th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit and the 12th Cambodia-Lao PDR- Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Summit to be held in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The President and delegation members were seen off at the airport by Vice-President U Nyo Saw, Vice-President Nan Ni Ni Aye, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo, Union ministers, the commander of the Nay Pyi Taw Command, the Vietnamese Ambassador to Myanmar, the Defence Attaché and officials.

The President was accompanied by Union Ministers U Khin Maung Yi, U Tin Maung Swe, Dr Kan Zaw and U Min Naung, deputy ministers and officials.

Subsequently, the special aircraft carrying the high-level Myanmar delegation led by the President arrived at Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi at around 3:45 pm local standard time. The delegation was warmly welcomed at the airport by senior officials and personnel led by Ms Nguyen Thi Hoang Van, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam; Myanmar Ambassador to Viet Nam U Wai Lin and his wife; Myanmar Military Attaché (Army, Navy and Air) Brig-Gen Zaw Min and his wife; and officials and families of the Embassy and Military Attaché Office.

During the welcome ceremony, the Vietnamese Guard of Honour, in accordance with the protocol for welcoming heads of state, lined up on both sides of the red carpet, saluted President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing and accorded him a ceremonial welcome upon his arrival.

During the visit, President U Min Aung Hlaing will chair the 11th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit and attend the 12th Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Cooperation Summit. — MNA/TTA

Myanmar investment opportunities highlighted at Kunming seminar

A seminar on opportunities to enhance economic, trade and investment cooperation with Myanmar was held at the CRCC - Xipai International Centre in Kunming, Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China, on 24 November, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The seminar was jointly organized by the Consulate-General of Myanmar in Kunming, IDG International Development Group and the Malaysia-China Chamber of Commerce. Myanmar Consul-General in Kunming U Zeya Myo Myint delivered the opening remarks.

During the seminar, the Myanmar Consul-General highlighted investment opportunities in key sectors in Myanmar, including agriculture and food processing, textiles and Cut-Make-Pack (CMP) manufacturing, energy (natural gas, petroleum products, solar energy and hydropower), mining and mineral production, infrastructure and construction, industrial manufacturing, and tourism.

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This photo features a seminar on opportunities to enhance economic, trade, and investment cooperation with Myanmar underway in Kunming, China.

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Monghsat's MSY village project loans disbursed

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El Nino awareness talk held in Kyaikmaraw

NATIONAL

Announcement

UNDER the CBM's (Central Bank of Myanmar) supervision, foreign currencies have been sold to importers through authorized dealer (AD) banks via the FX Market Online Trading Platform to facilitate imports of essential commodities, including fuel, edible oil, fertilizers, and other goods.

In November 2026, US$492.3 million, 107.0 million Chinese yuan, 845.8 million Thai baht and 13.3 million Indian rupees were sold to the importers at Market Trading Rate K3,660.

Central Bank of Myanmar

Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Friday, 27 November 2026

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF 28 November 2026: Light rain is likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Region, and Kayah and (southern and eastern) Shan States. The degree of certainty is 60 per cent. Weather will be generally fair in Mandalay and Bago Regions and partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: The sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-6 feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of a slight decrease in night temperatures in Mandalay and Sagaing Regions, and Kayah, Chin, and Shan States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 November 2026: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 November 2026: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 November 2026: Generally fair weather.

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR THE WEEKEND: Weather will be partly cloudy in Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon Region and generally fair in Mandalay Region. — DMH

Daily newspapers available online

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

2025 Lifetime, National, and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards winners announced

THE National Literary Award Selection Committee of the Ministry of Information has announced the winners of the 2025 National Literary Awards for Lifetime Achievement and National Literary Awards. The 2025 National Literary Awards for Lifetime Achievement were presented to Sayagyi U Aung Thaung (Aung Naing-Tekkatho), Sayamagyi Daw Than Than (Shwe Thinzar), and Sayagyi U Chit Naing (Chit Naing-Psychology). These recipients are honoured for their exceptional lifelong contributions to the promotion and development of Myanmar literature.

For the National Literary Awards, 15 winners were selected from first-time published works in various categories including Short Story, Classic Poetry, Modern Poetry, Belle-Letter, Children's Literature, Youth's Literature, Translation (Knowledge), General Knowledge (Arts), General Knowledge (Ordinary Science), General Knowledge (Applied Science), Drama, Political Literature, English (Knowledge), English (Aesthetic) and Essay (Literary).

Each recipient of the National Literary Award for Lifetime Achievement will receive K10 million, while winners of the National Literary Awards will be granted K5 million each.

The committee, comprising 20 experts in literature, knowledge, arts, as well as the publishing industry, conducted a thorough evaluation process in three stages: preliminary, shortlist, and final confirmation.

Winners must contact the National Literary Award Selection Committee Secretary at Building 529-531, Merchant Street, Yangon, via 01 8240048, 01 8381449 or 067 3412203 as soon as possible. They are also required to submit two 5-inch-by-8-inch colour photographs, two passport-sized colour photographs, and a brief biography within one week of the announcement.

Similarly, the Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Award Selection Committee also announced the winners for the 2025 Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards.

First, second and third prize winners in 14 different categories, including Novel, Selected Short Stories, Poetry Collection, General Knowledge (Arts), General Knowledge (Ordinary Science), General Knowledge (Applied Science), Belle-Letter, Myanma Culture and Art Literary, Children's Literature, Youth's Literature, Drama, Translation (Knowledge), Translation (Aesthetic), English Language, and Essay.

Prize amounts will be K2 million for First Prize, K1.5 million for Second Prize and K1 million for Third Prize.

Committee, comprising 24 experts in literature, knowledge, arts, as well as the publishing industry, conducted a thorough evaluation process for a total of 260 manuscripts in three stages: preliminary, shortlist, and final confirmation.

Winners must contact the National Literary Award Selection Committee Secretary at Building 529-531, Merchant Street, Yangon, via 01 8240048 or 01 8381449 as soon as possible. They are also required to submit two 5-inch-by-8-inch colour photographs, two passport-sized colour photographs, and a brief biography within one week of the announcement.

The Lifetime, National, and Sarpay Beikman Manuscript Awards will all be presented at a grand ceremony, and the date, time and venue of the ceremony will be announced later. — MNA/KTZH

NDCG pays K4.5B in taxes to State in 23 years

NATIONAL Development Company Group PCL (NDCG) chairman U Shwe Kyaing said that it has paid K4.5 billion in taxes to the State over the past 23 years, up to the financial year (2025-2026), while operating as a public sector group.

He made the above statement at the 28th Annual General Meeting held at the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation Meeting Hall on Thanthuma Road, Thingangyun Township, Yangon on the morning of 27 November.



The 28th Annual General Meeting of the Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Federation is underway in Yangon.

The meeting read out and approved the report of the Board of Directors, the financial statements and the audit report, continued the appointment of the audit team, elected and approved the new board of directors, and held discussions with shareholders.

The shareholders of National Development Company Group include people from various classes such as construction entrepreneurs, industrialists, merchants, military personnel, civil servants, company employees, retirees, doctors, engineers, lawyers, and students. In 1998, the Insein Ywama Steel Mill was transferred to the private sector under the government's privatization programme for government-owned factories and workshops, and a private consortium was formed with shareholders, most of whom were construction entrepreneurs. In May 2002, the Ywama Steel Mill was transferred back to the State due to the needs of the State, so the existing consortium was converted into a public company to prevent it from collapsing, and it continues to operate by inviting shares from the public. — Bala/MKKS

NATIONAL

Coord meeting held on rehab and reconstruction work in Chin State

THE coordination meeting on rehabilitation and reconstruction work in Chin State was held yesterday morning at Taung Zalap housing's meeting hall.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han emphasized that some local houses and returnees in Falam township were damaged by the violence, and the National Disaster Management Fund had been used to support the rehabilitation and reconstruction works. Altogether 201 were fully completed out of the 208 buildings damaged by the violence; the remaining seven projects needed to be supervised promptly and in accordance with the quality standards. A total of six solar installation projects, all of which were fully completed, were being used effectively in office operations.

Additionally, the deputy minister instructed relevant departments to coordinate and fill vacant staff positions in the respective departments to ensure that their work could continue normally.

Next, State Minister Colonel Khin Maung Htwe and officials explained the work activities in the relevant sectors, and the deputy minister coordinated the necessary actions.

In the afternoon, he visited the No 3 Basic Education High School, which was heavily damaged by the terrorist attacks, to inspect the damage and to ensure that the salvaged materials are stored systematically to prevent waste.

The Ministry has approved the large-scale renovation starting from December 2026 with additional funds. Once the work begins, the deputy minister urged the relevant teams to cooperate in ensuring the quality of work and workplace safety.

After that, the deputy minister and his team inspected the office operations and the installation of solar panels at the Myanma Economic Bank, warmly encouraged the people who came to collect the retirement salaries, and inspected the renovation of the RC four-room, two-floor of the District Education Office and coordinated to complete the work as soon as possible. — District IPRD/MKKS



Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han and officials inspect rehabilitation efforts in Chin State.

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War veterans to serve as Tatmadaw's reserve force

AS WVO members serve as reserve forces of the Tatmadaw and maintain close contact with the public in implementing the people's militia strategy, they were urged to strive to become a strong bridge between the people and the Tatmadaw, said Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo, Patron of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization, at the MWVO Conference 2026 at its headquarters in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday morning.



The Myanmar War Veterans Organization Conference 2026 is underway, attended by Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Ye Win Oo.

In his speech, the General stated that MWVO was established with regional- and state-level war veterans' organizations and township-level war veterans' organizations in accordance with its objectives, which are "to participate in activities of non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty as well as equal social and economic development of ethnic nationalities; to responsibly serve as a reserve force of the Tatmadaw in national defence and security activities; to provide mutual assistance among war veterans through solidarity; and to collectively participate in activities that serve the interests of the State".

He recounted that Tatmadaw members had joined the armed forces since the Burma Independence Army (BIA) era, driven by patriotism and the selfless desire to regain independence for the country. He noted that during periods when the Tatmadaw had to reorganize and restructure its forces, they had obeyed orders and conducted themselves as good soldiers should. He also highlighted their exemplary record of returning to serve in the Tatmadaw whenever the country called upon them to resume military service, regardless of rank or position. He said that this demonstrated the spirit of the saying, "Once a soldier, always a soldier."

He underlined that the executive committees at various levels were implementing activities in the fields of national politics, national defence and security, economic affairs, social affairs and welfare, and public service under the supervision of the Central Executive Committee, and that these efforts had achieved success. He therefore urged them to continue their efforts to sustain the positive momentum already achieved.

He stressed that as veteran association members serve as reserve forces of the Tatmadaw and maintain close contact with the public in implementing the people's militia strategy, they were urged to strive to become a strong bridge between the people and the Tatmadaw.

The General noted that the organization is actively participating as a member of the ASEAN War Veterans Associations. Its activities extend beyond veterans' affairs to areas related to ASEAN's security, disaster relief, social affairs and economic community. Therefore, the organization should seek to enhance Myanmar's image and standing among regional and international communities through the ASEAN War Veterans Associations, thereby contributing to the Government's efforts in maintaining international relations.

The General underscored that veteran housing is being constructed for retired officers and other ranks, with furniture provided to ensure that they can move in and live comfortably. Under the Tatmadaw's annual programme to honour outstanding matriculation examination students, children of veteran families are also presented with awards in recognition of their academic achievements. He urged the MWVO members to remain ever faithful to and uphold the oath of allegiance taken by Tatmadaw personnel.

Chairman of the Myanmar War Veterans Organization (MWVO) Central Executive Committee, General Khin Aung Myint (Retd), presented cash assistance to war veterans with disabilities, MWVO members aged 75 and above, and university scholarship award recipients for the 2026-2027 academic year.

The Defence Services Commander-in-Chief cordially greeted war veterans who attended the ceremony.

Also present at the conference were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Kyaw Swa Lin, Union ministers, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the commander of the Nay Pyi Taw Command, chairs from region and state war veterans supervisory committees and representatives, and guests. — MNA/TTA

Myanmar investment opportunities highlighted at Kunming seminar

FROM PAGE 1

Furthermore, Minister-Counsellor Daw Ohnmar Oo and Commercial Attaché Daw Khin Mya Mya Htwe of the Consulate-General of Myanmar outlined Myanmar's trade policies, investment laws, tax exemptions and priority investment sectors.

Representatives of Chinese companies and business organizations attended the seminar and exchanged views on ways to further promote economic and investment cooperation between Myanmar and China and strengthen direct business-to-business (B2B) ties between entrepreneurs of the two countries. — ASH/TH

NATIONAL

People's Military Service Training 28 concludes

EVERY citizen holds a fundamental duty to uphold the "Our Three Main National Causes": the non-disintegration of the Union, the non-disintegration of national solidarity, and the perpetuation of sovereignty. In fulfilment of these responsibilities, young people who enthusiastically registered have been undergoing training, and the graduation ceremonies for People's Military Service Training 28 were held yesterday at various training depots across the respective military commands.



The graduation parade of the People's Military Service Training Course 28 in progress.

The ceremonies followed the training graduation schedule, with the graduates taking an oath while holding the national flag. The officials awarded the outstanding trainees.

After the ceremonies, the region and state chiefs ministers, commanders and relevant officials cordially greeted the graduates.

During the training, trainees were provided with systematic instruction in physical fitness, military drill, combat tactics, and general subjects. They have completed their training and are now undertaking their roles in national defence and security.

In the evening, dinner was hosted at each training depot in honour of the graduates of the People's Military Service Training 28. — MNA/KTZH

Mongyang's production road construction inspected

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection yesterday to oversee the construction of a production road in Wamtaung Village, Mongyang Township, a project being implemented by the Department of Rural Development (under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development) using originally approved funds for the 2026-2027 financial year.

District Head U Yan Kyaw of the Mongyang District Department of Rural Development, Township Head U Thet Lin Tun of the Department of Rural Development in Mongyang Township, along with district and township engineers and company representatives, inspected the construction progress of a farm-to-market road in Wamtaung Village. The road, which spans one mile long and 12 feet wide, is being constructed with a nine-inch layer of compacted earth topped by a nine-inch layer of gravel. During the inspection, District Head U Yan Kyaw met company representatives. It emphasized the importance of completing the work on time within the designated financial year and in strict line with established technical standards. Construction of the agricultural access road began in the first week of July by Shwe Pan Kwe Company, the successful bidder, using an initially approved budget of K70.290 million for the 2026-2027 financial year. According to U Yan Kyaw, District Head of the Mongyang District Department of Rural Development, the project is currently 60 per cent complete. Once the road is fully finished, farmers from Wamtawng village will be able to transport their agricultural produce to the market at a lower cost. – Aung Ye Kyaw(DRD)



Officials oversee the production road construction project in Mongyang Township.

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.

DIPLOMACY



Deputy Minister U Myo Aung receives Japan's Chargé d' Affaires ad interim Mr Yoshitake Shogo.

Myanmar, Japan Streamline Procedures for Safe, Legal Worker Entry

DEPUTY Minister for Labour U Myo Aung received Mr Yoshitake Shogo, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Embassy of Japan in Myanmar, at the Deputy Minister's guest room yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, the Deputy Minister emphasized the Ministry has signed two MoUs for Myanmar workers and now appreciates the signing of another employment programme for skills development; the Ministry of Labour implements the easing procedures as much as possible to ensure safe and legal entry to Japan for Myanmar workers and has to cooperate in necessary sectors to ensure that Myanmar workers in Japan enjoy full rights, Myanmar nationals in Japan can send their family remittances through legal channels and resolve any other difficulties as much as possible.

In addition, they discussed in an open and frank manner the protection of the rights of Myanmar workers in Japan, the reduction of illegal workers, the signing of a recruitment programme for skills development, and the provision of support training for workers. — MNA/MKKS

Effective utilization of E-Market Place platform essential for digital economy

DR Charlie Than, Union Minister for Industry and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development, stated that the "E-Market Place for Myanmar Products" platform must be utilized effectively to enhance the quality of MSME products, expand markets, and transition to a digital economic system.

The Union minister made these remarks on 26 November at a coordination meeting held at Office 30 in Nay Pyi Taw. The meeting aimed to ensure the rapid implementation of the duties of the MSME Working Committee and to strengthen coordination among the three subcommittees for the more effective and widespread execution of MSME development activities.

Similarly, he noted that system upgrades must be carried out to allow MSME entrepreneurs to participate and use the platform more smoothly and conveniently. He added that the MSME registration process — which operates by size and category — plays a crucial role, ensuring that domestic MSMEs receive equal access to state support and assistance for their growth.



The MSME Working Committee meeting in progress.

The Union minister also emphasized that since numerous businesses remain scattered across the country, efforts must be made to register the remaining MSMEs. — Htun Htun/ZN

NATIONAL

28 PDF members rejoin society in Bago Region

A total of 28 more members of the People's Defence Force (PDF), comprising 26 men and two women, have returned to the legal fold with arms and ammunition, following the State Government's invitation to individuals involved in armed resistance groups operating under various names, including the PDF, to return to the legal fold. The government has been providing necessary assistance and support to those who respond to the invitation.





Photos feature the handover ceremony of returnees and arms and munitions they brought with them.

A ceremony to hand over the returnees to their parents and guardians was held this morning at Aye Chan Phyo Hall of the Southern Command Headquarters. It was attended by Southern Command Commander Maj-Gen Soe Kyaw Htet and officials, regional government ministers, officers, other ranks, departmental officials, the returnees, and their parents and guardians.

The Southern Command Commander first delivered an address. Subsequently, the 28 returnees from Bago Region, comprising three men from Nyaunglebin Township, 13 men and two women from Okpo Township, one man from Toungoo Township, one man from Pyu Township, four men from Yedashe Township, one man from Paungde Township and three men from Htantabin Township, handed over the arms and ammunition they had brought with them.

The weapons and ammunition included one AK-47 rifle, one M4 rifle, one MA-2 rifle, one MA-11 rifle, two handmade guns, five hand grenades, 13 magazines, 230 rounds of assorted ammunition and one directional mine. The items were received by the Southern Command commander and officials.

The commander and officials subsequently presented cash rewards and gifts to the returnees. The rewards included K20 million for the four assault rifles, K1 million for the two handmade guns, K1.5 million for the five hand grenades, K300,000 for the directional mine and K2.8 million for the 28 returnees.

A representative of the returnees expressed gratitude on their behalf. The individuals then signed pledge agreements before being handed over to their respective parents and guardians. The Commander and officials also warmly greeted the returnees and their family members.

According to reports, the returnees had been forcibly recruited into the PDF through coercion involving their family members and relatives. They decided to abandon the armed struggle and return to the legal fold because they could no longer accept carrying out terrorist acts for the benefit of armed groups. They had also experienced internal bullying, torture, killings and other abuses within the groups, as well as poor living conditions and hardships. Their morale had further deteriorated as they could no longer withstand the Tatmadaw's military offensives.

Moreover, they said they believed in and accepted the peace processes pursued by the State and the Tatmadaw and wished to resume peaceful lives within the legal fold. They also wanted to make amends by serving the State and the public, who had suffered losses and damage as a result of their previous involvement.

While those returning to the legal fold are being welcomed, provided with necessary assistance and systematically handed over to their parents and guardians, reports indicate that others are also wishing to follow suit.

Individuals who wish to return to the legal fold are urged to promptly contact and report to the nearest district or township administrative offices, military camps or police stations. They will be welcomed, provided with necessary assistance and granted cash rewards commensurate with the arms and ammunition they bring with them. — 100/ST

Mongyang inspects RBF-funded 30-tonne rice mills



Officials inspect a 30-tonne-capacity rice mill in Mongyang Township.

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted field inspections in Yankham and Kokkoh villages, Mongyang Township, Shan State (East), yesterday to assess the operation of 30-tonne-capacity rice mills established under the Rural Business Fund (RBF) Project.

Mongyang District Department of Rural Development Head U Sai Soe Soe, Township Head Daw Aye Moe Khine and officials inspected the construction of the rice mills and the milling process, including the processing of paddy into finished rice. They also met village elders and development committee members to discuss expanding group-based income-generating activities to create more livelihood opportunities and increase household incomes.

The rice mill were established with a loan of K60 million provided under the RBF Project, together with capital contributions from Tawwin Mongyang Cooperative Society. The Mongyang Township Department of Rural Development is implementing the RBF Project in Yankham and Kokkoh villages to provide necessary capital for local farmers, livestock breeders and small and medium-sized enterprises operators, while encouraging rural residents to undertake livelihood activities through a group-based system, according to the department. — Maung Khaing (Rural)

Taunggyi holds El Niño awareness session

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted an awareness campaign in Naungcho Village, Taunggyi Township, Shan State, yesterday to inform the public about the potential reduction of water resources due to the El Niño weather phenomenon and the proper use of drinking water.

Taunggyi District Department of Rural Development Head U Nyunt Win met village elders and residents to highlight that the El Niño weather phenomenon could lead to higher temperatures and a decline in available water resources. He urged rural residents to use water systematically without wastage, protect and conserve existing water sources, store drinking water in advance in preparation for possible shortages, keep water storage tanks clean and use only the amount of water necessary.



An El Niño awareness campaign is underway in Taunggyi Township.

Following the discussion, officials distributed educational pamphlets detailing the possible impacts of the El Niño weather phenomenon, necessary preparedness measures and appropriate responses in the event of water shortages, with district- and township-level departmental officials together with local residents from Naungcho Village attending the session, according to the department. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

NATIONAL

ASEAN S-G congratulates MSWRR Union Minister on appointment

ACCORDING to a statement released by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Kao Kim Hourn extended his congratulations to Dr Ko Ko Lwin on his appointment as Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.



ASEAN Secretary-General and Union Minister Dr Ko Ko Lwin meet in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 25 November 2026.

The remarks were made during a bilateral meeting held on 25 November, on the sidelines of the 14th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) and the 15th Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER), currently taking place in Jakarta, Indonesia.

During the meeting, the Secretary-General and Ministers exchanged views on further strengthening regional disaster management and humanitarian assistance efforts.

Furthermore, they discussed and reviewed future courses of action to enhance disaster resilience, as well as the sector's supportive role in implementing the ASEAN Community Vision 2045 and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Strategic Plan.

In particular, discussions focused on fostering more effective cooperation in the fields of disaster management and humanitarian assistance. — Htun Htun/ZN

Monghsat'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 Asawpawmoe Village, Monghsat Township, yesterday.


A village representative receives the MSY village project loan in Monghsat Township.

Monghsat District Department of Rural Development Head U Sai Aung Myo Htet explained that the revolving funds were provided under the MSY Village Project with the objectives of helping rural households expand their income-generating activities and enabling the village to implement community development projects using the revolving funds as they grow.

Monghsat Township Department of Rural Development Head U Sai Soe Htay then explained the project details, interest rates, repayment periods, and rules and regulations that borrowers must follow, after which the district head handed over K30 million in revolving funds to members of the village MSY project committee.

Asawpawmoe Village is implementing family income-generating activities using K30 million from the MSY Village Project. Under the supervision of the Monghsat District Department of Rural Development, the third round of revolving loans at low interest rates was disbursed by the village project committee to 23 members from the village, comprising 11 engaged in agricultural activities, seven in livestock breeding, four in trading and one in manufacturing, according to the department. — Sein Lwin (Rural)

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 27 November 2026

	US$	CHINESE yuan	THAI baht	INDIAN rupee
Exchange rates	3,650.00~3,671.00	557.00~558.70	125.30~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	19,497,029.96	10,682,128.30	6,387,733.18	

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Kayan's concrete road construction work inspected

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the progress of an ongoing concrete road construction project in Palu Village, Kayan Township, implemented under the 2026-2027 financial year programme to improve transport and accessibility for rural residents.


Officials oversee an ongoing concrete road construction project in Kayan Township.

Thanlyin District Department of Rural Development Head Daw Aye Aye Kyu, together with engineering staff, inspected the ongoing construction of a village concrete road measuring 860 feet long, 12 feet wide and seven inches thick. She also met village elders and residents, urging them to ensure the road is completed on schedule and in line with prescribed standards for quality and long-term durability, while coordinating with relevant personnel to address needs raised by villagers.

The concrete road construction project is being implemented with K140 million from the Yangon Region budget. Work commenced in the third week of October and is being carried out jointly by local villagers under the close supervision and technical guidance of staff from the Township Department of Rural Development, with approximately 50 per cent of the overall work now completed, according to the department. — Poe Thakhin (Rural)

Fire Erupts at Garment Factory in Hlinethaya

A fire broke out at a garment factory inside Shwe Than Lwin Industrial Zone in Hlinethaya (East) Township, Yangon Region, on the morning of 27 November, according to the Myanmar Fire Services Department.

Level 1 and Level 2 fire trucks from the township fire station were sent to the scene, and the fire went out about an hour and a half later.

The cause of the fire and extent of damage are being investigated by authorities. — TWA/ZS


Firefighters are struggling to extinguish the fire at a garment factory in Shwe Than Lwin Industrial Zone.

NATIONAL

Completed concrete paving work inspected in Thanbyuzayat



Officials inspect the completed concrete paving work in Thanbyuzayat Township.

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection yesterday of the completion status of the concrete paving work on the road leading up to Sandawtaung Pagoda, carried out with state funds in the 2026-2027 financial year by the Department of Rural Development of Thanbyuzayat Township, Mon State.

U Myint Naing Oo, Head of the Mawlamyine District Department of Rural Development; Daw Su Thanda Lin, Head of the Thanbyuzayat Township Department of Rural Development, and staff, together with officials from the tender-winning company, inspected the progress of the concrete paving work on the road leading up to Sandawtaung Pagoda. The district head gave necessary instructions.

The concrete road leading up to Sandawtaung Pagoda in Thanbyuzayat Township is 1,320 feet long, 12 feet wide, and six inches high. The concrete paving work was undertaken by SSS Company with state funds of K124.5 million, with implementation on 15 September, and is now 100 per cent complete.

After it was fully completed, villagers from nearby villages and pilgrims from various regions are now able to use it beneficially, according to Daw Su Thanda Lin, Township Head of the Thanbyuzayat Township Department of Rural Development. — Cho Lay (Rural)

Myanmar, Thailand Monitor Shared Waterways

WATER quality in rivers and streams along the Myanmar-Thailand border and those shared by the two countries is being regularly monitored and analyzed on a monthly basis, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.

Monthly water quality monitoring and analysis have been conducted since July in the Namkok River, the Mekong River, Mae Sai Creek, Mae Hok Creek, Mae Hawk Creek and Mae Khong Creek, which are boundary and transboundary waterways between the two countries.

In addition, it was reported that no joint-venture mining concession blocks for gold, tin, tungsten or rare earth minerals are operating in cooperation with No 2 Mining Enterprise in the area between Monghsat and Tachilek.



This photo features a view of the Mekong River, a transboundary river flowing between Myanmar and Thailand.

During the President's visit to Thailand on 6 August, Myanmar and Thailand signed the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Joint Working Group on Water Quality Management of Boundary and Transboundary Rivers. Both countries will coordinate and cooperate in carrying out the activities outlined in the ToR. — ASH/TH

Yaksawk introduces MSY project, forms village committee

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held an introductory meeting on the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project, to be implemented in the 2026-2027 financial year, and formed a village project committee in TatU (Tatpae) Village, Yaksawk Township, Shan State (South), yesterday.

Yaksawk Township Department of Rural Development Head U Ye Min Aung introduced the Mya Sein Yaung project and explained its objectives, interest rates and loan repayment periods. Project officials and staff then briefed participants on the rules and regulations governing the formation of the village committee, as well as the responsibilities and procedures to be undertaken by the village, after which seven members of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Committee were elected through a voting process based on the collective decision of village elders and residents attending the meeting.



A group photo session of the MSY orientation and committee formation ceremony in Yaksawk Township.

The Yaksawk Township Department of Rural Development will implement the project in the village with a revolving fund of K30 million, aiming to create employment opportunities, increase household incomes, encourage the expansion of systematic small-scale farming and livestock breeding activities, and provide rural residents with access to the capital needed to develop their livelihoods, according to the department. — Karan (Rural)

El Nino awareness talk held in Kyaikmaraw

THE Kyaikmaraw Township Department of Rural Development, Mon State, conducted an awareness-raising session on preventing drinking water shortages caused by El Niño weather conditions and promoting the systematic use of drinking water at the Basic Education Middle School (Branch) in Thinganchaung Village yesterday.

During the awareness session, U Thein Soe, Head of the Department of Rural Development in Kyaikmaraw Township, explained in detail the possible climate changes and impacts associated with the El Niño phenomenon, potential risks, necessary preparedness measures and appropriate response measures to be taken if such conditions occur. He also explained that El Niño conditions could lead to rising temperatures and declining water resources. Therefore, rural residents were urged to use water systematically without wastage, store sufficient drinking water in advance, keep water storage tanks clean and properly maintained, and use water only as needed to prevent possible water shortages.

Following the awareness talk, informational pamphlets were distributed to local communities to raise awareness of preparedness and preventive measures against possible drinking water shortages, according to the Township Department of Rural Development. — Thanda (DRD)



An El Nino awareness talk in progress in Kyaikmaraw Township yesterday.

OPINION

Harnessing natural resources to boost production

Other countries have already successfully developed livestock farming to support domestic food supplies. Myanmar must therefore make every effort to promote agriculture and livestock farming to achieve a balance between production and consumption. Animal feed should be produced using locally available agricultural by-products, such as broken rice, rice bran, maize and oilseed cakes, to support livestock farming and ensure the success of these enterprises.

If Myanmar can increase the production of livestock products that contribute to domestic food supplies and reduce production costs, commodity prices will decline. To help bring down commodity prices, the government is operating freight trains to provide cost-effective transportation services.

> If Myanmar systematically utilizes its existing land and water resources for agriculture and livestock breeding, agricultural and livestock production can be significantly increased, which will greatly contribute to reducing commodity prices. The key requirement is for everyone to work diligently, and the government is creating the necessary conditions and opportunities for people to engage in productive work.

At present, the problem facing the public is the high cost of commodities. Throughout history, it has been observed that any country may experience shortages of goods and rising commodity prices when production and consumption are imbalanced. High production costs can also lead to higher commodity prices. Goods can only be made available through production, and without goods, there can be no products for sale.

Myanmar has a total urban population of approximately 15 million, requiring around 15 million eggs for daily consumption. To meet this demand, approximately 20 million laying hens would be needed at an 80 per cent laying rate, 22 million at a 70 per cent laying rate, or 25 million at a 60 per cent laying rate. Using this example, effective livestock farming must be promoted in each region to help reduce high commodity prices.

The State is taking measures to increase domestic production to reduce domestic commodity prices. To promote growth in domestic production, local entrepreneurs must invest in agricultural and livestock production. The government needs to establish policies, laws and regulations, while entrepreneurs must contribute capital to create jobs and boost production. During the President's overseas visits, efforts were made to attract foreign investment to Myanmar. Some major countries have already come to discuss investment opportunities with the government and are proceeding with their plans.

The government approved 68 investment projects in 2026, creating 23,113 job opportunities. The country has ample agricultural land as well as abundant water resources. However, much of the agricultural land and available water resources remain underutilized.

If Myanmar systematically utilizes its existing land and water resources for agriculture and livestock breeding, agricultural and livestock production can be significantly increased, which will greatly contribute to reducing commodity prices. The key requirement is for everyone to work diligently, and the government is creating the necessary conditions and opportunities for people to engage in productive work.

ARTICLE

Applied Linguistics: Bridging linguistic theory and Real-world Practice

By Maung Maung Aye

Applied Linguistics is an interdisciplinary field of study that uses knowledge from linguistics and other related disciplines to identify, investigate and solve real-world language-related problems. It covers a wide range of areas, including language teaching and learning, language assessment, translation, communication, language policy and planning, and language disorders. Rather than being understood as a fixed collection of separate subfields, Applied Linguistics is better understood through different orientations, levels of investigation and areas of practical concern. Its fundamental nature can also be explained through the statement that "Applied Linguistics is a go-between, not a master, a servant and not an enforcer." This statement highlights its role as a mediator between linguistic theories and practical needs.

One of the most important distinctions in understanding the field is the difference between linguistics applied and applied linguistics. Although the two expressions appear similar, they represent different approaches to language-related problems. Linguistics applied begins with an established linguistic theory and attempts to apply it to a particular situation, often to test or validate the theory. In this approach, real-world problems become a testing ground for linguistic knowledge. For example, a researcher may apply a particular grammatical theory to examine whether it can explain the sentence structures used by second language learners. The main concern is to determine the usefulness or validity of the theory.

In contrast, Applied Linguistics begins with an actual problem in the real world and draws on linguistic knowledge and other disciplines to find appropriate solutions. Theory is regarded as a means of understanding and addressing problems rather than an end in itself. For instance, when learners experience difficulties in acquiring English, Applied Linguistics investigates the causes by considering linguistic, psychological, social and educational factors. It then recommends suitable teaching methods and learning strategies. Language policy and planning also belong to this problem-driven orientation because issues such as choosing an official language, promoting multilingual education and protecting minority languages cannot be resolved through descriptive linguistics alone. They require knowledge from sociology, politics, education and other relevant fields.

Another important distinction concerns the scope of problems investigated, which can be divided into micro-level and macro-level approaches. Micro-level approaches focus on language use and interaction in particular situations. They examine how individuals communicate, understand one another and use language in everyday contexts. For example, conversation analysis may investigate the interaction between a teacher and students during a classroom discussion or between a doctor and a patient during a medical consultation. These approaches also emphasize learner agency and the ways individuals actively participate in communication.



On the other hand, macro-level approaches examine the broader social, cultural and institutional structures that influence language use and learning. They are concerned with how power relationships, educational systems, social inequalities and language policies affect individuals and communities. For example, a researcher may investigate how a country's language policy influences students' access to education or creates advantages for speakers of certain languages. However, micro-level and macro-level approaches are not always completely separate. Some studies connect both perspectives. Ethnographic research on language policy, for instance, examines how official language policies are interpreted and implemented in everyday classroom practices and local communities.

Within the problem-driven orientation, Applied Linguistics covers several major areas of practical concern. Language education and learning form the historical core of the discipline. This area includes second language acquisition, language pedagogy, curriculum development, teaching materials and teacher education. It investigates how languages are learned and how effective teaching practices can be developed to improve learners' communicative competence.

Another important area is language, work and law, which includes forensic linguistics, workplace communication and language planning. Forensic linguistics applies linguistic knowledge to legal matters, such as examining written documents, analysing courtroom discourse and investigating authorship. Workplace communication focuses on the use of language in professional environments, while language planning addresses decisions concerning the status, use and development of languages in society.

Language and society are another major area, covering sociolinguistics, bilingualism and multilingualism. It examines the relationship between language and social factors such as culture, identity, age, gender and social class. Clinical linguistics, meanwhile, deals with speech and language disorders and contributes to the assessment and treatment of individuals experiencing communication difficulties. Language assessment focuses on language testing and measurement, including the development of reliable and valid examinations to evaluate learners' language abilities. Translation and interpreting involve transferring meaning between different languages and cultures, while discourse and stylistics examine how language is organized and used in spoken, written and literary contexts. Critical discourse analysis, for example, investigates how language reflects social power and ideology.

The statement that Applied Linguistics is a go-between, not a master, a servant and not an enforcer further explains its relationship with other disciplines and practical situations. It is a go-between because it acts as a bridge between linguistic knowledge and real-life problems. It draws on linguistics, psychology, sociology, anthropology and education to develop a comprehensive understanding of language-related issues. It is not a master because it does not dominate other disciplines or regard linguistic theories as the only source of knowledge. Instead, it cooperates with different fields and considers the particular circumstances of each problem. It is a servant because its primary purpose is to serve human needs by improving language teaching, communication, translation, assessment and language policy. However, it is not an enforcer because it does not impose a particular theory, method or solution on teachers, learners or institutions. Rather, it offers evidence-based recommendations and allows decisions to be made according to specific needs and contexts.

SEE PAGE 11

Teachers' Emotions Can Make or Break Student Learning

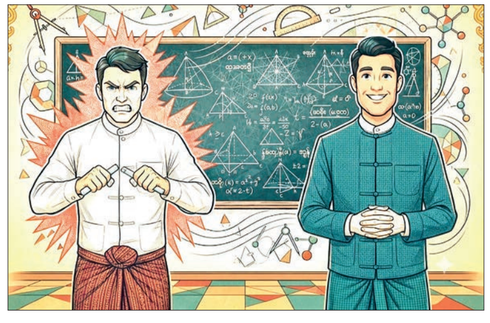
By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

Figuratively speaking, emotions look like rippling water waves very often. Usually, they come and go in the mind of a person, especially very quickly. Emotions can be gentle in the sense of a person like a light breeze but sometimes like a violent storm. Just because of this, emotional control has become the key element almost everywhere, especially for lifelong success. Nowadays, the lives of most famous persons have gone to the dogs through lack of emotional management. As one out of human beings, teachers had better have emotional control over themselves, seniors, colleagues, parents, children, school subjects and the school environment. In the main, teachers must maintain emotional management of their students for the simple reason that their emotions can make or break student learning quite easily.

Emotion is a strong mental activity or feeling of which people may lose control, and then it can explode outside like a nuclear bomb. There should be found two main types of emotion: positive and negative. Love, happiness and rapture are included in the types of positive emotion, while hatred, sorrow and fear are involved in the types of negative emotion. In actual fact, any emotion will be no good thing when we feel the emotion more than we should; for instance, exam nerves or test anxiety may be a driving force for a student's academic achievement, but on the other hand, this emotion may make the student do badly in the exam.

Most teachers tend to have such positive emotions as love, good nature, goodwill, optimism and even test anxiety about their students. Some teachers love young children, so they agree to become nursery or primary assistant teachers. But some teachers like to love adolescent students, so they teach in junior or senior assistant teacher roles. However, many teachers are much given to loving their students as if they were their own sons and daughters. Like biological children, teachers look after their students as though they were their very parents and can put up with their misbehaviour as often as possible. In this way, schoolchildren feel the parental warmth of their teachers and get to know that the school learning environment is as safe as in their homes. Strangely enough, test anxiety is a very common emotion among teachers, like students. Nevertheless, the test anxiety of teachers is not the same as that of students at all. The majority of teachers wish their students to do well in the exam, actually. It is feared that the students may not have passed the exam with flying colours or may have failed the exam like a bull in a china shop. Not only that, but also for them, waiting for exam results is a time of great anxiety. Hence, they almost always draw the unit plan and lesson plan carefully, teach their students hard, prepare sample questions and sometimes even show their suggested potential questions or frequently asked questions so that these tasks will do some good in exams. In such a way, teachers' emotions often lead to positivity that can enhance student learning.

On the other hand, teachers have negative emotions like anger, impatience, doubt, fear and stress. Sometimes students behave badly towards teachers, whether they recognize it or not. Students go to school, not having studied or done any homework, even though teachers give it to them for certain. They can chat in class without being allowed to do so. Sometimes, they even talk back to their teachers. Such students' misbehaviour mostly contributes to teachers' anger. It would be worse if a teacher cannot put up with it. This anger will be the greatest obstacle to student learning in the future. And some teachers themselves are impatient with a teaching career or teaching certain school subjects. That may be why this career is not their passion, or these school subjects are not their specialized majors at university. Not only that, some teachers are under the illusion that students will be unable to conduct a number of school studies, such as solving mathematical problems or performing laboratory experiments in science. Similarly, teachers fear to give students more worthy marks than average in checking subjective questions. Worst of all, teachers are possibly overly anxious about student achievement in examinations, and they do teach for several hours on end just in one period of instruction without considering their teaching pace and student learning rate. At that time, teachers' emotions cause the negativity that steadily worsens student learning.



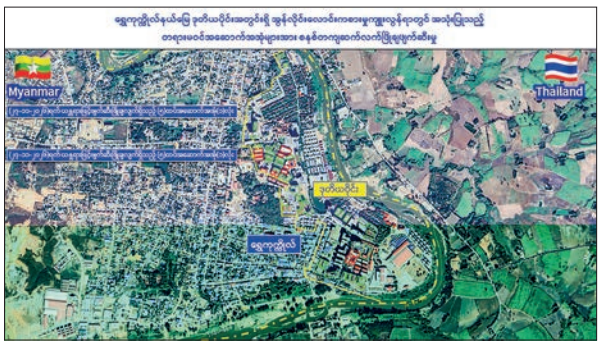
Of course, teachers should have had physical readiness, mental readiness and emotional readiness even before class. In my teaching experience, some married teachers occasionally bring their personal cases or domestic affairs to the classroom. This manner can have a bad influence on the teaching-learning process. In such a time, teachers tend to lavish their temper upon students as if it were all their fault. Thus, emotional control as well as financial management becomes one of the most essential skills for a person's life improvement today. Above all, teachers' emotions can make or break student learning for sure.

■

NATIONAL

Shwe Kokko Phase II continues demolition of online scam hubs

THE Government is placing particular emphasis on working with neighbouring and regional countries to crack down on online scams and online gambling, which threaten global socioeconomic affairs and national security, intending to eliminate these activities completely and permanently. In the Shwe Kokko area, where online scam and gambling operations were conducted on a large scale, illegal buildings are being systematically and permanently demolished to prevent such activities from resuming in these buildings.



Map shows systematic dismantling of scam-linked buildings in the Shwe Kokko Phase II area.

As part of these efforts, one five-storey building among the remaining illegal buildings in Phase II of the Shwe Kokko area, which had been used for online scam and gambling operations and was being demolished using machinery, was demolished yesterday, reaching 90 per cent completion. The demolition of another five-storey building reached 60 per cent completion as of yesterday.

A total of 63 remaining buildings in Phase II, which were used for online scam and gambling activities, have been classified according to their demolition methods: buildings to be demolished using machinery, buildings to be demolished through controlled explosions, and buildings located close to residential homes that must be dismantled floor by floor using manual labour. Of these, 13 buildings have already been systematically demolished, comprising four buildings demolished through explosions and nine using machinery. The remaining 50 illegal buildings will also be systematically demolished.

The Government is working with neighbouring and regional countries to completely eradicate online scams and gambling, which pose threats to global socioeconomic development and national security. — 100/KTZH

26 Thai arrested in Tachilek online scam crackdown

A total of 35 people, including 26 Thai nationals staying illegally in Myanmar, were arrested along with computers and other equipment during an operation against online scam and gambling activities in Wamkao Ward, Tachilek, eastern Shan State, at around 6:30 am yesterday.


Images reveal detained telecom frausters, including undocumented Thai nationals, alongside seized scam-related materials.

The arrests were made by a combined team including security personnel during a security operation in Wamkao Ward. At a house on Kankaw Street, No Waka-9/506, the team arrested 13 Thai men and 13 Thai women and seized 32 all-in-one computers and two system units allegedly used for online scam and gambling activities.

Further searches at a nearby house led to the arrest of nine Myanmar nationals, comprising eight men and one woman, along with 11 all-in-one computers allegedly used for online scams.

According to preliminary interrogations, the Thai nationals had illegally entered Myanmar to work in computer-related technical positions for an online scamming platform and were arrested while staying at the location.

The Myanmar nationals reportedly came to Tachilek after making contact through an acquaintance online for employment opportunities. They began engaging in online financial scams on 20 November.

They allegedly searched social media platforms for male targets and posed as women to establish romantic relationships with them. After gaining their trust, they engaged the targets in inappropriate conversations and persuaded them to send intimate photos and videos.

They then allegedly used the conversations, photographs and videos to blackmail the victims and demand money. When a victim agreed to make a payment, the individuals informed their leader, who provided a QR code for receiving the money to be sent to the victim.

The suspects reportedly received no fixed basic salary but were paid 18 per cent of the money obtained through the scams.

The authorities stated that the arrested individuals would face effective legal action under existing laws after the necessary investigations are completed. The seized equipment will also be handled in accordance with established procedures.

The government has been coordinating with domestic forces and neighbouring countries to combat online scams and gambling and prevent such activities from gaining a foothold in Myanmar. Combined teams across regions and states have also been conducting inspections to prevent illegal entry and residence of foreign nationals. — MNA/KZL

Lewe's concrete road construction inspected

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection in Yontaw Village, Lewe Township, yesterday to monitor the construction of an internal concrete road being implemented during the 2026-2027 financial year to improve transport and connectivity for rural residents.

Lewe District Department of Rural Development Head U Myo Tint and engineering staff inspected the ongoing construction of the concrete road, measuring 570 feet in length, 10 feet in width and seven inches in thickness. The district head also met village elders and residents, emphasizing the importance of completing the road construction on schedule and in line with prescribed standards and specifications for long-term durability, while providing necessary coordination and assistance to address matters raised.

The concrete road construction project, funded with K54.025 million from the Model Village Project, has been underway since the second week of November and is being implemented by local villagers themselves under the close supervision and technical assistance of district and township DRD staff, according to the department. — Sein Lwin (Rural)


Officials inspect the construction site of an internal concrete road in Lewe Township.

MDY 3rd Direct-to-Consumer Pharmaceutical Fair set for Dec

UNDER the directive of the Ministry of Commerce and under the leadership of the Myanmar Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Manufacturers Association, the 3rd Direct-to-Consumer Pharmaceutical Fair will be held in Mandalay.

The fair will take place at Yadanabon Hall of the Myanmar Medical Association (Mandalay), at the corner of 70th and 31st Streets, Yanmyolon Ward, Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay Region, for five days, from 7 to 11 December (Monday to Friday).

The association announced that pharmaceutical companies will sell medicines directly to consumers at the fair from 9 am to 4 pm daily.

The Direct-to-Consumer Pharmaceutical Fair was previously held at May Hall in Pyinmana, Nay Pyi Taw, from 9 to 13 November, when more than 900 types of medicines were sold at prices set directly by the companies. — TWA/MKKS

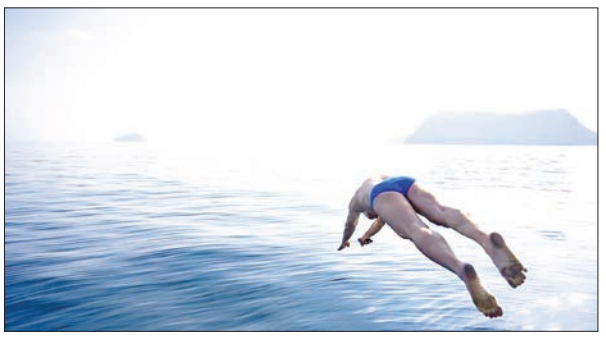

This image depicts a poster for the 3rd Direct-to-Consumer Pharmaceutical Fair to be held in Mandalay.

British swimmer witnesses tanker attacks and oil pollution in Strait of Hormuz

The 56-year-old UN Patron of the Oceans navigated waters threatened by drones, fighter jets, and sea mines.

BRITISH endurance swimmer Lewis Pugh recently completed a perilous 15-kilometre swim around the Cape of Hormuz, witnessing firsthand the devastating environmental toll of regional conflict.

Setting out from Oman's Musandam peninsula over three days in mid-November 2026, the 56-year-old UN Patron of the Oceans navigated waters threatened by drones, fighter jets, and sea mines. On his first day, two massive explosions struck an oil tanker just four kilometres away. The following day, a liquefied petroleum gas carrier was hit near a coastal fjord, sending 200-metre fireballs into the sky and setting the surrounding water ablaze.



British endurance swimmer Lewis Pugh dives into the waters of the Strait of Hormuz on 18 November 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Pugh contrasted the vibrant marine wildlife — including dolphins and ospreys — with the spreading oil slicks threatening local ecosystems and vital coastal desalination plants that supply Gulf cities with drinking water.

"The impact of this war on nature will probably outlast, outlive all of us," Pugh told Xinhua, describing the conflict as a convergence of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. He now plans to brief world leaders on the crisis, urging them to end the fighting, reopen the vital waterway, and clean up the environmental damage. — Xinhua

Court overturns Ramaphosa impeachment panel report

SOUTH Africa's Western Cape High Court on Wednesday declared unlawful and set aside an independent panel's report that found President Cyril Ramaphosa had a case to answer over the Phala Phala affair, also invalidating steps taken by the parliamentary impeachment committee in connection with the report.

"The report of the independent panel... is declared unlawful, and is reviewed and set aside in its entirety," the Western Cape High Court said in a unanimous ruling handed down in Cape Town on Wednesday.



High Court of South Africa in Keerom Street, Cape Town. **PHOTO: WIKIPEDIA.ORG**

"Any steps taken by the National Assembly pursuant to the Report are reviewed, declared unlawful and set aside," the court said. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bear captured 20 years ago thrives at Japan zoo

JUST over 20 years after he was captured as a young bear in a tree at a shrine north of Tokyo, an Asiatic black bear named Yori has become a popular attraction at a zoo in Saitama Prefecture.

His story stands in stark contrast to the growing number of bears being killed after straying into populated areas across Japan, offering a glimpse of how humans and the animals might coexist. On a sunny morning in early October, Yori wandered leisurely around his enclosure at the Omiya Park Small Animal Zoo in Saitama city, munching on acorns and other food. Some visitors come specifically to see him. Masahiro Miyashita, a 51-year-old company employee visiting from Tokyo, said television reports had given him the impression that bears were frightening.

"But Yori is gentle and cute," he said.

The bear, now estimated to be 20 years old, was captured in October 2006 after climbing a cedar tree at a shrine in the town of Yorii, Saitama Prefecture.

He remained in the tree for about 30 hours before local hunters caught him using equipment including an elevated work platform. Shooting him had been considered, but members of a local hunting association decided it would be cruel to kill such a young bear. — Kyodo

Mumbai marks 18th anniversary of 2008 terror attacks

MAHARASHTRA Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis is set to attend a ceremonial parade at the Mumbai Police Commissioner's office on Thursday to pay tribute to security personnel and civilians killed in the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, marking 18 years since the siege that left 166 people dead.

On the anniversary of 26/11, Senior Advocate and Rajya Sabha MP Ujjwal Nikam noted that while India delivered a decisive judicial response, critical questions regarding the broader plot remain unanswered.

"Nearly 18 years have passed, but we have still not been able to forget that day. A question continues to remain in the mind of every Indian: Who were those 10 terrorists? Why did they attack Mumbai? What did they want, and what did they were trying to achieve? We gave them only one answer: we will respond to terrorism in such a way that no one dares to carry out another terror attack in our country... I am happy that we hanged Mohammad Ajmal Amir Kasab. But another question remains: Have we been able to reach those who conspired to plan the attack? Have we been able to deliver justice to the 166 victims? If not, why?," Nikam told ANI. — ANI

Applied Linguistics: Bridging linguistic theory and Real-world Practice

FROM PAGE 9

Finally, Applied Linguistics can be understood through two different disciplinary perspectives: the mediating perspective and the integrative perspective. The mediating perspective views Applied Linguistics as an activity that connects linguistic descriptions with other perspectives to explain language as it is actually experienced in society. It adapts theoretical knowledge to practical situations instead of forcing real-life experiences to fit existing theories. The integrative perspective, however, considers Applied Linguistics an independent field of knowledge that brings together different disciplines and develops its own approaches to complex problems. This perspective recognizes that language-related problems are often too complicated to be solved by one discipline alone.

In conclusion, Applied Linguistics is a broad, interdisciplinary and problem-oriented field that connects linguistic theories with practical human needs. Its different orientations, levels of investigation and areas of concern demonstrate its wide scope. Whether acting as a mediator between theory and practice or integrating knowledge from different disciplines, its central purpose is to understand and solve real-world language-related problems through critical, flexible and context-sensitive approaches.

ECONOMY
WORLD

S Korea's semiconductor boom masks consumption slump amid rate hikes, stock rout: media

Local daily The Chosun Ilbo raised doubts about whether the semiconductor windfall could trickle down to the broader economy.



Photo taken on 9 July 2022 shows frozen cheese balls at a supermarket in Goyang, South Korea. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

SOUTH Korea's semiconductor boom drove its macroeconomic growth forecasts upward, but domestic media warned Friday that it masked a deepening slump in private consumption amid interest rate hikes and a stock market rout.

The Bank of Korea (BOK) raised its benchmark interest rate by 25 basis points to 3.25 per cent on Thursday, marking its third rate hike this year following increases in July and August, while lifting its real gross domestic product (GDP) growth projections to 3.9 per cent for 2026 and 4.1 per cent for 2027 due to robust chip exports.

Local daily The Chosun Ilbo raised doubts about whether the semiconductor windfall could trickle down to the broader economy, citing a contraction in household disposable income and private consumption in the third quarter despite a surprise 1.0 per cent quarterly expansion in third-quarter real GDP.

The newspaper cautioned that a downturn in consumption could worsen further amid the recent stock market rout.

Echoing the concerns, another daily The Herald Business said in an editorial that average monthly interest expenses per household reached an all-time high in the third quarter, eroding the spending power of households although cumulative exports topped US$1 trillion for the first time earlier this month. — Xinhua

Australia bill requires LNG exporters reserve 20% for domestic supply


A liquefied natural gas tanker loads cargo at an Australian export facility as lawmakers pass domestic supply reservation rules. **PHOTO: TOTALENERGIES**

AUSTRALIA'S Senate on Thursday passed a bill requiring liquefied natural gas exporters to reserve up to 20 per cent of their gas for domestic supply to prevent fuel shortages and keep inflationary pressures under control.

The move has raised concerns in Japan, which imports around 40 per cent of its LNG supplies from Australia.

The bill is expected to be enacted after receiving approval from Australia's governor general. The government hopes the law will take effect in January 2028.

Companies will be required to obtain permits to export LNG, with supplying the domestic market made a condition for approval. Supply levels would be adjusted according to domestic market conditions, while taking into account existing export contracts.

Concerns about potential gas shortages have been particularly acute in eastern Australia, where manufacturers have been hit hard by high energy costs. The government hopes to bring down energy prices for households and businesses by increasing domestic supply. — Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

China launches unified green power trading

CHINA on Thursday launched its first green power trade endeavour under a mechanism that places inter-provincial and intra-provincial green power markets under a single set of rules, marking the latest progress in the country's efforts to build a unified national electricity market.

The first trade drew 1,615 market participants in northwest and east China and cleared 6.2 billion kWh of green electricity, equivalent to cutting nearly five million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions by replacing fossil-fuel generation, according to State Grid. — Xinhua

Zambia launches climate policy tools to mobilize US$25 bln

ZAMBIA on Thursday launched two new policy tools to help implement its climate commitments and raise US$25.1 billion in climate financing by 2030. The instruments, a revised implementation framework for its third-generation Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) and the country's first NDC investment plan, were unveiled during the NDC Investment Conference in the capital, Lusaka.

Speaking at the event, Zambian Minister of Green Economy and Environment Gilbert Siame said the implementation framework translates NDC 3.0 into clear sectoral outcomes, indicators, targets and institutional responsibilities, while the investment plan identifies priority bankable projects, financing gaps and viable funding models. – Xinhua

Azerbaijan's petroleum product exports surge 52.5% in Jan-Oct

AZERBAIJAN'S exports of petroleum products rose 52.5 per cent year on year in volume to about 896,600 tonnes in the first 10 months of 2026, local media reported on Thursday, citing the country's State Customs Committee.

The value of these exports doubled from a year earlier to US$661.2 million, according to Report News Agency, which cited figures from the committee.

Azerbaijan also exported 18.4 million tonnes of crude oil, valued at $12.2 billion, to more than 10 countries over the same period, according to customs data cited in a separate report. — Xinhua


An Azerbaijani employee operates equipment aboard a seismic vessel of the Caspian Geophysical Company in the Caspian Sea near Baku, Azerbaijan, 18 August 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

Authorities investigating Qantas aborted landing at Sydney Airport

AUSTRALIAN authorities have commenced an investigation into an aborted landing incident involving Qantas and Air New Zealand flights at Sydney Airport.

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) said in a statement that a Qantas Boeing 737 arriving in Sydney on Wednesday morning aborted its landing and conducted a go-around due to an Air New Zealand Airbus A321 crossing the runway.

According to the ATSB, the Qantas crew was advised by air traffic control to expect a late landing clearance.

"As the 737 continued the approach, and prior to receiving a clearance to land, the crew reported seeing the A321 crossing the runway at taxiway Golf. The crew of the 737 elected to conduct a go-around," it said.

The ATSB said that investigators would interview air traffic controllers and flight crew, review recorded data and seek to examine the safety defenses in place.

"In particular, the investigation will seek to ascertain what information was provided to the crews of both aircraft, and what mental models those crews held," it said. — Xinhua

Russia ready to promote Turkiye's development as regional energy trading center

RUSSIA is ready to promote Turkiye's development as a regional energy trading centre, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak said on Friday.

"Turkiye already plays an important role in the transit of energy resources today, and we are ready to contribute to the establishment of Turkiye as a regional center for energy trade," Novak said.



The 9th Russian Energy Week 2026 (REW) forum concluded in Moscow after running from 14 to 16 October 2026. **PHOTO: RUSSIASPIVOTTOASIA**

Energy remains the mainstay of economic relations between Russia and Turkiye, Novak added. Turkiye will become a guest country at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) in 2027, Novak added. — SPUTNIK

Forum highlights Tajikistan's mining, metallurgy potential

THE third International Mining and Metallurgy Forum of Tajikistan was held in Dushanbe on Thursday, the Khovar news agency reported.

The event brought together about 20 leading mining companies from Tajikistan and more than 200 foreign participants, including representatives of international investment companies and equipment manufacturers.

At the forum, Tajik Prime Minister Kohir Rasulzoda said the country has reserves of 10 of the 12 types of metals considered critical to the global technological transition. — Xinhua

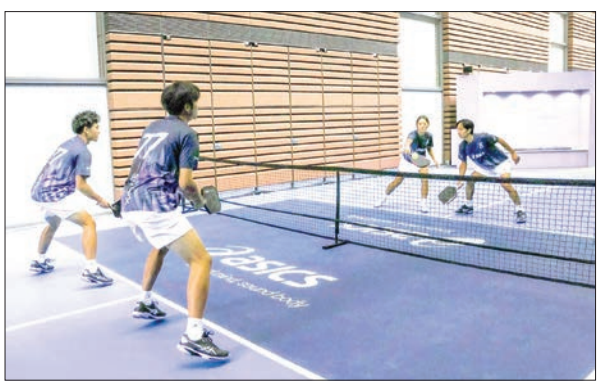
Mizuno, Asics tap booming domestic pickleball market

JAPANESE sportswear giants Mizuno Corp and Asics Corp have entered Japan's pickleball market in earnest as the US-originating racket sport rapidly gains popularity thanks to its simple rules and low barrier to entry.

Attracting players across a wide range of ages, pickleball combines elements of tennis, table tennis and badminton, and is played using perforated plastic balls and paddles on a court just over half the size of a tennis court.

Its smaller court and emphasis on longer rallies have helped drive its popularity, with the number of players rising sevenfold from a year earlier to around an estimated 330,000 this year, according to a survey by Pickleball One, a company involved in the sport.

The manufacturers have already made their moves, with Mizuno releasing paddles, shoes and dedicated bags for the sport in August, drawing on technology used in its golf clubs and tennis shoes.


Asics opens a temporary urban pickleball court near Tokyo Station as Japanese sportswear brands tap into the rapidly growing sport. **PHOTO: KYODO**

"The strength of a full-line sporting goods manufacturer is that we can incorporate the technology from other sports that fits pickleball," said Yuka Kondo, the company's marketing director for the sport.

Asics opened a pickleball court near Tokyo Station in late October for general use for about two months. It is open from 7 am to 10 pm to accommodate players before and after work.

Although shoes are currently its only pickleball-related product, Asics plans to release paddles and apparel, and establish a permanent court. — Kyodo

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, Hebei Ruibaode Bio-Chemical Co.,Ltd, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd to Shwe Pyaung Co.,Ltd. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next (2) weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	NX Strobin	Azoxystrobin 250g/l SC	Full	F2024-4594

Shwe Pyaung Co.,Ltd
Tel: 09-250406611

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, Hebei Ruibaode Bio-Chemical Co.,Ltd, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from Myanmar Golden Byter Co.,Ltd to Northern Aung Power Agro Chemical Company Limited. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next (2) weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	NX Ethe	Ethephon 40% SL	Full	F2025-5003

Northern Aung Power Agro Chemical Company Limited
Tel: 09-250406611

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTOR CHANGING

We, Thaion Chemical Co.,Ltd, would like to change the Distributor of the following products, from Rise Trade International Co.,Ltd to Gold & Super Company Limited. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide Registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, from here to next (2) weeks.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient Name	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Elephant Phosate 48% SL	Glyphosate 48% w/w SL	Full	F2017-1350

Gold & Super Company Limited
Tel: 09-250406611

GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS:
WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

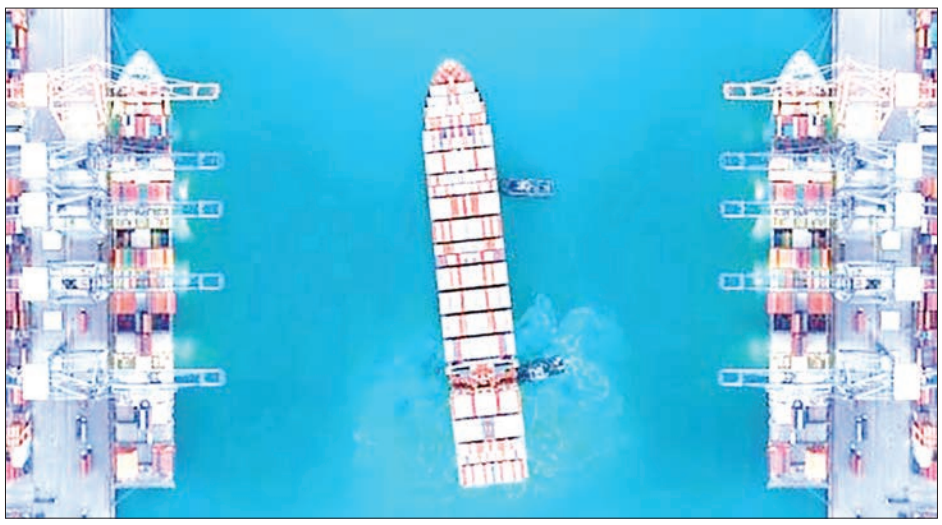
Global maritime trade set for zero growth in 2026: UN

Before the disruption, around 120 ships crossed the Strait of Hormuz daily.

Global maritime trade — which carries more than 80 per cent of the world's goods — is set to stagnate in 2026 due to shipping disruptions and trade uncertainties arising from the war in the Middle East, the United Nations said Thursday.

"Maritime trade is projected to record zero growth in 2026 after expanding 1.9 per cent in 2025," the UN trade and development agency UNCTAD said. Ongoing disruptions to maritime traffic through the Strait of Hormuz — a vital shipping route for roughly a fifth of the global oil supply, and other strategic commodities like fertilizer — plus the spread of the conflict to the Red Sea have been complicating trade and causing severe volatility in oil prices in late February.

Before the disruption, around 120 ships crossed the Strait of Hormuz daily. But by early March, traffic measured by gross tonnage had fallen by roughly 95 per cent, said UNCTAD.



The United Nations warns that global maritime trade will stagnate in 2026. **PHOTO: UNCTAD.ORG**

The instability in the Red Sea also forced many ships to switch to a longer route around the Cape of Good Hope.

UNCTAD also highlighted disruptions to grain shipments in the Black Sea and via the Panama Canal.

"Disruptions to major shipping routes and chokepoints are lengthening voyages, raising operating costs and freight volatility, and putting additional pressure on supply chains, particularly in developing countries," the agency said.

The use of other ports, inland transport networks and new logistics solutions has helped to keep trade flowing, albeit at a higher cost, according to UNCTAD. The agency said seaborne trade came in at 12.3 billion tonnes in 2025, up 1.9 per cent, compared to growth of 3.9 per cent in 2024. It projects zero growth in 2026.

Interim UNCTAD chief Pedro Manuel Moreno told a press conference: "Our simulations show that if a fuel shock like these years proceeds through 2027, higher shipping costs alone could push consumer prices in least-developed countries to almost twice the global average increase." — AFP

OPEC+ facing tricky talks on 2027 output, capacity targets

MEMBERS of the OPEC+alliance meet Sunday to hammer out production quotas for next year despite little visibility on the US war against Iran, which has roiled oil markets worldwide.

Ministers are also to set maximum capacity levels for each country, which aim to increase transparency of their industries and will form the basis for output quotas moving forward.

But some of the alliance's 21 members are already contesting the new levels, reached after two years of analysis by an outside consulting firm, US-based DeGolyer and MacNaughton.

"For the first time, the maximum sustainable production capacities have been assessed and established through an independent and objective process," OPEC secretary-general Haitham Al Ghais said in mid-November. Iraq, one of Gulf countries most penalized by the de facto shutdown of the Strait of Hormuz by Tehran since the war began in February, has reportedly rejected its capacity level as too low.

It says its maximum sustainable output is 5.2 million barrels per day (bpd), not the five million set in the new study, according to a report by Bloomberg News this week. — AFP



The OPEC member nations prepare for talks on 2027 oil production quotas. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

AI could put 24 mln jobs at risk globally in 5 years

ARTIFICIAL intelligence (AI) could displace around 24 million knowledge-worker jobs worldwide over the next five years, according to a report by JP Morgan Wealth Management. The findings highlight growing concerns over workforce disruption as businesses increasingly adopt AI-powered automation to improve productivity and reduce operational costs.



The firm warns of global AI workforce disruption. **VPHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/PEXELS**

According to the report, nearly 1.3 per cent of the global knowledge workforce could face displacement annually over the next five years under an illustrative scenario. — ANI

1,700 Indian nationals deported from US since beginning of 2026: MEA

A total of 1,700 Indian nationals have been deported from the United States since the beginning of 2026, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Wednesday, reiterating that India follows a nationality verification process before accepting deportees from foreign countries.

Responding to a question on the latest figures of Indians deported from the US, during a bi-weekly media briefing, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India maintains cooperation with Washington on migration and mobility while remaining firmly opposed to illegal immigration.

"I have said this before as well: we have ongoing cooperation with the United States on migration and mobility, and India is firmly against illegal immigration. On deportation matters, we have cooperation with the United States.

Where and when we receive information about a person to be deported, we verify his or her nationality and thereafter we agree to take him back. — ANI

SPORTS

Myanmar Kabaddi officials leave for Malaysia ahead of XXXIV SEA Games

Myanmar Kabaddi Federation President U Thant Ko Win and Vice-President U Kyaw Zeya departed Yangon for Malaysia by air yesterday to attend a meeting of the South-East Asian Kabaddi Federation (SEAKF), scheduled to take place on 28 and 29 November. Federation executive members saw them off at Yangon International Airport.



The Myanmar Kabaddi Federation president and the vice-president are pictured before leaving for Malaysia.

"We are making preparations to secure a medal in Kabaddi at the upcoming SEA Games in Malaysia. Players, coaches and officials are working together to achieve the best possible results. Currently, 25 players, coaches and management personnel are undergoing residential training in Yangon under local coaches. During this trip, we will also seek to recruit foreign coaches," said U Than Ko Win, President of the Myanmar Kabaddi Federation.

The SEAKF meeting will discuss the development of Kabaddi, technical matters, refereeing and coaching, preparations for the 2027 SEA Games, recommendations on prospective new member countries, arrangements for the federation's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and other matters.

Kabaddi, a traditional Indian sport, combines strength, teamwork, agility and intelligence. It is widely played in more than 50 countries. Myanmar is making preparations to achieve success in kabaddi at the XXXIV SEA Games. — Bala/KZL

AIA Myanmar takes 27 young football fans to Spurs camp

AIA Myanmar has provided 27 young football enthusiasts from Myanmar with international-standard football training through the AIA-Spurs Football Camp, the company announced on 26 November.

Held from 15 to 20 November at Maraleina Sports Resort in Koh Samui, Thailand, the camp offered the children memorable and valuable experiences while encouraging them to dream bigger through football.

International football coaches from Tottenham Hotspur trained the children not only in football skills but also in healthy eating, mental resilience, environmental conservation and teamwork.

The participants also gained new perspectives and international exposure, made new friends and created unforgettable memories together.

"Through this programme, in line with our commitment to helping people live healthier, longer and better lives, we were able to support young people in pursuing their dreams and unlocking the potential of promising children. We will continue working diligently to provide more opportunities for young people in the future," an AIA official said.

AIA Myanmar also expressed its gratitude to the international football coaches from Tottenham Hotspur, officials from Maraleina Sports Resort, the children's parents and guardians, and the AIA Myanmar team for their cooperation in making the successful trip possible. — Htun Htun/KZL



International football coaches from Tottenham Hotspur provide international-standard football training to 27 young football enthusiasts from Myanmar.

China routs Fiji to reach U17 World Cup knockouts

CHINA thrashed Fiji 8-0 in its final Group H match at the FIFA U17 World Cup on Thursday, advancing to the round of 32 as one of the eight best third-placed teams.

The result sent China into the knockout stage for only the third time in its history, following appearances in 1985 and 2005, and marked a successful return to the tournament after a 21-year absence.

China had opened its campaign with a 5-0 defeat to Spain before drawing 2-2 with Morocco, leaving it needing a victory over Fiji to secure progression. — Xinhua

Haaland 'happy' at Man City despite outburst, says Maresca

ENZO Maresca insisted on Friday that Erling Haaland is "happy" at Manchester City after the striker expressed frustration over his side's recent struggles.

Haaland gave a candid assessment of City's malaise following Tuesday's 2-2 draw against Napoli in the Champions League.

After winning 10 of their first 11 matches in all competitions this season, Maresca's men have won just two of their last seven.

With a crucial trip to Premier League leaders Arsenal looming on Sunday, Haaland's criticism added to the growing sense that City's season is in danger of spiralling out of control.



Striker Erling Haaland. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

"We have to do better and find some ways to control the game more and perform in a better way," Haaland said.

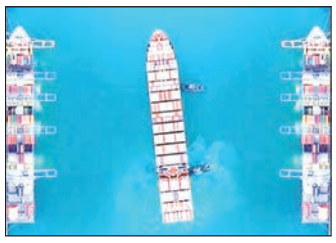
"I have no idea what we were missing but you could feel it in the last few games that something was not clicking fully." Haaland has scored just once in his last five games for City and is without a league goal in his past three matches. — AFP

Figure skating: Chiba tops women's short programme at NHK Trophy

JAPAN'S Mone Chiba scored her season-best score of 77.12 points on Friday to lead the women's short programme at the NHK Trophy, the sixth event of figure skating's Grand Prix Series.

Chiba, the Cup of China winner at the third event in early November, began her bid to complete the Japanese sweep of all six events strongly with a near-flawless outing at Keio Arena Tokyo.

Ami Nakai won the first event in France and the fourth in the United States, while Mao Shimada prevailed in the second in Canada and fifth in Finland with both through to the Grand Prix final in China in December. Apart from a slight edge error on her opening triple flip-triple toe loop combination, Chiba was clean throughout her performance, including a successful triple lutz midway through. — Kyodo



Global maritime trade set for zero growth in 2026: UN
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WORLD

Russia will strive to ensure that AI adoption more widespread in all areas: **Putin**

AI agents in Russia become participants in public and business relations, and form an agent economy.



Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks at the AI Journey international conference in Moscow about expanding artificial intelligence across Russia. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

Russia will strive to ensure that AI adoption becomes more widespread and encompasses all areas of the economy and people's lives, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday.

"We will strive to ensure that the introduction of I in Russia becomes more widespread, covering all areas of the economy and people's lives," Putin said at the AI Journey international conference of Russia's Sber.

Possessing the latest generation of AI does not guarantee technological superiority, and it is necessary to ensure the harmonious operation of people and AI, Putin said.

AI agents in Russia become participants in public and business relations, and form an agent economy, Putin added.

He proposed updating the national AI strategy, which runs through 2036.

"To occupy a leading position ... we must ensure the most harmonious collaboration between people and autonomous systems, and restructure management, production processes, the economy, and the social sphere to address this challenge. It is with this logic in mind that I propose updating Russia's national AI strategy, which runs through 2036, and approving a national action plan in this area," Putin said.

"As for the most advanced, fundamental models [of AI], their cost is constantly increasing, giant computing centres are being built... Overcoming these barriers requires huge new investments," he remarked. — SPUTNIK

Chinese premier to hold "1+10" dialogue with heads of major international economic organizations

CHINESE Premier Li Qiang will hold the "1+10" Dialogue in the city of Xiamen, east China's Fujian Province, on the morning of 2 December a Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson announced on Friday.

According to the spokesperson, Li will hold the dialogue with President of the New Development Bank Dilma Rousseff, President of the World Bank Ajay Banga, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund Kristalina Georgieva, Director-General of the World Trade Organization Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Acting Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Pedro Manuel Moreno, Assistant Director-General of the International Labour Organization Laura Thompson, Secretary-General of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Mathias Cormann, General Manager of the Bank for International Settlements Pablo Hernandez de Cos, Chair of the Financial Stability Board Andrew Bailey, and President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Zou Jiayi.

The spokesperson said that the theme of the dialogue is "Driving Sustained Growth Through Innovation, Promoting Common Development Through Openness". — Xinhua

Vietnam to host over 200 activities during APEC 2027

VIETNAM expects to organize more than 200 activities during Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Year 2027, including 11 ministerial meetings and high-level dialogues, Standing Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Nguyen Minh Vu said at a press conference in Hanoi on Friday.

The highlight of APEC Year 2027 will be the APEC Economic Leaders' Week, to be held in the Phu Quoc special zone in the southern province of An Giang, Vu added.

APEC Year 2027 will be held under the theme "Jointly Forging a New Era of Resilience, Innovation, and Prosperity," he said. The theme reflects APEC members' vision of taking resilience as a foundation and innovation as a driving force while strengthening cooperation to adapt to profound global changes. — Xinhua

Capsized diesel tanker to be towed

A capsized tanker carrying 7,000 tonnes of diesel that sparked ecological concerns for waters off Spain's Mediterranean island of Ibiza will be towed to port, the prime minister said on Friday.

The Maltese-flagged Med Emre overturned early on Thursday in an accident that killed its chief engineer, said the vessel's owner, Turkish company YMN Tankers, in a statement. But the fuel has so far been contained, according to authorities who face a challenging rescue operation amid fears of a major spillage. Environmental organizations have emphasised the value of the area's flora and fauna, including endangered species, as well as the risk to fishing and tourism. — AFP

Trump says 'it takes 2 to tango' on Ukraine settlement

US President Donald Trump, speaking about a settlement to the conflict in Ukraine, has said that "it takes two to tango".

Earlier in November, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that Russia remains open, at all levels, to contacts on a settlement in Ukraine, with European parties as well.

"It takes two to tango," Trump said at an Thanksgiving event in Mar-a-Lago on Thursday, referring to the resolution of the Ukraine conflict.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has repeatedly stated that Russia wishes to end the conflict in Ukraine as soon as possible through a peaceful settlement, but sees no similar willingness on the part of the Kyiv regime.

On 10-11 November, delegations from Russia, the US and Ukraine held talks in Abu Dhabi. Kremlin aide Vladimir Medinsky, who led the Russian delegation, said that the architecture of European security was the central topic on the meeting agenda. — SPUTNIK



Members of Russian and US delegations attend trilateral talks between Russia, Ukraine and the United States on settling the Ukrainian conflict, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on 10 November 2026. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**