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

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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SUNDAY EDITION

Myanmar Commits to Advancing ACMECS Priorities, Deepening Partnerships

The 11th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit was held at 4 pm local standard time yesterday at the National Convention Centre in Hanoi, Vietnam, with President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, serving as the rotating Chair.

The meeting was attended by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, who is serving as the rotating Chair of the 11th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit, together with Union Ministers and officials accompanying him as members of the delegation. Also in attendance were ACMECS member-country Heads of Government, including Prime Minister Samdech Hun Manet of Cambodia, Prime Minister Mr Saleumxay Kommasith of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Prime Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul of Thailand and Prime Minister Mr Lê Minh Hung of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, as well as delegations from other ACMECS member countries.



Leaders pose for a group commemorative photo during the 11th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit at the National Convention Centre in Hanoi, Vietnam, yesterday.

ACMECS rotating chair President U Min Aung Hlaing and leaders from ACMECS member countries posed for documentary photos.

Speaking on the occasion, the President of Myanmar said that Myanmar's theme for its rotating chairmanship reflects the shared vision of promoting socioeconomic well-being, environmental sustainability and technological advancement alongside economic development.

SEE PAGE 3

Myanmar Takes Centre Stage at Kerala Global Digital Transformation & Investment Summit

MYANMAR attended the Kerala Global Digital Transformation and Investment Summit, held in Kochi, Kerala State, India, on 24-25 November, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At the invitation of the President of the Indian Economic Trade Organization (IETO), Myanmar Ambassador to India U Aye Min Htwe attended the summit as a Guest of Honour and delivered an address at the opening ceremony.

SEE PAGE 2



Recovery efforts are underway in Chin State.

Police, firefighters and departmental staff unite for cleanup in Falam, Chin State

POLICE officers, firefighters and departmental personnel joined a cleanup campaign at Falam General Hospital in Falam, Chin State yesterday morning.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han, accompanied by the state security and border affairs minister and members of the Chin State Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Committee, observed the collective cleaning activities.

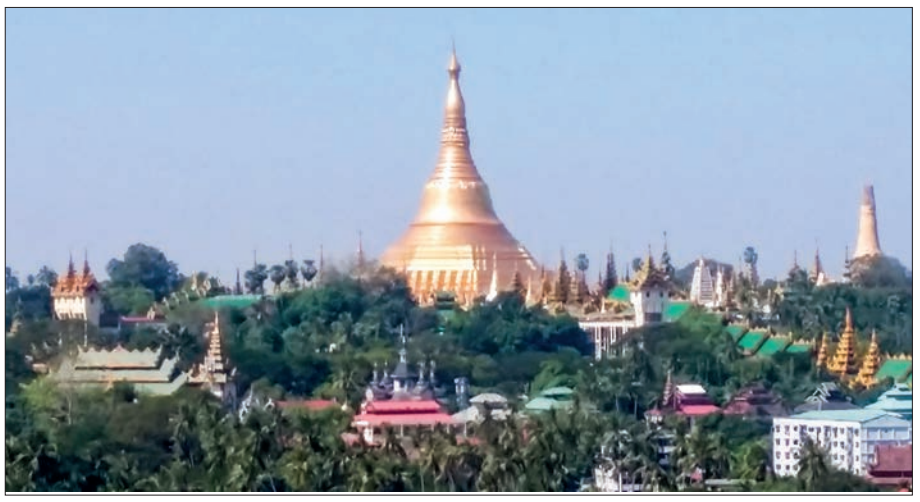
He later inspected the repaired staff quarters of the General Administration Department, which had been partially damaged during terrorist incidents and are now occupied by staff families. He also inspected the renovated offices of the District Planning Department, the township planning office operating in the same premises, the repaired district law staff quarters and the renovated four-unit, two-storey district police building.

During the visit, he coordinated measures to maintain the renovated buildings, keep their surroundings clean and ensure proper drainage. — IPRD/KZL



NATIONAL

Shwedagon seeks bids for concession businesses in pagoda precinct



This image captures a serene and graceful view of the Shwedagon Pagoda set against the surrounding landscape.

THE Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees called for bids to operate businesses within the pagoda precinct.

The tender opening date has been rescheduled to 21 December. Those interested in operating the businesses can buy a set of proposal forms for K30,000 during office hours at the Board of Trustees' office and submit proposals by 21 December, according to the announcement.

Proposal forms and terms will be sold at 3 pm from 7 to 10 December. Detailed instructions, including the requirement to pay deposits at Myanma Economic Bank Branch 4, will be included in the proposal terms, the board said.

The businesses open for proposals are photography, gold foil sales, restaurants, souvenir shops, flower shops, Nibbana goods sales (monastery offering supplies, coconut and banana offering stalls (Stall 1 and Stall 2), coconut and palmyra palm fruit picking and sales, lottery ticket sales at parking lots, general merchandise, custom glass engraving, mango and jackfruit picking and sales, ATM installation and sales of discarded coconuts and bananas, according to the board. — NN/KK

Hlaing Group Art Exhibition to feature 24 artists

THE Hlaing Group Exhibition will showcase a diverse collection of paintings by 24 local artists from 9 to 13 December 2026 at the Traditional Myanmar Artists and Artisans Association, 188-192, East Wing of Bogyoke Aung San Market, Pabedan Township, Yangon.

Open daily from 10 am to 5 pm, the five-day exhibition will feature landscapes, architectural heritage, floral compositions and traditional scenes by participating artists, including Saya Maung Thein Hlaing, Ma Yamin, Ko Myo Kyaw, Ko Myoe Win Aung and Ko Thet Maw.

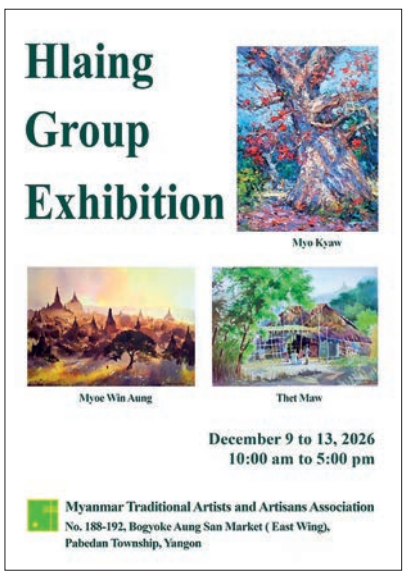
"I am delighted to have the opportunity to exhibit my paintings, which I have created with great care and imagination, at the upcoming Hlaing Group Exhibition at Bogyoke Aung San Market. This will be the first time I have participated in an art exhibition.

"I began painting in early 2017. For this exhibition, I have selected five of my favourite paintings, created between 2019 and 2023.

"To create these works, I travelled across Myanmar, particularly to Bagan, to capture inspiration for my paintings. My artworks reflect the rich atmosphere and cultural spirit of Bagan and Myanmar.

"I also plan to donate part of the proceeds from the paintings sold at the exhibition to those in need.

"I warmly invite everyone to visit the exhibition and enjoy our artworks," said artist Ma Yamin, one of the participating artists. — KZL



Weather

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Saturday, 28 November 2026

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the South Andaman Sea and the Southeast Bay of Bengal and a few clouds over the North Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.
FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 29 NOVEMBER 2026: Light rain are likely to be isolated in Taninthayi Region and southern Shan State. The degree of certainty is 60 per cent. Weather will be generally fair in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Bago regions and Chin and eastern Shan states and partly cloudy in the remaining regions and states.
THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Taninthayi Region. In areas along the movement of cumulonimbus clouds, weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur; therefore, it is recommended to be aware of these phenomena in advance.
STATE OF THE SEA: The sea will be slight to moderate in the Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-6 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.
OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of a slight decrease in night temperatures in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Sagaing regions and Kayah, Chin and Shan states.
FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 NOVEMBER 2026: Generally fair weather.
FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 NOVEMBER 2026: Generally fair weather.
FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 29 NOVEMBER 2026: Generally fair weather. — DMH

Corrigendum

PLEASE read '**Ms San San Aye, a PhD student at the Central University for Ethnic Minorities in Beijing, shares her experiences**' instead of '**Mr Han Jiaqing, Director of the Yangon Chinese Cultural Centre, delivers a speech**' in the photo caption of the news story titled '**YCCC hosts Asia-Pacific Cooperation Dialogue**' on page 1 in The Global New Light of Myanmar Daily, issued on 28 November 2026. The error is regretted. — Ed.

Myanmar Takes Centre Stage at Kerala Global ...

FROM PAGE 1

In his remarks, the ambassador described Myanmar and Kerala as complementary economic partners, noting that bilateral cooperation could be enhanced for mutual benefit by combining Kerala's strengths in human resources, education, healthcare and information technology with Myanmar's strategic geographical location, agricultural and fishery products, natural resources and young workforce.

He also highlighted potential areas of cooperation in key sectors, including agriculture and food production, information technology and digital services, healthcare, education, tourism, and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

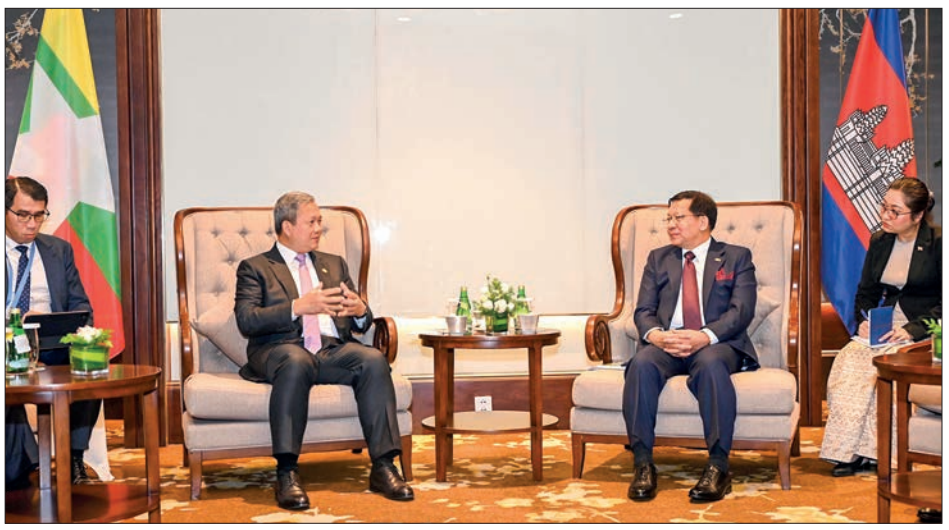
The summit was attended by representatives of the Kerala State government, heads of mission and diplomats from embassies based in New Delhi, government officials, technology and investment entrepreneurs, and business leaders. — ASH/TH



A group documentary photo session during the summit.

NATIONAL

Myanmar, Cambodia Reaffirm Mutual Support in ASEAN, Global Forums



President U Min Aung Hlaing meets Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Manet in Hanoi, Vietnam, yesterday.

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, currently in Hanoi, Vietnam, 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, held talks with Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Manet at 9 am local standard time yesterday.

At the talks, they cordially discussed the growing cooperation between Myanmar and Cambodia and ways to further strengthen bilateral relations, and further cooperation in trade, education, tourism, defence and security, and agriculture sectors. Their discussions focused on utmost efforts of Myanmar and Cambodian governments in combatting online scam and gambling activities, exchange of information and enhancement of cooperation in eradicating online scam and gambling operations.

They also exchanged views on Myanmar's continued engagement with ASEAN member states in pursuit of the ASEAN Charter, as Myanmar is an ASEAN member. They emphasized the need for all ASEAN member states to respect and abide by the ASEAN Charter and to respect the sovereignty and existing laws of other member states. They also discussed the mutual support and solidarity demonstrated by Myanmar and Cambodia in ASEAN and international forums.

They also talked about developments in Myanmar's political situation and the government's efforts to achieve internal peace, as well as ways to enhance the exchange of senior officials between the two countries and promote people-to-people exchanges and cooperation. The meeting was also attended by Union ministers who accompanied the President, the Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam, and officials. The Cambodian ambassador was accompanied by ministers of the Cambodian Cabinet and officials. After the meeting, they cordially greeted ministers from both countries and officials. — MNA/TTA

President U Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Lao Prime Minister



President U Min Aung Hlaing meets Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Saleumxay Kommasith in Hanoi, Vietnam, yesterday.

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing, who is currently in Hanoi, Vietnam, held talks with Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Saleumxay Kommasith yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Union Ministers accompanying the President, the Myanmar ambassador to Vietnam and other officials, as well as Lao cabinet ministers and officials accompanying the Prime Minister.

Both leaders exchanged views in a cordial and candid atmosphere on the close ties between Myanmar and Laos as good neighbours, friendly nations, brotherly countries, strategic partners and trusted allies, as well as their cooperation under regional frameworks, including the Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Cooperation, the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) and the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS), and ways to further strengthen bilateral relations.

They discussed Laos's confidence in the government led by President U Min Aung Hlaing and its efforts to promote national development and internal peace, as well as Laos's continued support for Myanmar internationally and within ASEAN, while highlighting Myanmar's constructive engagement in ASEAN in accordance with the ASEAN Charter and emphasizing that the country's political developments and internal affairs must be resolved solely by its people without external interference.

Both sides also reviewed ongoing cooperation in trade, investment and other sectors, joint efforts to maintain peace and stability along the border, combat online scams and suppress narcotics-related activities, and plans to further strengthen bilateral relations and cooperation.

Following the meeting, President U Min Aung Hlaing and Lao Prime Minister Mr Saleumxay Kommasith cordially greeted the cabinet ministers and officials from both countries who attended the meeting. — MNA/TH

Myanmar Commits to Advancing ACMECS Priorities, ...

FROM PAGE 1

He recounted that over the past two decades, ACMECS has demonstrated that it is an indispensable driving force for the development of the entire subregion by enhancing physical and digital connectivity, strengthening economic and trade cooperation, and promoting sustainable development within the subregion.

The President reaffirmed Myanmar's commitment to working closely with all member countries and like-minded partner countries to promote regional peace, stability, prosperity and sustainability.

Under the theme "Strengthening Socio-Economic Development Towards Smart and Sustainable ACMECS," Prime Ministers from Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand took turns delivering remarks on ACMECS's progress and future cooperation.

The rotating chair, the President of Myanmar, delivered a speech. He highlighted the establishment of an e-commerce platform for the development of MSME businesses, placing emphasis on food, water and energy security to contribute to the modern and sustainable development of ACMECS, strengthening the linkages among infrastructure, digital technology and organizations, the requirement of predictable and sustainable financial support to effectively implement the shared aspiration, and Myanmar's efforts to emphasize the establishment of an ACMECS Development Fund.

The Summit subsequently adopted the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration of the 11th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit and the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Ad-Hoc Task Force on the Review of the ACMECS-Prioritized Projects.

In his remarks, the President said that Myanmar stood ready to work together with all ACMECS member countries to advance ACMECS's common priorities, strengthen partnerships and build a more interconnected, resilient and sustainably developing subregion.

Rotating chair of ACMECS President U Min Aung Hlaing handed over the responsibilities of the rotating chairmanship to Thai Prime Minister Mr Anutin Charnvirakul.

The President delivered remarks on the handover of the ACMECS rotating chairmanship, while the Prime Minister of Thailand delivered remarks on the occasion of assuming the ACMECS rotating chairmanship. — MNA/TTA

NATIONAL

12th CLMV Summit Adopts Joint Statement, Endorses Smart Dry Port Corridor and Heritage Journey Initiatives

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing delivered a speech at the 12th Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Summit at the National Convention Centre in Hanoi, Vietnam, at 1 pm local standard time yesterday.

The Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the rotating Chair of CLMV, warmly greeted the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, U Min Aung Hlaing, and the leaders of other CLMV member countries individually. The President of Myanmar and the leaders of CLMV member countries posed for a group documentary photograph.



Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing participates in the 12th Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Summit at the National Convention Centre in Hanoi, Vietnam, yesterday.

President U Min Aung Hlaing attended the retreat session of the 12th CLMV Summit, held under the theme "Shaping the Future of CLMV Cooperation: Roles and Strategic Directions".

The plenary session of the CLMV Summit took place under the theme "Enhancing Connectivity among CLMV Countries, Harnessing Opportunities and Building a Prosperous Future."

The plenary session was attended by President U Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Union Ministers and officials from the Myanmar delegation, along with Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and rotating CLMV Chair Mr Lê Minh Hung, Prime Minister of Cambodia Samdech Hun Manet, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Mr Saleumxay Kommasith, ASEAN Secretary-General Dr Kao Kim Hourn, representatives of regional and international organizations and development partner countries, and delegations from CLMV member countries.

At the outset, the Vietnamese Prime Minister, the rotating chair of the summit, delivered an opening address. Subsequently, the Heads of State and Government of the participating CLMV member countries delivered their remarks in alphabetical order under the theme "Enhancing Connectivity and Effectively Mobilizing and Utilizing Resources to Advance Development Priorities in a New Era of CLMV Cooperation."

Speaking at the summit, President U Min Aung Hlaing highlighted the strengthening connectivity among businesses in different countries, facilitating the smooth and rapid flow of goods and services, streamlining cross-border trade, expanding market access, promoting the exchange of digital technology and information, and enhancing communication and cooperation among peoples from CLMV countries,

In his discussion, the President fully supported the proposal on the CLMV Smart Dry Port Corridor Initiative submitted by Vietnam. He underlined that the "CLMV Smart Dry Port Corridor Initiative" proposed by Vietnam was also expected to further promote regional economic growth through trade conducted via Dawei Deep Sea Port. Furthermore, the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway (IMT), in which Myanmar is also participating as a regional connectivity route, can be linked with the Greater Mekong Subregion East-West Economic Corridor (EWEC) to facilitate connectivity with Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. SEE PAGE 5

President attends dinner held by Vietnamese Prime Minister

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing attended a dinner hosted by the Vietnamese Prime Minister at the Melia Hanoi Hotel in Hanoi yesterday evening, following the successful conclusion of the 12th Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) Summit and the 11th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit.

It was attended by Union Ministers accompanying the President, the Myanmar ambassador to Vietnam and officials, along with the Prime Ministers of Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand, the ASEAN Secretary-General, and representatives of regional and international organizations and development partners.

Upon arrival, the President and his delegation were welcomed by Vietnamese cultural performers, and they viewed an exhibition of traditional Vietnamese cuisine.

The Vietnamese Prime Minister delivered a greeting before the President and other dignitaries joined the dinner. Traditional Vietnamese music and dance performances were also presented before and during the dinner event. — MNA/KTZH


President U Min Aung Hlaing attends a dinner hosted by the Vietnamese Prime Minister at the Melia Hanoi Hotel in Vietnam yesterday.

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

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

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

NATIONAL

Myanmar attends 14th AMMDM in Indonesia



Union Minister Dr Ko Ko Lwin attends the 14th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) and related meetings in Jakarta, Indonesia.

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Ko Ko Lwin and his delegation attended the 14th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management (AMMDM) and related meetings held in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 25 to 27 November.

On 25 November, the Union minister attended the opening ceremony of the 14th AMMDM, the 2026 ASEAN Day celebration and the commemoration of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, together with ministers and senior officials from ASEAN member states.

Under the theme "From ASEAN to Global: Strengthening Community Preparedness and Promoting Leadership for Sustainable Resilience", the Union minister discussed regional disaster management efforts, the impacts of El Niño, disaster experiences in Myanmar, and the need for stronger cooperation among government, social organizations and the private sector, including the use of modern technologies.

The ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre) also presented updates on the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response and the utilization of the ASEAN Disaster Management Fund.

In the evening, the Union minister separately met the ASEAN Secretary-General to discuss the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response Work Programme 2026-2030 and ways to strengthen regional disaster resilience.

On 26 November, he attended the ASEAN-China Natural Disaster Management Coordination Meeting, ASEAN-Japan and ASEAN-Korea meetings on disaster management, where participants discussed regional resilience and cooperation under the ASEAN Plus Three Work Plan on Disaster Management 2026-2030, in line with the "One ASEAN- One Response" approach.

On 27 November, the Union minister held separate meetings with Mr Xu Jiaai, Vice-Minister of China's Ministry of Emergency Management, and Mr Jeseth Taiseth, Deputy Minister of Thailand's Ministry of Interior. They discussed cooperation in disaster management. — MNA/KTZH

Special Olympics Myanmar National Games 2026 held in Yangon

THE opening ceremony and prize presentation of the Special Olympics Myanmar National Games 2026, organized by the Myanmar Sports Federation for the Intellectually Disabled, were held at Padetha Sports Ground in South Okkalapa Township, Yangon, on the morning of 28 November.

Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Htay Aung, the secretary and Deputy Secretary 2 of the Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Issues Study and Analysis Committee, the chairman and officials of the Myanmar Sports Federation for the Intellectually Disabled, departmental officials, donors and invitees attended the ceremony, according to the Yangon Region Hluttaw Office. — TWA/KZL



This image captures the opening ceremony and prize presentation of the Special Olympics Myanmar National Games 2026 organized by the federation.

12th CLMV Summit Adopts Joint Statement, Endorses ...

FORM PAGE 4

The President stated that Myanmar is serving as the lead country for the agriculture, industry and energy sectors under CLMV cooperation. These sectors are important to the economic development of the subregion.

He stated that Myanmar welcomed the "CLMV Heritage Journey Initiative" proposed by Vietnam and fully supported further strengthening the linkages between CLMV cooperation and the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI).

The ASEAN Secretary-General and representatives from regional and international development partner countries participated in discussions.

The session approved the 12th CLMV Summit Joint Statement, along with the CLMV Smart Dry Port Corridor Initiative and the CLMV Heritage Journey Initiative.

The CLMV rotating chair, the Vietnamese Prime Minister, delivered concluding remarks and handed over the responsibilities of rotating chairmanship to the Cambodian Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister of Vietnam delivered remarks on the handover of the CLMV rotating chairmanship, while the Prime Minister of Cambodia also delivered remarks on the occasion of assuming the rotating chairmanship of CLMV. — MNA/TTA

28 members of various armed groups rejoin society in Taninthayi Region



Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Zaw Naing Oo presents cash rewards and gifts to a returnee in Myeik yesterday.

AS the State Government continues to invite individuals who have joined armed resistance groups operating under various names, including PDF, to return to the legal fold and provide necessary assistance to those who do so, another 28 members of KNLA, KTLA and PDF groups, comprising 21 men and seven women, have returned to the legal fold with their arms and ammunition.

A ceremony to hand over the returnees, together with their arms and ammunition, to their parents and guardians was held yesterday morning at Coastal Region Command Headquarters. The ceremony was attended by Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Zaw Naing Oo, Coastal Region Command Commander Brig-Gen Ye Win Aung and officials, regional cabinet ministers, officers and other ranks, the returnees, and their parents and guardians.

The Region chief minister delivered an opening address, followed by an awareness briefing on relevant legal provisions by the commander. Subsequently, the returnees, comprising four men and two women from Myeik Township, eight men and five women from Dawei Township, two men from Bokpyin Township, one man from Kawthaung Township, two men from Palaw Township and one man from Yebyu Township in Taninthayi Region; one man from South Okkalapa Township and one man from Hlinethaya Township in Yangon Region; and one man from Bago Township in Bago Region, handed over one M16 rifle, one HK rifle, one pistol, four homemade guns, seven assorted hand grenades, two magazines, 64 rounds of assorted ammunition and three 40mm grenades. The Region chief minister, the commander and officials accepted the surrendered weapons and ammunition.

SEE PAGE 7

NATIONAL

Tachilek catches 22 Thai nationals for online scams, gambling operations


Scammers, including 22 undocumented Thai nationals, arrested in Tachilek, along with seized scam-related materials.

THE Myanmar Government is actively stepping up efforts to combat online scams and illegal gambling to prevent such activities from operating in the country. The combined teams from relevant departments across regions and states are also conducting thorough inspections to prevent online gambling operations and the illegal entry and residence of foreign nationals in Myanmar, in coordination with domestic authorities and neighbouring countries.

In this regard, at around 11:40 pm on 27 November, a combined team including security personnel searched for Platinum Star Hotel in Samseng (A) Ward, Tachilek, Shan State (East), following a tip-off. During the operation, 22 Thai nationals, comprising 11 men and 11 women, were arrested in Rooms 303 and 308, along with eight laptops and 29 mobile phones used in online scam and gambling activities.

According to the confessions of the arrested Thai nationals, they were casual workers residing in various provinces of Thailand. In the first week of September, they sought job opportunities through the Line application and contacted a Thai national named Ninpon, who offered them online messaging jobs with a monthly salary of 15,000 baht.

After accepting the offer, they were instructed to travel to Platinum Star Hotel in Tachilek. They entered Myanmar individually through the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge I using Temporary Border Passes (TBPs). Upon arrival, a Thai national waiting for them took them to Rooms 303 and 308. They were subsequently trained to provide customer support through Line accounts for users experiencing difficulties with online gambling activities. They worked on the UFABET888 and g2g888 websites, where their duties included responding to customer inquiries and providing online gambling services.

Their tasks included sending promotional messages designed to attract potential customers through AI chatbots on Telegram and Viber; providing online gambling links to those who responded; encouraging them to participate in gambling; explaining how to use the websites; assisting with deposits and credit top-ups; resolving account, password and OTP issues; checking betting records; recording complaints and preparing daily reports.

They stated that they were not involved in receiving money or handling betting payouts and that each received a monthly salary of 15,000 Thai baht.

The arrested individuals involved in the online scam and gambling activities will face effective legal action under existing laws after the necessary investigations have been completed. The seized equipment will also be dealt with in accordance with the procedures. — 100/KTZH

14 scam hubs demolished in Shwe Kokko Phase II crackdown

AS the State Government continues to systematically demolish illegal structures in the Shwe Kokko area – where online scams and gambling operations were most prevalent – to prevent such activities from resuming, one five-story building among the remaining structures slated for demolition in Shwe Kokko Phase II was completely demolished yesterday using heavy machinery. This brings the total number of illegal structures demolished to date to 14, while another five-story building has been 70 per cent demolished as of yesterday.


This image shows systematic demolition of scam-linked structures in the Shwe Kokko Phase II crackdown.

Of the 63 remaining buildings used for online scams and gambling in Shwe Kokko Phase II that were slated for demolition, a total of 14 structures – four demolished through controlled explosions and 10 using heavy machinery – have now been systematically torn down. The remaining 49 illegal buildings will continue to be demolished in an orderly manner.

The State Government is cooperating with neighbouring and regional countries to eradicate online scams and gambling, which pose threats to global socioeconomic stability and national security, according to the reports. — 100/TH

Myawady Casino Raid Nets Hundreds of Thai, Myanmar Nationals

THE Government is implementing various development programmes to ensure peace and stability, the rule of law and socio-economic development of the people, whereas the combined teams comprising officials from relevant departments are also stepping up security operations to maintain peace and the rule of law in border areas.

In this regard, at around 11 am on 27 November, the combined teams comprising security personnel and departmental officials searched for Grand Myawady Hotel on Pha Chauk Kaung Road in Ward 5 of Myawady Township, Kayin State, following a tip-off.

The operation resulted in the arrest of 79 Myanmar nationals, comprising eight men and 71 women, and 593 illegal Thai nationals, comprising 272 men and 321 women, for operating casino gambling activities. The seized items included 185 laptops, 192 all-in-one computers, 40 monitors, 40 CPUs, computer accessories and 345 mobile phones.

Similarly, at around 11 am on 27 November, a search was conducted at a place named Myawaddy Complex in Ward 5 of Myawady Township. During the inspection, 10 all-in-one computers, 50 monitors, 50 CPUs, 10 UPS units, computer accessories, 10 mobile phones of various types and two card-playing tables were found abandoned inside the gambling complex and confiscated.

While the combined teams were conducting necessary searches, blockades and inspections in wards and at road junctions across Myawady, suspicious lights were spotted in the vicinity of Wadaw Road in Ward 5, prompting further searches.

At around 2:50 am on 28 November, 55 Thai men and 20 Thai women were arrested. At around 3:15 am, another 53 Thai men and 25 Thai women were arrested, followed by 62 Thai men and 22 Thai women at around 3:50 am. A total of 237 Thai nationals, comprising 170 men and 67 women, were arrested in the operation.

The arrestees involved in the gambling activities will face effective legal action under existing laws after the necessary investigations have been completed. The seized equipment will also be dealt with in accordance with established procedures. — 100/KTZH



Map reveals the arrest location of suspected gamblers, including Thai and Myanmar nationals.

Scan QR to visit GNLM website

NATIONAL

Weekly Roundup

22 November

MoFA issues press release

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a press release, stating that Myanmar takes note of the issuance of the ASEAN Leaders' Review and Decision on the Implementation of the Five-Point Statement at the 49th ASEAN Summit, held in Manila, the Philippines, on 15 November 2026. Myanmar sincerely hopes that the fundamental principles of respect for sovereignty, equality, inclusivity and consensus-based decision-making enshrined in the ASEAN Charter will be consistently upheld. However, should these fundamental principles not be consistently upheld by ASEAN, Myanmar would likewise find it difficult to respect and abide by them, in order to safeguard the dignity of the State and uphold the collective will of its people.

23 November

4th Kathina robe-offering ceremony held at Maravijaya Monastery

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla attended the fourth Kathina robe-offering ceremony at Maravijaya Monastery in the precinct of Maravijaya Buddha Park in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw.

24 November

President and Spouse open Mathoe lotus robe-weaving contest

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla inaugurated the 2026 Maravijaya Buddha Image Tazaungdine Mathoe lotus robe-weaving contest at the fountain square in Maravijaya Buddha Park in Nay Pyi Taw.

25 November

Maravijaya balloon gala and Mathoe robe awards held

The 2026 hot-air balloon release contest at the Tazaungdine Lighting Festival of the Maravijaya Buddha Image in Dekkhinathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, and the awards ceremony for the Mathoe golden lotus robe-weaving contest took place on a grand scale at the fountain square in the compound of Maravijaya Buddha Park, attended by President U Min Aung Hlaing and his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla.

26 November

Union government meeting held

The Union Government meeting, held at the Office of the President in Nay Pyi Taw and attended by President U Min Aung Hlaing who discussed efforts to expand domestic production, broaden the tax base to boost national revenue and prepare for by-elections scheduled for April next year.

27 November

MMCWA holds 35th annual meeting

Honorary Patron of the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the President, attended the opening of the 35th annual meeting of the association at its head office in Nay Pyi Taw.

28 November

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 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. 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. — GNLM/TTA

NMA College awards degrees to 883 graduates at 12th convocation

NMA College awarded certificates to 883 graduates across various academic disciplines at its 12th convocation, which was held in two sessions at Novotel Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

At the morning ceremony, NMA College Senior Lecturer U Min Htaw Mon delivered the opening remarks, followed by a congratulatory address by Mr Suren Verma, South-East Asia and Pacific Regional Director of ABG Global.



A certificates-awarding event of NMA College in progress at its 12th convocation at the Novotel Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

Outstanding graduates received awards from the principal and professors, while 441 graduates who had completed programmes in DHR, DSM, DFA, DDM, DBE, DIBA, DIBM, DLSCM, DBOM and Hospitality received their respective certificates.

A female graduate then delivered a vote of thanks on behalf of the graduating students.

The afternoon session began with opening remarks by NMA College Senior Lecturer Dr Chit Thet Khaing, followed by the presentation of awards to outstanding graduates. The principal and professors then presented certificates to another 442 graduates.

Daw Khin Po Po Kyaw, Academic Programme Manager of NMA College's Academic Department, delivered a congratulatory address, followed by a vote of thanks from a female graduate. — Ottha/KZL

28 members of various armed groups rejoin society ...

FROM PAGE 5

The Region chief minister, the commander and officials then presented cash rewards and gifts to the returnees. The rewards comprised K10 million for two assault rifles, K2 million for one pistol, K2 million for four homemade guns, K2.1 million for seven assorted hand grenades, and K28 million for the 28 returnees. A representative expressed gratitude on behalf of the returnees. After signing pledge agreements, the returnees were formally handed over to their parents and guardians. The Region chief minister, the commander and officials then cordially greeted the returnees and their parents and guardians.

According to the reports, PDF members had been forcibly recruited through coercion involving their family members and relatives. They abandoned the armed struggle and returned to the legal fold because they could no longer accept the violent acts committed in the interests of terrorist groups, internal bullying, torture, killings and abuses within those groups, harsh living conditions, and declining morale resulting from their inability to withstand Tatmadaw offensives. Furthermore, they had placed their trust in the peace processes of the State and the Tatmadaw and wished to live peacefully within the legal fold and make amends to the State and the public for the losses and damage caused by their actions.

As those returning to the legal fold are being welcomed, provided with necessary assistance and systematically handed back to their parents and guardians, others are also reportedly expressing a desire to return. Anyone wishing to return to the legal fold is urged to contact the nearest district or township administrative body, military camp or police station promptly. They will be welcomed, provided with necessary support and offered appropriate cash rewards for their surrendered arms and ammunition. — MNA/TH

Awards presented for AI short video creation for road safety competition

WINNERS of the "AI Short Video Creation for Road Safety Competition" – an educational short film contest utilizing AI technology – were presented with awards during the opening ceremony of the Road Safety Week campaign in Yangon Region.

The ceremony took place on 27 November at the National Theatre in Yangon, held in conjunction with the opening of the Road Safety Week campaign.

During the event, Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu delivered the opening remarks. Following his speech, he presented the first, second, third, and consolation prizes to the winners.

Subsequently, the chief minister and accompanying officials toured the departmental exhibition booths, while traffic police officers distributed educational pamphlets on traffic rules and road safety. The winning video clips from the competition were then screened for the audience. Additionally, students from the No 1 Basic Education High School (Dagon) and No 6 Basic Education High School (Ahlon) performed dances accompanied by educational songs on traffic regulations set against AI-generated backdrops. — TWA/ZN

OPINION

Bringing the benefits of traditional medicine to the people

THE 25th Traditional Myanmar Medicine Practitioners' Conference and the Traditional Myanmar Medicine Symposium will be held soon to expand primary healthcare services for the public through traditional Myanmar medicine.

Myanmar's traditional medicine is a valuable national heritage that has been preserved and passed down from generation to generation since the time of our forefathers. Hence, traditional Myanmar medicine must also be systematically developed and advanced as a national responsibility. In promoting its development, emphasis must be placed on preserving traditional knowledge, conducting research to assess the safety and efficacy of medicines and therapeutic methods, and applying the knowledge gained through such research to public healthcare.

Traditional medicine practitioners have to emphasize the development of traditional Myanmar medicine through the application of modern technologies, compliance with professional ethics among practitioners in order to uphold the dignity and reputation of traditional medicine, and preservation, safeguarding and further promotion of traditional medicine practices and methods.

The government has been undertaking various measures, including upgrading traditional medicine hospitals and clinics, training and producing qualified professionals, organizing annual research paper-reading sessions, and supervising the production, distribution and sale of traditional medicines to ensure compliance with prescribed standards and specifications. To generate greater practical benefits for the public through these efforts, research, pharmaceutical production and healthcare services must be closely integrated.

It is necessary to bridge the practical experience of veteran traditional medicine practitioners with the research capabilities of the next generation of professionals. The university, hospitals and relevant organizations are urged to work together in compiling and documenting the professional knowledge and experience of senior practitioners, incorporating these records into teaching, and providing young professionals with opportunities to participate actively in research activities.

In expanding primary healthcare services, patient safety must be given priority. Health education activities should clearly explain disease prevention, the proper use of medicines in accordance with instructions, and the importance of seeking timely medical attention at hospitals and clinics in a way that the public can easily understand.

The government has been undertaking various measures, including upgrading traditional medicine hospitals and clinics, training and producing qualified professionals, organizing annual research paper-reading sessions, and supervising the production, distribution and sale of traditional medicines to ensure compliance with prescribed standards and specifications. To generate greater practical benefits for the public through these efforts, research, pharmaceutical production and healthcare services must be closely integrated.

Myanmar traditional medicine is a profound field of knowledge that has been relied upon and widely practised by all Myanmar ethnic communities for many centuries, with a long history of effective medicinal properties and treatments. However, many of its valuable medicinal remedies have gradually faded into obscurity for various reasons. Therefore, veteran traditional medicine practitioners and a new generation of experts must work together to rediscover and develop Myanmar's valuable traditional remedies with the support of modern technologies and strive to provide healthcare services to the public.

BOOKRACK

POEM



Book Title - Kambawza Naywin Bayinmya (Lords of the Sunset by Maurice Collis)
Translator - U Khin Maung Gyi
Publishing House - Seikku Cho Cho
Publication Date - September 2026 (Reprint)
Price - K15,000

Lords of the Sunset

WRITTEN by Maurice Collis, a former Deputy Commissioner of Rangoon (Yangon), under the original title Lords of the Sunset and translated into Myanmar by U Khin Maung Gyi, Kambawza Naywin Bayinmya (Lords of the Sunset) is a work of travel literature chronicling the twilight years of Shan State during the late colonial era.

The original author, Maurice Collis, was a former member of the Indian Civil Service (ICS) who arrived in Myanmar in 1912, serving as a District Magistrate and judge in Yangon. This experience gave him a profound understanding of Myanmar's culture and language, which later formed the foundation for his numerous historical books. In 1938, he returned from England to Shan State at the invitation of the then-Governor (Commissioner) of the Federated Shan States, embarking on a journey that inspired this book.

The book presents an eyewitness portrait of social life in late-colonial Shan State. With the special privileges of a British official, Collis travelled deep into the various Sawbwa (Shan hereditary chieftain) states, staying at their palaces and participating in royal festivities. Alongside vivid descriptions of the Shan hills' natural scenery, the work documents Shan customs, the history and administration of Sawbwa rule, and the extraction of local natural resources—such as silver mines and forests—by British companies. Notably, he portrays an ageing princess who, despite her diminished political status, continued to command the deep respect of both officials and locals through her wisdom and dignity, emerging as a vivid central figure in the narrative.

Collis is a gifted writer capable of recreating the atmosphere of an interior space with just a few words, making readers feel as though they were right there with him. He recounts experiences such as attending the funeral of a Shan Sawbwa and travelling in a vintage truck alongside an elderly princess. As a travelogue and historical memoir, the book captures his encounters with the Shan Sawbwas of the 1930s, documenting their palaces, courts, way of life, and culture. As they read, audiences can envision how a former British official perceived the world of the Shan Sawbwas as it passed through its final chapter under British rule.

It is worth noting that this book is a piece of travel literature rather than a comprehensive historical research text; its primary value lies in the author's personal experiences and observations rather than a systematic analysis of Shan State's political and economic structures. Furthermore, having been written in 1938, the original work naturally carries the perspective of a colonial-era Westerner and does not directly record the voices of the local people. Nevertheless, this does not obscure his genuine affection for Shan culture – he spoke Myanmar fluently and forged deep friendships with many local people.

The opening chapter of the book, titled "The Invitation", begins with the following passage:

"The British Empire was like a vast country house in the possession of an old English family. Generation after generation had altered and added to it. One lord built a new wing and returned from the Grand Tour with pictures; another redecorated the ceilings and collected Greek marbles; his son went to the East and brought back Buddhas and Chinese porcelain. The house became full of heterogeneous objects, some more admired than others."



Book Title - Myanma Naingnganyay Luboung Ahpwe Ahsee (The Burmese Polity, 1752-1819 by William J Koenig)
Translator - Zaw Aung
Publishing House - Myat Pwint Sarpay
Publication Date - October 2026
Price - K25,000

The Burmese Polity: Politics, Administration, and Social Organization in the Early Konbaung Period

TRANSLATED by Zaw Aung under the Myanmar title Myanma Naingnganyay Luboung Ahpwe Ahsee (Politics, Administration, and Social Organization in the Early Konbaung Period), this book is a Myanmar translation of The Burmese Polity, 1752-1819: Politics, Administration, and Social Organization in the Early Konbaung Period by William J Koenig.

Originally published in 1990 by the Centre for South and South-East Asian Studies at the University of Michigan, the 332-page volume is an exhaustive scholarly work, analyzing political institutions and social structure of the early Konbaung dynasty (1752-1819). This translation introduces Koenig's English-language historical research to Myanmar readers, offering deep insight into the political mechanism and social organization of the early Konbaung era.

William J Koenig is a renowned specialist in Myanmar history, particularly the political and administrative institutions of the early Konbaung period. Considered his magnum opus, the book meticulously examines the political processes, administrative mechanisms, and social stratification of that era. In academic circles, it is widely recognized as a foundational reference text for understanding the in-depth mechanisms of pre-colonial Myanmar society.

Focusing on the political and social conditions of the early Konbaung dynasty from 1752 to 1819, the author primarily analyzes the role of Buddhism in shaping the political processes of the Myanmar monarchy. Alongside central and regional administrative institutions, the book examines senior officials, the men and women of the royal court, and mechanisms of political succession. In particular, its exploration of royal succession forms the core of the work, reflecting the primary political preoccupation of the period. This valuable study draws extensively on primary Myanmar sources, including legal treatises and local land revenue records, synthesized with contemporary European accounts.

Reviewing the original work, Choice magazine noted that the book represents "an important addition to the limited body of analytical works on pre-colonial Burmese history," describing it as an "indispensable" reference for scholars of South-East Asian, and especially Myanmar, history. Comparing this volume with two other works on pre-colonial Myanmar history, Japanese scholar Takahiro Iwaki remarked that Koenig's methodology effectively integrates socioeconomic background, kingship, political thought, and administrative structure, proving especially rich in its analysis of royal succession.

In his foreword, the translator writes:

"This treatise highlights the early Konbaung period from the rise of King Alaungpaya in 1752 to the passing of King Bodawpaya in 1819. The author defines this 67-year span as 'the early dynamic phase and the incipient stage of decline of the Konbaung dynasty,' marking a critical turning point in pre-colonial Myanmar history."

As a rigorous work of academic research rather than a general historical narrative, this book is best suited for readers who possess background knowledge of Myanmar history and an interest in institutional analysis. Given its scholarly terminology, the translation will be most rewarding for readers already familiar with the fundamentals of Myanmar history.



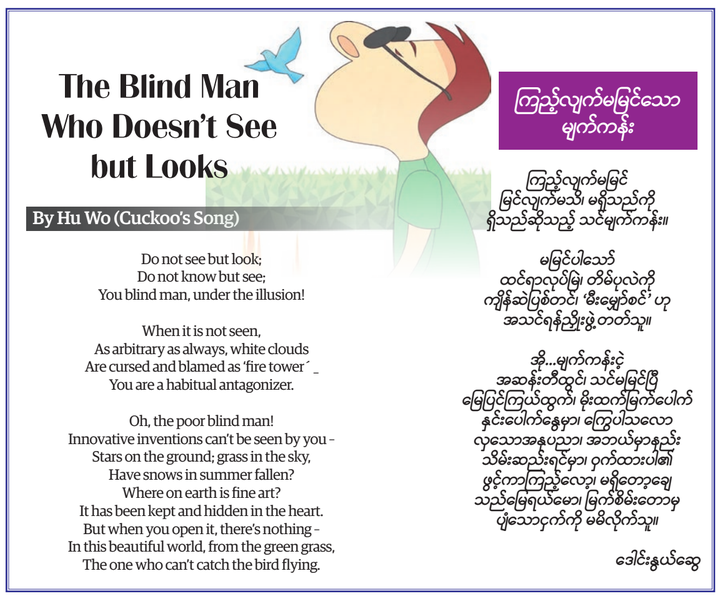
Myanmar's Bustling Shores

By Minn Minn Zan

Where emerald waves kiss golden sand,
Along Myanmar's enchanting strand,
From Ngwehsaung's breeze to Chaungtha's bay,
Bright crowds of travellers line the way.

In joyful groups, both young and old,
They trade their stress for memories gold,
With laughter ringing through the air,
And ocean winds to soothe each care.

They use their leisure time so well,
Beneath the sun where sea-breezes swell,
Refreshing mind and soul anew,
Beside the sparkling waters blue.



The Blind Man Who Doesn't See but Looks

By Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)

Do not see but look;
Do not know but see;
You blind man, under the illusion!

When it is not seen,
As arbitrary as always, white clouds
Are cursed and blamed as 'fire tower´_
You are a habitual antagonizer.

Oh, the poor blind man!
Innovative inventions can't be seen by you –
Stars on the ground; grass in the sky,
Have snows in summer fallen?
Where on earth is fine art?
It has been kept and hidden in the heart.
But when you open it, there's nothing –
In this beautiful world, from the green grass,
The one who can't catch the bird flying.

ကြည့်လျက်မမြင်သော မျက်ကန်း

ကြည့်လျက်မမြင်
မြင်လျက်မသိ၊ မရှိသည်ကို
ရှိသည်ဆိုသည့် သင်မျက်ကန်း။

မမြင်ပါသော်
ထင်ရာလုပ်မြဲ၊ တိမ်ပုလဲကို
ကျိန်ဆဲပြစ်တင်၊ 'မီးမျှော်စင်' ဟု
အသင်ရန်ညှိုးဖွဲ့တတ်သူ။

အို...မျက်ကန်းငှဲ့
အဆန်းတီထွင်၊ သင်မမြင်ပြီ
မြေပြင်ကြယ်ထွက်၊ မိုးထက်မြက်ပေါက်
နှင်းပေါက်နွေမှာ၊ ကြွေပါသလော
လှသောအနုပညာ၊ အဘယ်မှာနည်း
သိမ်းဆည်းရင်မှာ၊ ဝုတ်ထားပါ၏
ဖွင့်ကာကြည့်လော့၊ မရှိတော့ချေ
သည်မြေရယ်မော၊ မြက်စိမ်းတောမှ
ပျံသောငှက်ကို မမိလိုက်သူ။

ဒေါင်းနွယ်ဆွေ

Philosophy of the wave

By Maung Swan Yi
(Translated by Myint Zan)

when the wild winds blow
the still waters of the lake
stir and become waves
as the wild winds touch them:
(but)
the emerging "wavery" waves
disappear
when the wild winds cease
the lake becomes stable:
stillness prevails again

လှိုင်းအဘိဓမ္မာ

ငြိမ်သည့်ရေကန်
လေရိုင်းထန်လျှင်
ထန်သည့်လေရိုင်း
ခတ်တိုင်းလှိုင်းကြ
ကြသည့်လှိုင်းတွန့်
လေရိုင်းတန့်သော်
လှိုင်းတွန့်လည်းပြေ
ပျပ်ဝပ်ရေကန်
ငြိမ်ပြန်ပါရော့....။ ။

Translator's note: This poem is from a collection of poems by Maung Swan Yi (born 17 February 1937). The collection was first published around 1960. Translated on 27 November 2026.

NATIONAL
Entertainment



Classic Myanmar film 'Pho Pyone Cho' screened at Wazira Cinema

THE classic Myanmar film 'Pho Pyone Cho', which earned Wanna Kyaw Htin Pho Par Gyi the Best Actor Award, was screened at Wazira Cinema at 5 pm on 26 November.

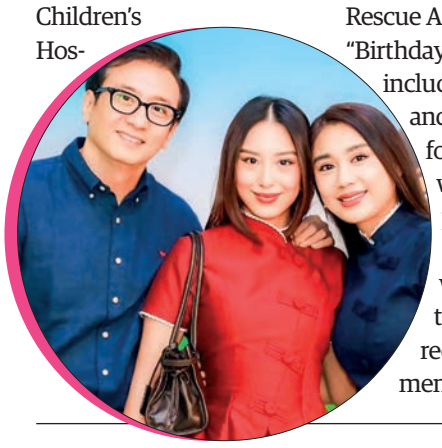
Released in 1955, the black-and-white film was among the year's outstanding productions and won three Myanmar Academy Awards.

"I welcome the screening of classic films at the internationally standard Wazira Cinema. It allows audiences to appreciate the art of earlier generations and compare it with today's films. However, it would be better if screenings were announced earlier and promoted more widely," said a moviegoer.

The drama portrays the emotional life of comedian Pho Pyone Cho (Pho Par Gyi) and his affection for an orphaned child named Apa (Win Mar). — Htun Htun/KTZH

Actress marks birthday with gift of hope at Children's Hospital

ACTRESS San Hteik Htar Oo donated K5 million for medical equipment for children and another K5 million to the hospital's haematology and oncology department at Yangon Children's Hospital on 26 November, marking her 24th birthday. The total donation amounted to K10 million. She also donated K1 million to the Shwe Yaung Hnalone Thar Animal Rescue Association.



"Birthday donations included infusion and syringe pumps for the neonatal ward, where a premature baby (my daughter) weighing just two pounds had received treatment for nearly two months until reaching three and a half pounds; cancer medication and antibiotics for the children's haematology and oncology department; and food, medicine and general expenses for the Shwe Yaung Hnalone Thar Animal Rescue Association," said her mother, actress Khine Thin Kyi.

To mark her birthday, San Hteik Htar Oo also released a music video titled "A Sone That' as a gift to her fans on the evening of 26 November. — TWA/KTZH

New film venture poised to launch rising star's debut



SHWE NADI SHWE YI Film Production has announced that it will produce the debut feature film of traditional Myanmar male dancer San Yay Moe.

An initial discussion meeting was held on 26 November, attended by production representatives and members of the cast.

The cast includes San Yay Moe, Academy Yan Aung, Academy Ye Aung, Academy Wai Lu Kyaw, Min Thu, Academy Aung Khine, Bhone Min Nay La, Academy Chuu Lay and other artistes.

The film 'Zabu Dipa Hmar Achit Sone' will be directed by Aung Kyaw Tun, San Yay Moe's mentor. — TWA/KTZH

Shwe Nadi Shwe Yi Film Production to make new TV series

SHWE Nadi Shwe Yi Film Production organized a launch ceremony for its new film 'Kyama Achit Sone Thu' at the Shwe Napan Pagoda in Yangon.



The story is written by Thura and Shwe Pyae, with Shwe Pyae also handling the screenplay. Academy director Nyunt Myanmar Nyi Nyi Aung is directing the series.

"I liked the story when it was offered to me because it is a suspense genre. My character also plays an important role in the storyline. Another reason I accepted it is that I get to take on a character I have never played before. I have previously portrayed a married man in 'Mone Man Hnyo,' but my wife was never shown on screen. This time, I will play the father of Shein Tin Htoo, covering both his younger and older years. I see this as a new challenge for me," said actor Min Taw Win.

The series features Shein Tin Htoo, Kyaw Kyaw, Min Taw Win, Thiha Tin Aung Soe, Nan Su Oo, Khae Sett Thwin, Su Myat Noe Oo and other artistes. — TWA/KTZH

Actor to bring new character to life

ACTOR Thein Lin Soe will appear in a new and different character in 'Pahtaman Saya Thein', a film produced by Shwe Nadi Application, director Htut Tint Tun announced.

"This is a supernatural story in which audiences will see Ko Thein in a character different from the one they are familiar with. We have been planning this film with him for more than a year. During this time, he has also become increasingly devoted to religious practices. The film will portray his transformation from an ordinary person into Saya Thein," said director Htut Tint Tun.

The story is written by Phyo Thinzar Kyaw, with the screenplay by Paing Soe Thu. Director Htut Tint Tun will direct the film for Shwe Nadi Application.

Thein Lin Soe, Nay Ye, Thazin Nwe Win, Academy Myat Kathi Aung, Min Thu and other artistes star in the film. — TWA/KTZH

Channel 7 to air new series



THE series 'Love Above Tears', produced by Nyanna Film Production, will premiere on Channel 7 on 30 November. It will air every Monday to Friday at 6 pm. The romantic series is written, scripted and directed by Eric Lin. The cast includes Natkhak, Nyanna, Saung Wut Yee May, Pyoe Han Thar, Paing Soe San and other artistes. — TWA/KTZH

Shwe Nadi App donates over K30M for Shwedagon's 38th Mathoe robe

SHWE Nadi App has donated more than K30 million in support of the 38th Mathoe robe-offering ceremony at Shwedagon Pagoda.



It also shared photos on social media of the robe-weaving and offering ceremonies held on the eve of and during the Full Moon Day of Tazaungmone.

"Shwe Nadi App contributed more than K30 million to the 38th Mathoe robe-offering ceremony, joining devotees in making donations, providing free food offerings and offering oil lamps during the Tazaungdine Festival. We are pleased to share this good news so that everyone can share in the merit," a representative of SHWE NADI App said. — TWA/KTZH

WORLD

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan pledges continued support for Gaza

JAPANESE Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi on Friday pledged continued support for the Gaza Strip's recovery during a meeting with visiting officials involved in efforts to rebuild and administer the war-torn Palestinian territory.

At the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo, Nickolay Mladenov, high representative for Gaza of the Board of Peace, briefed Motegi on efforts to implement the Gaza peace plan, which calls for the Palestinian territory to be governed temporarily by a technocratic, apolitical Palestinian committee.

Motegi said that Japan is committed to supporting Gaza in coordination with the National Committee for the Administration of Gaza.

The visiting officials, including Ali Shaath, chief commissioner of the NCAG, and Ramiz Alakbarov, UN acting special coordinator for the Middle East peace process, are in Japan to attend an event on international cooperation for Gaza's early reconstruction co-hosted by the ministry and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation. — Kyodo

Putin takes part in flag-raising ceremony on Russia's newest nuclear submarine

The Perm submarine will soon become part of the Russian Pacific Fleet.



Russian President Vladimir Putin attends a flag-raising ceremony on the new Project Yasen-M nuclear submarine Perm in Severodvinsk on Friday. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

RUSSIA is one of the few countries in the world capable of building powerful nuclear submarines, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday.

Earlier in the day, the Russian president took part in a flag-raising ceremony on the Perm nuclear submarine in Russia's Severodvinsk.

"I would like to especially note that Russia is one of the few countries in the world capable of building such powerful nuclear submarines—weapons of global significance. Our design bureaus and shipyards possess cutting-edge technologies and engineering solutions, extensive experience, and highly qualified personnel," Putin said during the ceremony. The Perm submarine will soon become part of the Russian Pacific Fleet, Putin said, adding that Russia intends to develop and improve its navy. — SPUTNIK

Israel's Eisenkot vows to form new govt within 8 days



Israeli opposition leader Gadi Eisenkot delivers a speech in Jerusalem after receiving the mandate to form a new government. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

ISRAELI opposition bloc leader Gadi Eisenkot said Friday he intends to form a new government within the eight days remaining in his mandate, accusing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party of conducting unity negotiations without any genuine intention of reaching an agreement.

In a social media post, Eisenkot said that the two sides had held five meetings over two weeks, but Likud allegedly refused to make concrete proposals or compromise on key issues, including removing far-right parties from the government, establishing a state commission of inquiry into the 7 October 2023 attack, and passing legislation requiring broader military service. Eisenkot accused Likud of deliberately delaying negotiations to divide the opposition and force another election. — Xinhua

Belarusian president begins tour of Persian Gulf, South-East Asia



Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko begins a diplomatic tour across the Persian Gulf and South-East Asia, starting with talks in Oman. **PHOTO: SPUTNIK**

BELARUSIAN President Alexander Lukashenko began a tour of the Persian Gulf and South-East Asia on Friday with a visit to Oman, his office said.

"Belarusian President Aleksandr Lukashenko has embarked on a major tour of the Persian Gulf and South-East Asia," the statement read.

The Belarusian Board No 1 landed in the Omani capital of Muscat where Lukashenko was met by Oman Investment Agency President Abdulsalam Mohammed Al-Murshidi.

"During the Belarusian President's current visit to Oman, the two sides will review how the agreements reached at previous top-level meetings are being carried out, including the instructions given to build on last year's mutual visits by Aleksandr Lukashenko to Oman and by Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said to Belarus," the office stated. Among the countries the head of state will visit is Belarus' strategic partner Vietnam, "one of the key and active members of ASEAN". — SPUTNIK

Cambodia urges restraint in Saudi-Houthi conflict

CAMBODIA has called on Saudi Arabia and Yemen's Houthi group to exercise utmost restraint and pursue peaceful talks to resolve their conflict, according to a Foreign Ministry statement released on Saturday.

"Cambodia urges all parties concerned to exercise utmost restraint and engage constructively in peaceful dialogue and negotiations to de-escalate tensions and restore peace, stability, and security," the statement said.

The appeal comes amid escalating hostilities between the Houthi group and Yemeni government forces backed by a Saudi-led coalition. – Xinhua

ECONOMY
WORLD

The Netherlands strongly opposes US semiconductor export control bill

The proposed US legislation aims to align semiconductor export controls among the United States and its allies.

THE Netherlands has strongly opposed a proposed US semiconductor export control bill, warning that Washington's push to extend its restrictions to allied countries could undermine Dutch economic interests, national sovereignty and security.



The legislation has raised particular concern in the Netherlands because of its potential. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

The dispute over the Multilateral Alignment of Technology Controls on Hardware Act, known as the MATCH Act, has highlighted divergence between the two allies over semiconductor export controls and the extent to which the United States can influence the export policies of other countries.

"The Netherlands will not have its policies dictated to it," Dutch Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation Sjoerd Sjoerdsma told the parliament on Thursday, stressing that the government's opposition to the bill was "a matter of national interest".

The proposed US legislation aims to align semiconductor export controls among the United States and its allies. It would give the US government 150 days to assess whether allied countries have adopted comparable restrictions on semiconductor manufacturing equipment exports and servicing.

If allied countries fail to meet the requirements, the US Department of Commerce would be required to unilaterally extend US export controls to equipment supplied from those countries. — Xinhua

Japan weighs how workers can share in gains from generative AI

GENERATIVE artificial intelligence is becoming more common in Japan, though still less widely used than in several other large economies, and its spread in the workplace could affect how much people earn and how long they work.



Office workers in Japan use computers as businesses and policymakers weigh how employees can share in generative AI gains. **PHOTO: KYODO**

If employees spend less time writing reports or sorting through information, their employer can use those extra hours to get more done, but it takes a separate decision to turn the gains into higher pay or shorter working hours.

As long as companies use the time saved to take on more business and expect staff to keep up with the new pace, employees could end up handling more assignments every day for the same pay and on the same schedule, analysts say.

For a parent who usually finishes work too late to pick up a child from school, a shorter workday for the same pay could mean more days when they can get there on time.

The government found in a fiscal 2025 survey that 58.8 per cent of respondents in Japan had tried generative AI, a technology that can create text and images, compared with 75.6 per cent in both the United States and Germany and 93.6 per cent in China.

Among people who had tried it, about 30 percent in Japan said they used it nearly every day, compared with 48 per cent in the United States, 46 per cent in Germany and 43 per cent in China, according to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.

Of those in Japan who had never used generative AI, 42.4 per cent said they did not need tools that write text in their daily lives or at work, while 38.8 per cent said they did not know how to use them, the ministry showed. — Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

World Bank expands Sri Lanka rupee financing

THE World Bank Group has arranged a financing facility equivalent to US$5 million to expand access to long-term Sri Lankan rupee funding and support private investment in renewable energy and infrastructure.

According to a Thursday news release from the group, the six-year, fixed-rate borrowing line, arranged by the World Bank Group Treasury between the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and HSBC Sri Lanka, is the first transaction of its kind in Asia and IFC's first borrowing line in Sri Lanka.

The facility allows IFC to raise funds locally and lend to businesses in the currency in which they generate revenue, reducing their exposure to exchange rate fluctuations.

The loan is IFC's longest-tenor Sri Lankan rupee loan to date, its first rupee-denominated infrastructure loan and its first infrastructure investment in the country since the recent economic crisis. — Xinhua

Bank of Mexico raises economic growth forecast

THE Bank of Mexico said Thursday it raised its economic growth forecast for 2026 to 1.9 per cent from 1.5 per cent, citing better-than-expected economic activity.

In its quarterly report for July-September, the central bank maintained its GDP growth forecast for 2027 at two per cent.

"The revision to the 2026 forecast reflects, primarily, a stronger-than-expected performance of economic activity during the third quarter," the bank said.

Despite the improvement, the central bank said risks to economic growth remain tilted to the downside, including heightened uncertainty surrounding policies that could be implemented in the United States. — Xinhua

Vietnam, Laos agree to strengthen trade, infrastructure links

VIETNAM and Laos agreed to strengthen trade and infrastructure links during talks between Vietnamese Prime Minister Le Minh Hung and his Lao counterpart Saleumxay Kommasith in Hanoi, the Vietnam News Agency reported Friday.

Hung called for expanding imports of Lao agricultural products, improving cross-border transport and logistics infrastructure, and addressing difficulties facing Vietnamese investment projects in Laos.

Kommasith expressed interest in expanding cooperation in hydropower, renewable energy and power transmission to boost Lao energy exports.

During a separate meeting with Kommasith on Friday, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and Vietnamese President To Lam called for accelerating major transport and energy projects linking the two countries. — Xinhua

Canada unveils first-ever federal forest strategy

CANADIAN Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Tim Hodgson on Friday unveiled the country's first-ever federal forest strategy, listing US tariffs as a key challenge to the sector.

According to a backgrounder issued by Natural Resources Canada, the strategy aims to transform the forest sector through investment, partnerships and innovation.

Under the plan, the federal government is committing two billion Canadian dollars (about US$1.4 billion) over six years to help forest businesses modernize, increase productivity and expand production into new products.

This comes alongside four billion Canadian dollars over six years for a "Forest Sector Accelerator" to invest in new large-scale facilities and major transformations of existing ones to accelerate the development of advanced forest products and technologies, including engineered building products, biochemicals, bioenergy and biofuels. — Xinhua

Japanese food makers plan price hikes of more than 10% on some products

SEVERAL Japanese food manufacturing companies have unveiled plans to increase product prices from January through March, with some products set to rise by more than 10 per cent, effectively negating the benefits of the government's planned tax reduction. The price hikes come amid rising raw material and labour costs against the backdrop of prolonged tensions in the Middle East, and they could undermine the effectiveness of the planned cut of the consumption tax rate on food and beverages from eight per cent to one per cent for two years starting in April.



Butter and dairy products made by Meiji Holdings Co which plans price hikes ahead of Japan's consumption tax cut. **PHOTO: KYODO**

If companies are raising prices on some products in anticipation that it will become more difficult to do so after the government's tax-cut bill is passed by the Senate and takes effect, the burden on households may not ease, observers of corporate price hikes warned.

Meiji Holdings Co, a major Japanese food manufacturer, has said it plans to raise prices on 34 cheese, butter, fat and oil products by about three per cent to nine per cent from 1 January shipments, and on 24 ice cream products by about five per cent to 12 per cent. "Consumers will not accept price hikes after April, so we want to avoid that," an executive of the food manufacturer, said at a financial results briefing earlier this month. — Kyodo

Vietnam's intl flights rise 8.3% for winter schedule

THE number of weekly international round-trip flights to and from Vietnam has increased by 271, or 8.3 per cent year on year, under the 2026 winter flight schedule, the Vietnam News Agency reported Thursday, citing the Civil Aviation Authority of Vietnam (CAAV).

The increase brings the total to 3,523 international round-trip flights per week during the winter period, which runs from late October 2026 to late March 2027.

A total of 83 airlines are operating international flights to and from Vietnam this winter, including four Vietnamese carriers and 79 foreign airlines from 31 countries and territories, said the report.

Vietnamese airlines are operating more than 117 international routes connecting the country with 22 countries and territories, while foreign carriers are operating scheduled services on 159 routes to Vietnam.

The figures reflect the appeal of Vietnam's aviation market and the country's growing international air connectivity, according to a CAAV official. — Xinhua


Weekly international flight frequencies increase. **PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE**

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V NORDLEOPARD VOY.NO. (645W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V NORDLEOPARD VOY.NO. (645W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MAERSK A/S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC BOOM VOY.NO. (2628S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC BOOM VOY.NO. (2628S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (317W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (317W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V MOE LINE 3 VOY.NO. (ML3005)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MOE LINE 3 VOY.NO. (ML3005)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **29-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MOE NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS DIGEST



Trucks deliver containers at Dinh Vu port in Hai Phong city, Vietnam, 31 March 2022.
PHOTO: XINHUA/FILE

28 NOVEMBER

CPTPP agrees to open Japan office

MEMBER states of a Japan-led multilateral free trade pact have agreed to provisionally set up its support office in the country, which will be in charge of arranging meeting schedules and managing documents.

They hope to launch the operations of the office in 2027.

At their two-day ministerial meeting in Hanoi through Friday, the members of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership also agreed to begin membership negotiations with Indonesia, the Philippines and the United Arab Emirates.

"I expect that the new support office will underpin the CPTPP members' discussions and activities, and contribute to the effective implementation of the trade agreement," Tomu Tanigawa, state minister at Japan's Cabinet Office, told reporters after the ministerial meeting. — Kyodo

27 NOVEMBER

Sanctions weakened French agriculture, Philippot says

FRENCH presidential candidate and leader of The Patriots party Florian Philippot on Friday said that it is precisely the anti-Russia sanctions that have weakened France's position in the global agricultural market.

On Thursday, French President Emmanuel Macron said that Russia's agricultural successes were hurting the French agrarian sector, adding that France had lost certain markets, and its former clients, including Russia, had now become the country's competitors.

"Macron acts surprised, presenting everything happening to France as an external 'inevitability,' when he and the EU he supports are entirely responsible for what is happening! Who foolishly decided on those idiotic anti-Russian sanctions in 2014, then in 2022?!" Philippot said on X. Russia's Ministry of Agriculture projected a record fruit and berry harvest of 2.3 million tonnes for 2026. — SPUTNIK

26 NOVEMBER

US tariff impact hinges on trade

THE impact of the US tariff measures on Indian exports will depend on the outcome of trade negotiations and the duties faced by competing economies, industry leaders said on Wednesday, while noting that engineering exports to the US are currently recording strong growth.

Speaking to ANI, Ranjeet Mehta, CEO and Secretary General of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), described the proposed duties as both an opportunity and a challenge, saying India could have a relatively favourable position compared with some competing economies.

The comments came after the US Trade Representative (USTR) proposed tariffs of up to 25 per cent on Indian goods, with the rate potentially falling to 17 per cent if the two countries reach a reciprocal trade agreement. — ANI

25 NOVEMBER

Singapore, Australia sign carbon storage pact

SINGAPORE and Australia have signed an agreement to facilitate the cross-border movement of carbon dioxide from Singapore to Australia for offshore geological storage, paving the way for carbon capture and storage cooperation between the two countries.

The agreement signed in Australia on Tuesday formalizes the transfer of carbon dioxide accounting responsibility and establishes a framework for measuring, reporting and accounting for cross-border carbon dioxide movements, Singapore's Ministry of Energy, Trade and Industry said in a statement.

The framework is aligned with the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change reporting guidelines, the ministry said.

It also allows Singapore to explore carbon capture and storage as a decarbonization pathway, particularly for hard-to-abate industries where emissions are difficult to reduce using existing technologies. — Xinhua

24 NOVEMBER

FIFI connects Indian seafood with buyers

THE Forum of Indian Food Importers (FIFI), in close collaboration with GEFA, Fischverband, the German Embassy in India, and the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), has concluded a bilateral engagement programme to strengthen India's position in the global seafood value chain.

Held across Nellore in Andhra Pradesh and Kochi in Kerala, the initiative facilitated more than 120 targeted business interactions and curated site visits connecting international buyers with Indian exporters and processors. The meetings generated over US$2 million in initial trade discussions, with several commercial contracts currently advancing towards signature.

FIFI Founder Director Amit Lohani said the programme aims to shift German buyer preference toward Indian shrimp and expand overseas opportunities for Indian food products. — ANI

23 NOVEMBER

South Asians fill Japan farm shortages

JAPAN is increasingly turning to South Asian countries like Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka to address chronic labor shortages on its ageing farms.

As rising wages in traditional South-East Asian sources like Vietnam and the Philippines slow worker inflows, Japanese firms are expanding recruitment in South Asia. According to Japanese government data, specified skilled foreign workers in agriculture rose 26 per cent year-on-year to 44,050 in June, with workers from Bangladesh surging 127 per cent, Sri Lanka 60 per cent, and Nepal 30 per cent.

Companies like Tokyo-based Mirai offer free language and agricultural training through partner schools in these nations, helping diligent candidates pass exams and secure Japanese farm jobs. — Kyodo

22 NOVEMBER

COP31 concludes without overarching climate deal

THE 31st United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31) concluded on Sunday without an overarching deal after nearly 48 hours of overtime talks.

"It seems that there are parties that object to this text. I understand that there is no agreement on this text. For that reason, these decisions have not been adopted," COP31 President Murat Kurum said at the closing plenary. Kurum, also Türkiye's minister of environment, urbanization and climate change, said Türkiye's responsibility as presidency will continue beyond the conference, pointing to clean energy, zero-waste and climate financing initiatives launched under the summit's action agenda. UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell said he shared "the deep disappointment of many" over the failure to reach an overarching agreement. — Xinhua

SPORTS

Yangon crowned M-League U20 champions after 2-2

Yangon United clinched the 2026 M-League U20 Youth League title after drawing 2-2 with the Institute of Sports and Physical Education (ISPE) in the decisive final match at Thuwunna Stadium on 28 November.



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu presents the championship trophy to Yangon United. **PHOTO: SOE NYUNT THAW**

Organised by the Myanmar Football Federation and the Myanmar National League Committee, with Grand Royal, AYA Bank and AYA Pay as main sponsors, the competition concluded with Yangon United securing the one point they needed to finish as champions.

Both teams put up a strong fight in the title-deciding match. The result also ended Yangon United's long wait for success in youth competitions, while head coach U Yan Aung Kyaw claimed the first trophy of his coaching career.

Htun Ko Ko Oo opened the scoring for ISPE in the 25th minute before La Min Pyae Sone equalized for Yangon United in the 37th minute, leaving the teams level at 1-1 at half-time. Aung Myo Min put Yangon United ahead early in the second half, but Kaung Khant Kyaw restored parity for ISPE in the 83rd minute. Neither side could find another goal before the final whistle.

Yangon United midfielder Aung Myo Min received the AYA Pay Player of the Match award, along with a commemorative prize and K200,000 in prize money.

At the post-match prize presentation, Nyi Naing of Dagon Star United claimed the top scorer award with 26 goals, receiving a commemorative prize and K2 million. Yangon United goalkeeper Zin Min Zaw won the Best Goalkeeper award and K2 million, while Sith Nyein Chan Oo of ISPE received the Player of the Tournament award and K3 million.

Dagon Star United, who finished third, received individual medals and K30 million in prize money. Runners-up ISPE received individual medals and K40 million, while champions Yangon United collected individual medals, K50 million in prize money and the championship trophy.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu, Deputy Minister for Sports U Myo Kyaw Thu, Yangon Region ministers, a senior vice-president of the Asian Football Confederation, Myanmar Football Federation President U Zaw Zaw, Myanmar National League Committee Chairman U Zaw Min Thein and sponsor representatives presented the awards. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

FIFA Recovery Programme helps restore Swiss local pitch after flood damage

FIFA announced Friday that the restoration of flood-damaged Swiss local football pitch Stade des Combes had been completed with the help of the FIFA Recovery Programme.


The restored Stade des Combes football pitch in Switzerland's Valais region, home to local amateur club FC Iserables. **PHOTO: FIFA**

The pitch, which is at 1,033 metres above sea level in the Valais region, was severely damaged by a flood in 2024. The Swiss Football Association submitted a request to the FIFA Development Committee to repair the facilities in February 2026.

FIFA approved a fund of US$80,000 for the 60-year home ground of amateur club FC Iserables later that month within the scope of the FIFA Recovery Programme, which supports all 211 FIFA member associations in restoring football infrastructure and activities following exceptional events.

"Football belongs to everyone, and FIFA has a responsibility to help wherever our support is needed," said Gelson Fernandes, FIFA's Deputy Chief Member Associations Officer and Regional Director for Africa and Caribbean. FC Iserables is able to resume its football activities at the historic home after the restoration of a retaining wall, a comprehensive overhaul of the pitch, the installation of a safety barrier and the replacement of damaged floodlighting.— Xinhua


Crystal Palace and Japan national team midfielder Daichi Kamada during a match before facing careless driving charges in London. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Japan football star Kamada charged with careless driving in London

JAPAN footballer Daichi Kamada, a Crystal Palace midfielder, has been charged with careless driving in London, local media reported.

Kamada, a Japan national team member who joined the English Premier League club in 2024 from Italy's Lazio, was accused of driving a car "without due care and attention" on 15 March, according to the reports. The 30-year-old appeared in court on 20 November and is expected to return on 19 January to enter a plea, the report said.

In this year's World Cup, Kamada netted an equalizer to help Japan secure a 2-2 draw with the Netherlands. — Kyodo

Figure skating: Japan's Chiba runner-up to S Korea's Shin at NHK Trophy

JAPANESE figure skater Mone Chiba finished runner-up Saturday as South Korea's Shin Ji A clinched her maiden Grand Prix victory at the NHK Trophy in Tokyo.

Chiba, who topped Friday's short programme, was aiming to win her second event of the season and complete a Japanese sweep of all six women's Grand Prix titles, after compatriots Ami Nakai and Mao Shimada each won twice.

No country has won all six women's Grand Prix crowns in a single season since Russia in 2019-2020.

Performing her free skating routine last, Chiba fell on her third jump, a triple loop, on her way to 137.45 points for the segment and a total of 214.57.

Shin topped the free skate with 145.53 and totaled 220.84, both personal bests, while South Korea's You Young rounded out the podium with 199.99. — Kyodo


South Korean figure skater Shin Ji A celebrates after winning her maiden Grand Prix title at the NHK Trophy in Tokyo. **PHOTO: KYODO**

SUNDAY EDITION

Lifestyle

Regional thalis celebrate India's diverse culinary heritage

Punjabi thali highlights the region's fertile agricultural roots.



Gujarati thali from Shree Thakar Bhojanalay in Mumbai. **PHOTO: TRUJILLO-PAUMIER/TRAVEL + LEISURE**

INDIA'S vast culinary diversity is best experienced through its traditional regional thalis, where multi-dish platters reflect local climates, agricultural heritage, and ancestral recipes. Rather than serving as a simple meal, each thali brings together generations of local flavours and cultural traditions on a single plate.

In northern India, the grand Punjabi thali highlights the region's fertile agricultural roots with hearty, dairy-rich staples including dal makhani, chole, paneer dishes, parathas, curd, and lassi. Moving west, the Gujarati thali offers a balanced combination of sweet, sour, and savoury notes through dishes like dhokla, kadhi, undhiyu, thepla, farsan, and traditional sweets. Nearby Maharashtra presents a vibrant burst of spicy, tangy, and mildly sweet flavours featuring varan bhaat, bharli vangi, kothimbir vadi, bhakri, and puran poli.

Further south, traditional banana-leaf spreads such as the South Indian sadhya celebrate rice and aromatic spices, while eastern India's Bengali thali showcases distinctive fish-based specialities alongside regional staples. Across every region, these curated platters preserve centuries-old cooking methods and remain a cherished symbol of Indian hospitality and culinary identity. — ANI

Freeze-dried poutine headed for International Space Station

Poutine, a classic Canadian dish of fries, gravy, and cheese, has been adapted into a vegan version for space travel.

Poutine, the famous Canadian gravy-soaked French fry dish, will soon be headed to the International Space Station as "a special treat" for astronaut Joshua Kutryk, the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) said Friday. But the dish, a product of the French-speaking province of Quebec, has been modified for the trip. While poutine is traditionally made with fries, gravy and cheese curds, the CSA worked with Quebec chef Yves Lowe to develop a dairy-free "space vegan poutine" to comply with guidelines for food that can be sent to the space station. "I pictured Josh eating his poutine and feeling a bit more at home," Lowe, who is also the head chef for the NHL's Montreal Canadiens, posted on Instagram. The freeze-dried poutine is scheduled to head to space as part of a resupply mission due to take off this weekend. — AFP



Canadian Space Agency astronaut Joshua Kutryk is set to receive a freeze-dried, plant-based poutine aboard the International Space Station (ISS) via Northrop Grumman's Cygnus resupply mission (NG-25), scheduled to launch on 29 November 2026. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Brussels bets on culture boost with new Kanal museum opening

HOUSED in a steel-and-glass converted car factory, Brussels' new flagship museum opens this week, with officials hoping it will help put the Belgian capital on the map as a global art destination.

Run in partnership with Paris' iconic Centre Pompidou, the Kanal museum for contemporary and modern art is to host hundreds of works including by modern masters Henri Matisse, Alberto Giacometti and Pablo Picasso. "With Kanal-Centre Pompidou, Brussels is in the same league as other major art cities, such as New York, London and Bilbao," crowed Boris Dillies, head of the Brussels regional government. Belgium's royal couple are to preside over a ribbon-cutting ceremony Thursday before the museum opens to the general public at the weekend. Located along a canal in a former 1930s Citroen building, the massive modernist industrial venue features raw concrete, metal beams and a high glass ceiling with stunning views of the city.



Brussels unveils the new Kanal-Centre Pompidou art museum inside a converted 1930s Citroen building along the city's canal. **PHOTO: AFP**

Brussels hopes its new Kanal museum will put the city on the international art world map.

For the opening, visitors will be greeted by high columns of golden balloons created by Turkish artist Banu Cennetoglu, representing the 30 articles of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Dillies expects the new museum will draw half a million visitors a year, boosting tourism in a city that despite substantial cultural offerings previously lacked a major contemporary art venue. — AFP



A male employee experiences simulated menstrual pain during a training session organized by Tokyo Gas Co in Yokohama on 9 October 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Japanese firms tackle health, childcare barriers to boost women's careers

JAPANESE companies are introducing workplace reforms to remove health and childcare barriers holding back women's career advancement.

At Tokyo Gas Co, male employees recently used simulation devices to experience menstrual cramps during a training session in Yokohama. The initiative follows an internal survey showing that while over 70 per cent of female staff seek promotions, 70 per cent also face health-related workplace difficulties.

Childcare remains another major obstacle, with government data showing wives in dual-income households handle 77.4 per cent of housework and childcare for young children. To address this, auto parts maker Kanemitsu Corp encourages men to take parental leave and gives young female employees priority for overseas assignments in Thailand and Indonesia. President Sayaka Yamakawa noted that sharing childcare duties is vital to increasing female representation in management. — Kyodo