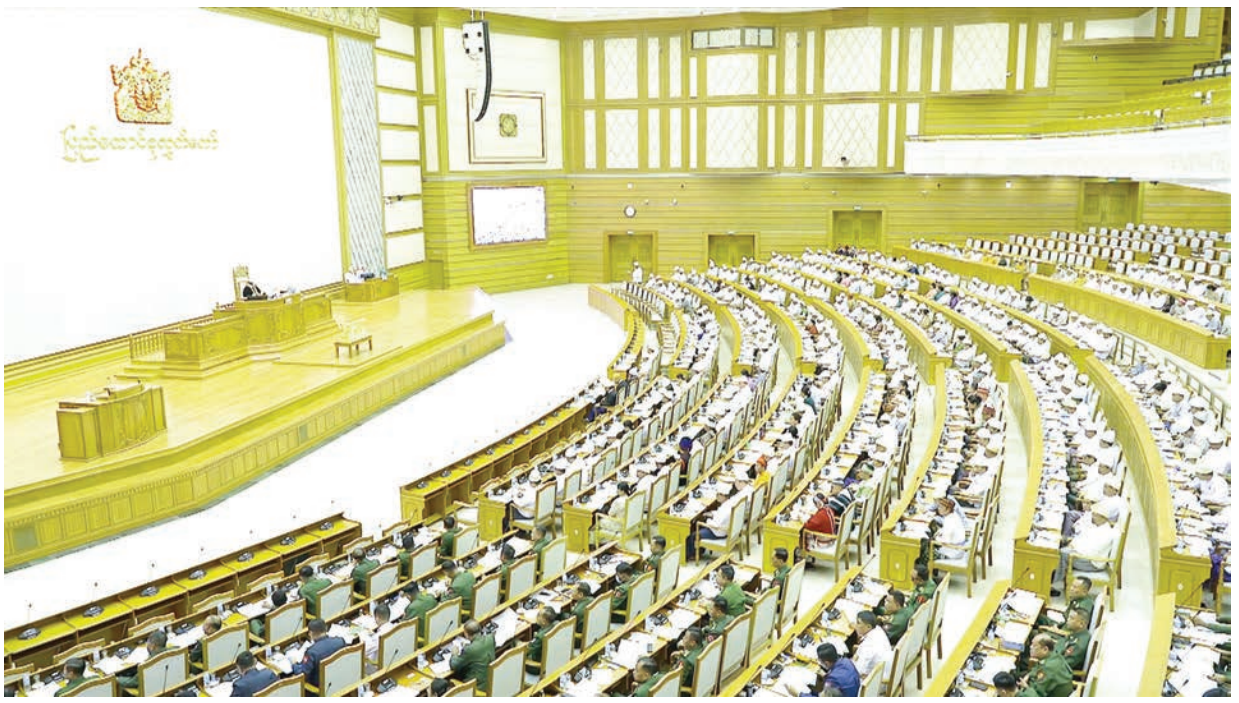
Embrace the Future: Unfolding a New Chapter with a Fresh Vision

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

Vol. XIII, No. 201, 11th Waning of Thadingyut 1388 ME | www.gnlm.com.mm | Friday, 6 November 2026

HLUTTAW

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Debate Focuses on Constitutional Amendments



The Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's third regular session convenes its ninth-day meeting in Nay Pyi Taw.

The third regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued for the ninth day at its building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session was attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker Jeng Phang Naw Taung, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn, Union-level dignitaries and lawmakers.

MP U Zin Min Htet from the Bago Region Constituency 7 tabled a proposal to form a Joint Committee comprising appropriate Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives to review and draft legislation for the amendment of 43 provisions of the Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar recommended for amendment and supplementation, and the provisions contained in Parts (1), (2) and (3) of the Union Accord.

SEE PAGE 3

Mingala Taungnyunt Welcomes New Mingala Market

THE newly upgraded Mingala Market opened on 5 November in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon, at the corner of Banyadala Road and Setyon Road, according to the Yangon Region government.

The newly upgraded Mingala Market is an RC-type eight-storey building with 4,067 stalls from the basement to the fourth floor.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu, regional government members, Yangon City Development Committee officials, departmental officials, market vendors and other officials attended the opening ceremony.

Mayor U Myo Myint Aung, Secretary U Cho Tun Aung, committee members and Dr Nay Lin Tun, chairman of San Myat Tun Co Ltd, cut the ribbon to open the new market. Chief Minister U Aung Naing Thu then pressed a button to unveil the market's signboard. The chief minister and officials later toured the new market, and the chief minister greeted attendees warmly.

— NN/KK



The launch of the new upgraded Mingala Market is underway in Yangon.

ARTICLE

The Importance of Strengthening Primary Healthcare for Sustainable Healthcare Development

PAGE 8

UNESCO Panel Endorses Myanmar Thanaka Culture for Inscription

A draft decision has been submitted to inscribe the practice of Thanaka culture in Myanmar, a traditional cultural heritage of Myanmar, on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, according to the Department of Archaeology and National Museum.

Under the draft decision, the committee assessed that the Thanaka nomination meets the specified criteria. Key points are broken down into (R1) Daily life and transmission: Thanaka represents balance, care and unity in practitioners' daily lives and plays a major role in religious festivals and social activities.

SEE PAGE 5

Endangered Migratory Birds Arrive at Moeyungyi Wetland Amid El Niño Watch

MIGRATORY birds, including 12 globally endangered species, have begun arriving at the Moeyungyi Wetland Wildlife Sanctuary in Bago Region for the winter season.

Key threatened species spotted include the black-headed ibis, spot-billed pelican, sarus crane, woolly-necked stork, greater spotted eagle, and Baer's pochard. Sanctuary officials noted unusual early arrivals, such as common teals and brown-headed gulls landing by late October. Over 900 migratory birds have joined the sanctuary's resident population of more than 6,000 birds across 70 species.

SEE PAGE 4



The images show endangered migratory birds including a black-headed ibis. **PHOTO: KANU**

NATIONAL

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Announcement 68/2026

10th Waning of Thadingyut, 1388 ME
5 November 2026

Announcement of By-Election Date for Vacant Hluttaw Constituencies

EXERCISING the duties and powers conferred under Section 10 of the Union Election Commission Law, the Union Election Commission hereby announces, in compliance with Section 34(c) of the respective Hluttaw Election Laws and Rule 16(a), that by-elections will be held on Sunday, 4 April 2027, corresponding to the 13th Waning of Taboung, 1388 ME, in the following constituencies where seats for Hluttaw representatives are vacant:

34 Pyithu Hluttaw constituencies under the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) system

(1) Tonzang Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(2) Falam Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(3) Htigyaing Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(4) Bamauk Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(5) Indaw Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(6) Kawlin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(7) Pale Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(8) Yinmabin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(9) Taze Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(10) Myeik Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(11) Nyaunglebin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(12) Paukkhaung Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(13) Padaung Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(14) Chauk Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(15) Minbu Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(16) PyinOoLwin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(17) Meiktila Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(18) Natogyi Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(19) Singu Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(20) Mogok Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(21) Kyaikmaraw Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(22) Mayangon Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(23) Shwepyitha Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(24) Hlegu Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(25) Tamway Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(26) Cocokyun Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(27) Hlinethaya (West) Township Pyithu Hluttaw-Constituency
(28) Kyaukme Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(29) Mongphyat Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(30) Mongpan Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(31) Maubin Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(32) Zabuthiri Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(33) Dekkhinathiri Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency
(34) Ottarathiri Township Pyithu Hluttaw Constituency

5 Amyotha Hluttaw constituencies under the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) system

(1) Kachin State Constituency 5
(2) Chin State Constituency 3
(3) Bago Region Constituency 4
(4) Bago Region Constituency 5
(5) Mandalay Region Constituency 6

16 Region or State Hluttaw constituencies under the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) system

(1) Tonzang Township Constituency
(2) Falam Township Constituency
(3) Htigyaing Township Constituency
(4) Bamauk Township Constituency
(5) Indaw Township Constituency
(6) Kawlin Township Constituency
(7) Pale Township Constituency
(8) Yinmabin Township Constituency
(9) Taze Township Constituency
(10) Shwebo Township Constituency
(11) Zigon Township Constituency
(12) Thaegon Township Constituency
(13) Natogyi Township Constituency
(14) Singu Township Constituency
(15) Mogok Township Constituency
(16) Yekyi Township Constituency

Sd/Than Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Myanmar joins Dialogues of South, ASEAN Market 2026 in Busan



This image captures a Myanmar booth on display at the ASEAN Market 2026.

MYANMAR participated in Dialogues of the South and ASEAN Market 2026 held in Busan, South Korea, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Dialogues of the South exhibition opened on 30 October at the ASEAN Culture House in Busan, and Daw Win Pa Pa Thu, commercial counsellor at the Myanmar Embassy in Seoul, attended the opening ceremony. The exhibition showcases contemporary artworks exploring artistic and cultural connections between ASEAN and Latin America, aiming to promote mutual understanding and cooperation among Global South countries. It will run from 30 October 2026 to 28 February 2027. The Myanmar Embassy in Seoul also displayed a Myanmar booth featuring premium Pawsan rice, jade jewellery, Myanmar handicrafts and ready-to-eat food products at ASEAN Market 2026 held from 31 October to 1 November at the ASEAN Culture House. The event also featured traditional foods, handicrafts and cultural performances from ASEAN countries, along with hands-on cultural programmes and practical cooking classes.

Myanmar's participation in ASEAN Market 2026 was expected to introduce Myanmar products, food and traditional culture to the Korean market and consumers, to gauge interest in Myanmar products and market potential, and to create opportunities to expand trade and cultural relations between Myanmar and South Korea. The programmes were organized by the Korea Foundation and the ASEAN Culture House in Busan in cooperation with the embassies and consulates general of ASEAN member states. — ASH/KK

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News and Periodicals Enterprise

NATIONAL

MoEE briefs MPs on State activities in power and energy sector

A briefing ceremony titled "State Activities in the Electricity and Energy Sector" was held by the Ministry of Electricity and Energy at Thabin Hall of the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon. The event, aimed at enhancing the capacity of Hluttaw Representatives, was jointly organized by the Joint Coordination Committee on Parliamentary Development (JCC) and the Ministry of Electricity and Energy.

The ceremony was attended by Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Aung Lin Dwe, Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw U Khin Yi, Deputy Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Jeng Phang Naw Taung, Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw U Maung Maung Ohn, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Ko Ko Lwin, and representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw.



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe addresses the briefing ceremony for State Activities in the Electric Power and Energy Sector.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe delivered the opening address, stating that the event had been organized by the JCC in coordination with the Union Government to inform members of parliament (MPs) about the State's activities in the electric power and energy sector. The Speaker highlighted the importance of a sufficient and reliable electricity supply to national socio-economic development, emphasizing the vital role of the power and energy sector in supporting citizens' daily lives and key economic sectors. He urged MPs to examine accurate data, consider local needs, ask relevant questions and make practical recommendations, while calling on the ministry to openly share its operational challenges and future plans. He also encouraged MPs to use the knowledge gained from the briefing to strengthen their capacities and serve the public interest.

Following the opening address, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Ko Ko Lwin briefed the attendees on the relationship between the energy sector and electricity, efforts to launch power projects, the current state of the national power sector and its challenges, and ongoing efforts to increase public access to electricity. He also provided updates on progress towards establishing the Myanmar National Grid Code and Distribution Code, energy trade, which is crucial to increasing power generation, and human resource development initiatives.

The Union minister responded to questions and addressed the discussions and recommendations raised by the attending MPs. — MNA/TH

Announcement

FOREIGN currencies, including US dollars, Chinese yuan, Thai baht and Indian rupees, required for the daily importation of essential goods for the State are being sold to importers through AD-licensed banks via the FX Online Trading Platform. Details of the sales are announced daily on the Central Bank of Myanmar's website and in state-owned newspapers.

From April 2026 to date, approximately US$2,221.2 million, 1,907.1 million Chinese yuan, 6,712.8 million Thai baht and 74.5 million Indian rupees have been sold to importers through the FX Online Trading Platform and AD-licensed banks. In addition, the Central Bank of Myanmar has sold approximately US$1,703 million for the importation of fuel, edible oil, fertilizers and other goods.

The Central Bank of Myanmar announces official foreign exchange rates daily on its website. It has also instructed money changers and banks to comply with exchange rates prescribed and announced by the Central Bank when conducting foreign currency transactions between money changers and between banks and their customers.

Therefore, if inspections reveal that individuals or organizations are buying, selling or exchanging foreign currencies without an official licence issued by the Central Bank of Myanmar, or conducting transactions at rates other than those prescribed, effective action will be taken against them under the Financial Institutions Law, the Foreign Exchange Management Law and other existing laws for deliberately undertaking activities that undermine foreign exchange rate stability.

Central Bank of Myanmar

HLUTTAW

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Debate Focuses on Constitutional ...

FROM PAGE 1

He stated that the purpose is to study and review the provisions relating to the establishment of a Union based on democracy and federalism, as contained in Parts (1), (2) and (3) of the Union Accord, which were discussed at the Union Peace Conference in accordance with Article 20 (e) of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in connection with the amendment of the 2008 Constitution and subsequently submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. It is also intended to study and review the 43 provisions of the 2008 Constitution that should be amended or supplemented, including the 21 points agreed upon through negotiations with Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) and the points agreed upon through negotiations with the political parties group, as stated in the message dated 1 July 2026 sent by the President to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, with a view to drafting legislation and proceeding with amendments to the Constitution.

The MP explained that it is necessary to make appropriate amendments to provisions of the Constitution to ensure their consistency with the processes that must continue to be undertaken flexibly to achieve lasting peace and national reconciliation, which all ethnic nationalities are striving earnestly to achieve, and to build mutual trust in these efforts.

He added that the proposal is being submitted because the process has not yet reached the stage of amending the Constitution in accordance with the provisions of Sections 433, 434, 435 and 436 of Chapter XII on constitutional amendments. Rather, there is a need to systematically establish and implement a mechanism to study, review and facilitate the implementation of constitutional amendments. MP U Thein Tun Oo from the Amarapura Constituency seconded the motion.

The Speaker sought the approval of the Hluttaw to form a Joint Committee comprising appropriate representatives of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to study and review matters and draft legislation for the amendment and supplementation of the Constitution (2008) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. As the Hluttaw agreed to the proposal, the Speaker announced that the formation of the Joint Committee had been approved.

Regarding the legal review report and the financial review report on the Union Supplementary Appropriation Bill for the 2016-2017 Financial Year, First Vice-Chairperson of the Joint Bill Committee MP Daw Nwe Nwe Oo from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 2, and First Vice-Chair of Joint Public Accounts Committee AMP U Chit Swe from the Ayeyawady Region Constituency 10 presented the reports to the Hluttaw.

The Speaker announced that any Hluttaw representative wishing to discuss the principles and basic concepts, revenue and expenditure, or legal provisions of the bill could submit their name to the Director-General of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.

Lawmakers discussed matters related to the annual report 2025 of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission. The Speaker announced that the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission would provide further clarification on the report and that the Hluttaw would place it on record at the next session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will continue its 10th-day meeting on 10 November. — News Team/TTA

NATIONAL

Defence Services C-in-C visits National Defence Academy in Vientiane, arrives in Luang Prabang

THE Myanmar Tatmadaw goodwill delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo, who is on a goodwill visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, visited the National Defence Academy in Vientiane yesterday morning.



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Ye Win Oo is Pictured during his observation tour at the National Defence Academy in Vientiane.

On their arrival at the National Defence Academy, the General and party were welcomed by Maj-Gen Phanseng Bounphan, Head of the Political Department of the academy and party, with the Guard of Honour.

The Head of the Political Department of the academy explained the historical occurrences, syllabuses, training sessions for trainees, educational reforms, and cooperation with some ASEAN countries in training programmes. The General asked about things he wanted to know. Both sides exchanged views on the promotion of existing friendship and military cooperation between Myanmar and Laos and their armed forces, exchanges of training, experiences and technologies between military training depots, exchange of military technology and training experiences, enhancement of leadership and management capacity of officers, and prospects for future cooperation in further development of military technology between the two countries in addition to research and subjective-wise cooperation.

Thereafter, the General and party toured the historical museum of the National Defence Academy, where they observed photographs, historical records and exhibits documenting the academy's history, the circumstances surrounding its establishment and its successive stages of development. They also observed the collection and preservation of publications on national defence and security and their use in teaching and learning activities.

In the afternoon, the General and party left Wattay International Airport in Vientiane by Myanmar Tatmadaw's special aircraft for Luang Prabang. They were seen off at the airport by Myanmar Ambassador U Aung Ko and his wife, the Head of the Foreign Relations Department of the Lao Ministry of National Defence and officials.

At Luang Prabang International Airport, the General and party were welcomed by Brigadier General Thongla Xayavongsack, Commander of Luang Prabang Provincial Command and wife and officials. — MNA/TTA

DIPLOMACY

MoL Union Minister receives IOM Chief of Mission

UNION Minister for Labour U Maung Myint received Mr Daihei Mochiguki, Chief of Mission of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and his team at the Union Minister's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Both sides discussed cooperation between Myanmar and IOM on migrant worker issues, as well as cooperation between IOM and the ministry on labour, trade and economic matters. They also discussed efforts to protect the rights of Myanmar workers in Thailand and Malaysia, and the Myanmar Government's efforts to issue Certificates of Identity (CIs) to Myanmar nationals residing illegally in Thailand and complete the process within the specified period.

The Ministry of Labour prioritizes maintaining stability and peace in factories and workplaces, promoting workers' socio-economic development, ensuring safe and regular migration of Myanmar workers abroad, protecting their rights, providing vocational training and creating job opportunities for returning Myanmar workers, and preventing illegal migration.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Minister for Labour U Myo Aung, directors-general and representatives of the IOM Myanmar Office. — MNA/MKKS



Union Minister U Maung Myint meets the Chief of Mission of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Endangered Migratory Birds Arrive at Moeyungyi ...

FROM PAGE 1

Conservationists are closely monitoring how this year's Super El Niño and potential heatwaves might alter migration patterns across Myanmar's key wetland habitats, including Moeyungyi, Inlay Lake, and Indawgyi Lake, which sit along both the Central Asian and East Asian–Australasian Flyways. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/ST

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Chauk's completed village concrete road inspected

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the status of completed village road concrete paving works in Yaydwin Village, Chauk Township, carried out by the Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, using funding from the Village Development Project (VDP) and community contributions.

Officials and residents are urged worked together to maintain the newly completed road to ensure long-term durability and prevent damage.



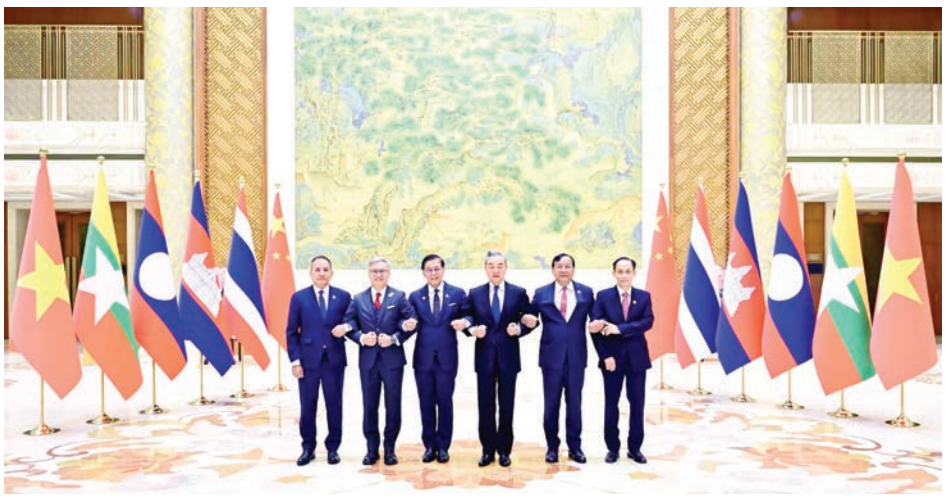
Officials are seen alongside the completed village concrete road in Chauk District, Magway Region.

The village road concrete paving project in Yaydwin Village, measuring 800 feet in length, 12 feet in width, and six inches in thickness, was funded for the 2026-2027 financial year with a K15 million grant from the Village Development Project (VDP) and K33 million contributed by the community, totalling K48 million. With technical assistance and close supervision from the staff of the Chauk Township Department of Rural Development, local villagers themselves initiated the project on 6 October this year. The project has now been 100 per cent completed, ensuring smooth and convenient transport for residents. — Naw Lu (DRD)

NATIONAL

MNPIFER Union Minister attends 11th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting

AT the invitation of Mr Wang Yi, Member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and Co-Chair of the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation (MLC), U Aung Kyaw Hoe, Union Minister for National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, attended the 11th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting, which was held on 4 November 2026 in Beijing, China.



Union Minister U Aung Kyaw Hoe joins a group commemorative photo session at the 11th Mekong-Lancang Cooperation Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Beijing, China.

The meeting was co-chaired by Mr Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and Mr Sihasak Phuangketkeow, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, and was attended by Mr Prak Sokhonn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Mr Thongsavanh Phomvihane, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Mr Le Hoai Trung, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

During the Meeting, the Ministers reviewed the progress achieved under the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation, exchanged views on the future direction of the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation, and discussed preparation for the 5th MLC Leaders' Meeting. Moreover, the Meeting circulated the Progress Report for the Year 2025 on the implementation of the Five-Year Plan of Action on Mekong-Lancang Cooperation (2023-2027) and the List of Projects supported by the MLC Special Fund as its outcome documents.

Union Minister U Aung Kyaw Hoe emphasized the importance of Mekong-Lancang Cooperation in promoting regional development and highlighted the significant progress achieved over the past decade. He also underscored the need to further strengthen cooperation under the Mekong-Lancang Cooperation in key areas, including economic integration, law enforcement and regional security, the food-water-and-energy security nexus, smart agriculture, water resource management, environmental protection and disaster management and people-to-people exchange as part of its future direction.

On the sidelines of the Meeting, the Union Minister held a bilateral meeting with Mr Wang Yi, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China. During the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on matters pertaining to the further strengthening of the existing bonds of friendship between Myanmar and China, enhancing bilateral relations, expanding comprehensive cooperation across various sectors and deepening bilateral cooperation within the regional context.

The Mekong-Lancang Cooperation (MLC) is a sub-regional cooperation mechanism established in 2016 with the objective of promoting socioeconomic development and improving the well-being of the people in the region. Under the framework of the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Special Fund, Myanmar has received funding for a total of 140 projects, amounting to over US$40 million. — MNPIFER

MNHRC inspects Nay Pyi Taw Prison, Elderly Day Care Centre, and Nay Pyi Taw Childcare Centre

PURSUANT to Sections 43 and 44 of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Law, the Commission conducts inspections of prisons, labour camps, lock-ups, and care centres. An inspection team led by Commission Members U Than Win and U Htun Htun Win conducted inspection visits to the Elderly Day Care Centre and the Nay Pyi Taw Childcare Centre, which are under the supervision of the Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, located in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Union Territory, on 4 November 2026, and to the Nay Pyi Taw Jail on 5 November 2026.



Commission members inspect the Elderly Day Care Centre in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the inspection of the Elderly Day Care Centre, the inspection team examined various aspects of the services provided to the elderly persons accommodated at the centre, including the provision of basic healthcare and social services, the provision of food and nutrition supplements, access to clean drinking, water for domestic use, freedom of religion, opportunities for the elderly to share their knowledge and pursue their hobbies, and the arrangements for recreation and relaxation. The team also inspected the health and hygiene conditions of the dormitories, toilets, and kitchens, the accessibility of pension payments for eligible residents, and whether their rights under the Elderly People Law are being ensured. Additionally, the inspection team also warmly encouraged and exchanged words of goodwill with a total of 49 elderly persons receiving care at the Centre.

Subsequently, the inspection team examined at the Nay Pyi Taw Childcare Centre whether the 38 children under the care of the Centre were enjoying their rights as stipulated under the Child Rights Law, including the provision of healthcare services, regular medical check-ups, age-appropriate vaccinations, nutritional support, physical and psychological development and care, as well as the arrangements made for preschool and basic education.

SEE PAGE 6

UNESCO Panel Endorses Myanmar Thanaka Culture for Inscription

FROM PAGE 1

Knowledge and skills are passed down within families, and training and cultural programmes also support transmission; (R2) Visibility and awareness: Inscription would promote greater understanding of Thanaka's cultural, social and traditional essence, strengthen the transmission of knowledge to young people, and bolster environmental conservation and community unity; (R3) Safeguarding efforts: Communities, practitioners, growers, sellers, educational institutions and government departments are working together to safeguard Thanaka culture through educational programs, community festivals and media; (R4) Broad participation: The nomination was prepared through a national survey and workshops involving social organizations, cultural associations and people from various regions, with free, prior and informed consent obtained from stakeholders; (R5) Inventorying: Thanaka culture has been included in Myanmar's National Intangible Cultural Heritage List since March 2020, and the Department of Archaeology and National Museum under the Ministry of Culture, Hotels and Tourism updates the list every two years.

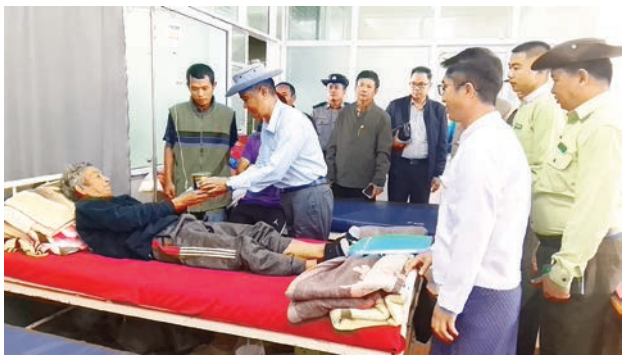
Continued efforts are being exerted to inscribe Myanmar's Thanaka culture on the list, a significant step toward raising the value of Myanmar's cultural heritage on the world stage. — NN/KK

NATIONAL

Timely Completion of Falam Reconstruction Urged

DEPUTY Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han has stressed the need to complete the remaining reconstruction and repair work in Falam on schedule and maintain close coordination among departments to promote local development.

He made the remarks during a meeting with district- and township-level departmental officials at the Falam Township General Administration Department yesterday morning. He was accompanied by Chin State Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Khin Maung Htwe and members of the Chin State Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Committee.



Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Han encourages a patient at Falam Temporary Public Hospital.

The deputy minister urged officials to complete reconstruction work as soon as possible and properly maintain renovated departmental buildings to ensure their long-term durability. He also called for efforts to encourage residents to cooperate with administrative bodies now that stability and peace had been restored in the area.

Committee members reported on completed activities and future work plans, following which the deputy minister coordinated necessary arrangements and provided rice and cooking oil to departmental staff.

The delegation later visited Falam Temporary People's Hospital, where they encouraged inpatients and provided nutritious food. They also discussed the hospital's needs with the superintendent and nursing staff.

They then inspected vegetation clearance and roadside cleaning along the Kalay-Falam-Haka Road, being carried out by the Falam District Highways Department using heavy machinery. The deputy minister stressed the importance of maintaining the Union Highways in good condition to ensure safe and convenient travel. He also instructed officials to keep roadside drainage channels clear and ensure that the road was safe and accessible for motor vehicles, motorcycles and pedestrians.

In the afternoon, the delegation inspected renovation work on the Falam District Development Supervisory Office and staff housing, as well as the two-storey Falam District/Township Department of Rural Development (RC) building. They also visited the Falam District Fire Services Department office and coordinated with responsible officials on matters requiring attention. — IPRD/KZL



Taninthayi's precautionary measures against drinking water shortages inspected

OFFICIALS from the Department of Rural Development in Taninthayi Township, Taninthayi Region, conducted a field inspection yesterday in East Aukkin Village to ensure there is no drinking water shortage due to the El Niño weather phenomenon.

Officials inspected the current water usage situation in East Aukkin Village to ensure there is no shortage of drinking water. The township officer met village officials, members of village water supply committees, village elders and residents, urging them to collect and store drinking water in advance to avert shortages that may arise from irregular rainfall and drought caused by the El Niño phenomenon. He also emphasized the need for systematic, efficient water use to prevent wastage and called on residents to follow heat-related safety measures during the El Niño period.

The Department of Rural Development for Taninthayi Township is conducting field inspections in villages within the township that may face drinking water shortages due to the El Niño weather phenomenon. — Cho Lay (DRD)



Inspections are underway across Taninthayi Township.

Aunglan inspects concrete road project

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, inspected the ongoing construction of a concrete road implemented under the Model Village Project in Maukhon Village, Aunglan Township, Magway Region, yesterday.

Aunglan District Department of Rural Development Head U Win Naing and engineering staff inspected the construction of the concrete access road leading to the village multipurpose hall, measuring 500 feet long, 12 feet wide and six inches thick. He met village elders and residents, urging them to ensure timely completion in line with prescribed quality standards for long-term durability.

The concrete road project is being constructed using K14.9 million in Model Village Project funds for the 2026-2027 financial year and K15.1 million contributed by the public, with technical assistance and close supervision from DRD staff. Work commenced in the second week of October this year and is currently 90 per cent complete. — Sein Lwin (Rural)

MNHRC inspects Nay Pyi Taw Prison, Elderly Day Care Centre, ...

FROM PAGE 5

During the inspection of the Nay Pyi Taw Jail, the team met prisoners in their dormitories and enquired into matters relating to their fundamental rights, including their living and dietary conditions; provision of healthcare services; transfers to external hospitals based on medical conditions; access to clean drinking water and water for domestic use; arrangements for family visits; the receipt of items issued by the prison and those sent by family members; the provision of physical exercise and sports activities for health and fitness; the right to practise religion in accordance with their faith; provision of basic literacy and numeracy education for illiterate male and female prisoners and detainees; and whether there were instances of human rights violations or torture by prison officials and fellow inmates. In addition, the inspection team conducted private and confidential interviews with 20 prisoners who requested to meet separately, and recorded their statements.

The inspection team also inspected the conditions of the dormitories for male and female prisoners and detainees, the dispensary, library, kitchen, food warehouse, water purifier, water storage tank for domestic use and the cleanliness of toilets; the situation of allowing family visits; and the conditions under which prisoners and detainees were having their lunch, as well as following up and checking the implementation of the previous recommendations made by the Commission. Afterwards, the Commission donated 50 knowledgeable books for prisoners to read and study.

The findings and recommendations from the inspection team's visits will be sent to the relevant department for necessary action under the Commission Law. — MNHRC

NATIONAL BUSINESS

Myanmar to Host 2026 International Textile & Machinery Fair

THE 'Made in Myanmar' products, alongside garment-related machinery, will be showcased at the 2026 Myanmar International Textile and Machinery Fair, according to a press conference held on 4 November at the office in UAB Tower 2.



A press conference for the 2026 Myanmar International Textile and Machinery Fair.

It will run over three days, from 4 to 6 December, at the Yangon Convention Centre (YCC).

The expo is jointly organized by the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) and the Chinese Textile & Garment Association in Myanmar (CTGA), with support from the Department of Commerce of Zhejiang Province, China. The event aims to foster long-term business relations and potential economic cooperation between the textile and garment industries of China and Myanmar, as well as between Myanmar and ASEAN countries, while promoting the continued development of Myanmar's garment sector.

In this year's expo, over 100 exhibitors, including around 10 top brands from China, will display textiles, garments, accessories, and garment manufacturing equipment. Additionally, the 'Made in Myanmar' products from local small and medium enterprises (SMEs) will also be promoted and exhibited.

The Myanmar International Textile and Machinery Fair has been held annually since 2023, with previous editions attracting more than 1,500 visitors. — TWA/ZN

KBZMS Crowned General Insurance Company of the Year 2026

KBZMS General Insurance has won the General Insurance Company of the Year award at the 30th Asia Insurance Industry Awards 2026.

Organized by Asia Insurance Review, the awards attracted nearly 185 entries across 16 categories, recognizing outstanding companies in the Asian insurance industry.

KBZMS General Insurance of Myanmar was selected as one of five finalists in the category, alongside Allianz Ayudhya of Thailand, MSIG Insurance of Singapore, Phillip General Insurance of Cambodia and PVI Insurance Corporation of Vietnam.

The award marks a proud achievement for Myanmar's insurance industry. KBZMS said it remained committed to strengthening customer trust, improving services and expanding public access to insurance protection through digital innovation, while contributing to the development of Myanmar's insurance sector.

The company also reaffirmed its commitment to disaster risk reduction and community resilience initiatives aimed at improving disaster preparedness and supporting safer communities. — ASH/KZL



KBZMS General Insurance receives the General Insurance Company of the Year award at the 30th Asia Insurance Industry Awards 2026.

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 5 November 2026

	US$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,650.00~3671.00	555.30~558.70	124.90~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	17,403,056.47	5,503,637.50	72,231,101.06	

FDA recalls 3 food products due to excessive chemical levels

ON 5 November, the Department of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced a recall of certain food products that are unsafe for consumers. During inspections of collected food samples, the additive Benzoic Acid was found in 'Ace' Mixed Pickles at a concentration of 1,458.20 milligrams per kilogramme, which exceeds the allowable limit of 1,000 mg/kg.

Additionally, Sodium Cyclamate was detected at 4,607.54 mg/kg, also surpassing the permissible limit of 1,000 mg/kg. The "Quick" brand muskmelon-flavoured juice drink was found to contain Sodium Cyclamate at 1,488.24 mg/kg, significantly above the recommended limit of 350 mg/kg. Similarly, the "Quick" brand lychee-flavoured juice drink was tested and revealed Benzoic Acid levels at 352.51 mg/kg, exceeding the allowable limit of 250 mg/kg, as well as Sodium Cyclamate at 1,487.49 mg/kg, surpassing the limit of 350 mg/kg. As a result, the FDA has announced a market recall for these products. — Htun Htun/ZS

MAEX's cold storage freshens fruits at Danyingon wholesale market

WITH the help of MAEX's cold storage facility, fresh fruits are now available at complex 1 of Danyingon wholesale market.

The freshness of fruits is essential for taste and nutritional value; if freshness declines, the fruit quality will also decrease. At our fruit stalls located at complex 1 of Danyingon wholesale market, fruits are maintained under well-controlled temperatures inside MAEX's high-tech cold storage so customers can get fruits that stay fresh as they have just been harvested," said a fruit shop owner.

The market also sells seasonal fruits such as Hmawby/Taikkyi guava, Aungban orange, apple, papaya and pomelo, and the cold storage can help ensure the fruit quality and freshness.



A pamphlet says fresh fruits are sold at the Danyingon Market.

Danyingon Market is located at the corner of Shwepyitha Bridge Road and Pearl Road in Insein Township, Yangon, and people can take YBS buses 17, 21, 40, 65, 74 and 93 as well as the Yangon circular train to get there. — TWA/ZS

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OPINION

Join hands to combat haze pollution

Haze pollution is a transboundary air pollution problem that countries in the South-East Asian region face every year, posing a major threat to the environment and public health. According to announcements by meteorological departments, the region is now entering a period of intensified El Niño conditions. Therefore, during this period of extreme weather, it is essential for all countries to join hands in making concerted efforts to mitigate transboundary haze pollution.

Currently, haze caused by forest fires in Indonesia is affecting Malaysia and Singapore. The forest fires have been triggered by the burning of peatlands and land clearing for agriculture on the Indonesian islands of Sumatra and Kalimantan. Haze pollution is affecting not only Indonesia but also Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and southern Thailand. In response to the problem, Singapore and Indonesia are undertaking joint efforts to address it.

Furthermore, Myanmar, Thailand and Laos have jointly developed the CLEAR Sky Strategy (2024-2030) to prevent transboundary haze pollution in the Mekong subregion. Under this joint initiative, the three countries are working together to monitor and control seasonal forest fires and air pollution, particularly PM2.5. Everyone should actively participate in sharing information within families and communities about the potential health impacts of haze pollution and raising awareness of the importance of avoiding open burning.

In the Mekong subregion countries in the northern part of ASEAN, transboundary haze pollution also frequently occurs as a result of slash-and-burn farming, the burning of agricultural residues and forest fires. February and March are the peak months for haze pollution each year, and the northern ASEAN region, comprising Myanmar, Thailand and Laos, often reaches Haze Alert Level 3.

Haze pollution is caused by the burning of crop residues in agricultural fields to prepare land for summer crop cultivation, as well as slash-and-burn farming. In addition, forest fires occur most frequently when dry leaves in forests catch fire due to hot and dry weather conditions. Weather conditions such as low wind speeds and the phenomenon in which cooler air presses down on warmer air prevent smoke and PM2.5 particles from dispersing upwards, trapping them in the atmosphere close to the ground. These factors further exacerbate the haze pollution problem.

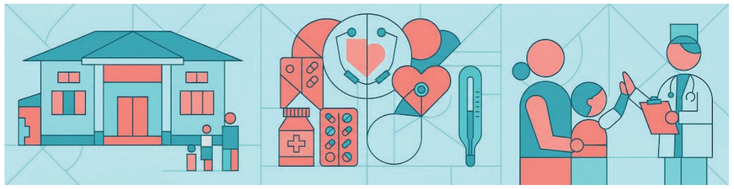
Transboundary haze pollution is a problem that cannot be addressed by any single country alone. Therefore, ASEAN member states are implementing regional cooperation mechanisms to tackle the issue. In 2002, ASEAN countries signed the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) and have been working together to monitor and prevent haze pollution in order to achieve a haze-free ASEAN region.

Furthermore, Myanmar, Thailand and Laos have jointly developed the CLEAR Sky Strategy (2024-2030) to prevent transboundary haze pollution in the Mekong subregion. Under this joint initiative, the three countries are working together to monitor and control seasonal forest fires and air pollution, particularly PM2.5. Everyone should actively participate in sharing information within families and communities about the potential health impacts of haze pollution and raising awareness of the importance of avoiding open burning.

ARTICLE

The Importance of Strengthening Primary Healthcare for Sustainable Healthcare Development

By Dr Than Lwin Tun



Health is one of the most important factors for the development of individuals, communities, and nations. An effective healthcare system is essential for improving people's quality of life, preventing diseases, and reducing mortality. Primary Health Care (PHC) is the foundation of an effective healthcare system. It is the first level of contact between individuals, families, and communities and the national healthcare system. PHC provides essential health services that are accessible, affordable, acceptable, and equitable to all people. Therefore, strengthening PHC is essential for achieving better health outcomes and sustainable healthcare development. The Declaration of Alma-Ata (1978) was endorsed at the Alma-Ata conference, jointly convened by WHO and UNICEF that focused world attention on primary healthcare as the key to achieving an acceptable level of health throughout the world.

All people, everywhere, have the right to achieve the highest attainable level of health. This is the fundamental premise of primary healthcare (PHC). Primary healthcare is a whole-of-society approach to effectively organize and strengthen national health systems to bring services for health and well-being closer to communities. It has three components: integrated health services to meet people's health needs throughout their lives, addressing the broader determinants of health through multisectoral policy and action, and empowering individuals, families and communities to take charge of their own health. Primary health care enables health systems to support a person's health needs from health promotion to disease prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, palliative care and more. This strategy also ensures that healthcare is delivered in a way that is centred on people's needs and respects their preferences.

The Global Conference on Primary Health Care in Astana, Kazakhstan, in October 2018 endorsed a new declaration emphasizing the critical role of primary healthcare around the world. The declaration aims to refocus efforts on primary healthcare to ensure that everyone everywhere is able to enjoy the highest possible attainable standard of health. The new declaration has renewed political commitment to primary healthcare from governments, non-governmental organizations, professional organizations, academia and global health and development organizations. The new declaration was also a chance to commemorate the 1978 Alma-Ata Declaration on Primary Health Care, and reflect on how far we have come and the work that still lies ahead.

Universal health coverage (UHC) means that all people have access to the full range of quality health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship. It covers the full continuum of essential health services, from health promotion to prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care. To deliver on this promise, countries need to have strong, efficient and equitable health systems that are rooted in the communities they serve. Primary health care (PHC) is the most effective and cost-efficient way to get there. Every country has a different path to achieving UHC and to decide what to cover based on the needs of their populations and the resources at hand. Investing in PHC ensures that all those needs are identified, prioritized and addressed in an integrated way; that there is a robust and equipped health and care workforce; and that all sectors of society contribute to confronting the environmental and socioeconomic factors that affect health and well-being, including preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies.

Importance of Strengthening PHC

First, strengthening PHC improves access to essential health services. Many people, especially those living in rural and remote areas, face difficulties accessing hospitals and specialized health facilities. PHC brings health services closer to the community through health centres, rural health facilities, and community-based services.

Second, PHC plays an important role in disease prevention and health promotion. It emphasizes preventing diseases before they become serious rather than focusing only on treatment. Health education, immunization, nutrition promotion, environmental sanitation, personal hygiene, and family planning are important components of PHC. These activities help reduce the incidence of communicable and non-communicable diseases and encourage people to adopt healthy lifestyles.

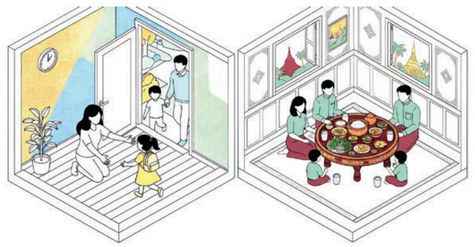
Third, strengthening PHC contributes to reducing maternal and child mortality. Antenatal care, postnatal care, immunization, growth monitoring, breastfeeding promotion, and family planning services are essential components of primary healthcare. Through these services, health workers can identify health problems early, provide appropriate treatment, and refer high-risk mothers and children to higher-level facilities when necessary. As a result, preventable maternal and child deaths can be reduced.

Fourth, PHC helps achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Universal Health Coverage means that all people can access the health services they need without experiencing financial hardship. By providing essential services at the primary level, PHC helps reduce inequalities in healthcare access and protects poor and vulnerable populations. Strengthening PHC also helps reduce unnecessary out-of-pocket expenditure and supports equitable distribution of health resources.

SEE PAGE 11

The Light Is On, But Is There Warmth at Home?

By Laura Htet (UDE)



There is a special kind of happiness that money cannot buy. It is the feeling of coming home after a long and tiring day, opening the door, and hearing someone say, "Welcome home!" It is the comfort of sitting together around a simple dinner table, sharing stories, laughing at little things, and feeling that we belong somewhere. These small moments may seem ordinary, but they are often the most precious parts of our lives.

In a world where success is often measured by money, possessions, and social status, we sometimes forget what truly makes a home happy. We may believe that a beautiful house, expensive furniture, and delicious food are the secrets to a comfortable life. However, the truth is much simpler. A home does not need to be rich to be full of happiness. What it needs most is love, understanding, kindness, and the warmth of people who care about one another.

Even when money is a little tight at home, it doesn't necessarily mean we are suffering. Life may not always be easy. There may be days when we have to carefully manage our expenses, choose simple meals, or put aside some of the things we wish to buy. Yet, even during difficult times, we can still find reasons to smile. A family that lives simply can enjoy a peaceful and meaningful life when its members support one another.

Even if we live simply and eat simple meals, we can still live happily and enjoy the warmth of being together. A bowl of rice, a plate of vegetables, and a little soup may not look impressive to others, but they can become a wonderful meal when shared with people we love. The food may be simple, but the laughter around the table can make the evening unforgettable. Sometimes, the happiest memories are created not during expensive celebrations, but during ordinary moments when everyone is together.

A simple greeting when someone walks through the door can be more valuable than anything else. Imagine a family member returning home after a long day at work or school. They may be tired, worried, or carrying problems that nobody else knows about. When they open the door and hear a gentle "You're home?" followed by a warm smile, they may immediately feel a little better. That small greeting tells them that someone has noticed their arrival, someone is happy to see them, and someone cares.

Unfortunately, not every home feels this welcoming. Sometimes, we return home expecting comfort but instead find silence, arguments, or unkind words. The lights are on, the food is warm and ready, and everyone is physically present. Yet something feels missing. We may have everything we need to live comfortably, but we still feel lonely or unhappy.

What truly makes a home feel cold is not the weather outside or the lack of expensive things inside. It is the way we speak to one another.

Words are powerful. They can bring people closer, heal emotional wounds, and make difficult days easier to face. At the same time, they can hurt deeply, especially when they come from the people we love and trust the most. The very same words, when spoken kindly, can become words of warmth and comfort. But when spoken in a sharp, sarcastic tone, they can become like a nail driven straight into someone's heart.

Consider the words, "You're home?" On the surface, they seem like a simple question. However, depending on the tone of our voice, they can carry completely different meanings. Spoken with a smile and a gentle voice, they can express happiness and welcome. Spoken with anger or disappointment, they can sound like an accusation, as if we are asking why someone has returned so late or suggesting that they have done something wrong.

It all depends on the tone of our voice.

Sometimes, we do not even realize how much our words affect the people around us. We may be tired from work, stressed about money, or frustrated by our own problems. Without thinking, we may speak harshly to our family members. We might say something hurtful and later forget about it. But the person who hears those words may remember them for a long time.

Of course, every family has disagreements. Living together does not mean that we will always agree with one another. There will be misunderstandings, different opinions, and moments of frustration. What matters is how we handle these situations. Instead of raising our voices, we can try to listen. Instead of blaming one another, we can explain how we feel. Instead of using words that create distance, we can choose words that help us understand each other better.

The lights are on at home. The food is warm and ready. But just one harsh word can take away half of the warmth in a home. A single sentence spoken in anger can turn a peaceful evening into an uncomfortable one. Everyone may continue eating, watching television, or doing their usual activities, but the happiness that should fill the room may slowly disappear.

In the end, no one feels truly happy.

This is why kindness should begin at home. We often try to be polite to strangers, respectful to our colleagues, and friendly to people outside our homes. Yet sometimes, we forget to show the same kindness to the people who are closest to us. We may assume that our family members already know how much we love them. However, love should not remain only in our hearts. It should also be expressed through our words, actions, and everyday behaviour.

A gentle greeting, a sincere apology, a little patience, or a simple "Thank you" can make a meaningful difference. These small acts may not cost anything, but they can make our homes feel richer than any expensive possession ever could.

For a person who understands what truly matters, a home is more than just a place to live. It is a warm and comforting refuge, a place where the heart can find peace and belonging. It is where we should feel safe enough to share our worries, strong enough to face our difficulties, and loved enough to be ourselves.

Perhaps we cannot always afford the things we dream of. Perhaps our homes are not as beautiful as the ones we see in magazines or on social media. But if we can fill our homes with kindness, patience, laughter, and understanding, we already have something truly valuable.

After all, the greatest luxury is not having a house filled with expensive things. It is having a home filled with people who make us feel loved.

And when we finally understand this, we may discover that the real warmth of home does not come from the lights, the food, or the walls around us. It comes from the love we give, the words we choose, and the hearts we make feel welcome.

Because no matter how simple our home may be, when love lives inside it, there is always enough warmth for everyone.

NATIONAL

Demolition of 9 illegal buildings in Shwe Kokko Phase II crackdown

TREATING the fight against telecom fraud and online gambling as a matter of national duty, the Government is systematically demolishing illegal structures in the Shwe Kokko area to prevent them from being used again for scam and gambling operations. To date, a total of nine illegal buildings in Shwe Kokko Phase II have been demolished.



Map shows the continued demolition of scam hubs in the Shwe Kokko Phase II crackdown.

As part of operations targeting the remaining illegal buildings in Shwe Kokko Phase II, heavy machinery has been deployed to dismantle key structures. The demolition of one six-storey building is totally complete, while work on another six-storey building has been completed 70 per cent. To date, nine illegal buildings have been demolished.

Of the 63 buildings designated for demolition in Phase II of the Shwe Kokko area, four have been demolished through controlled explosions and another five using heavy machinery, bringing the total to nine. The remaining 54 buildings will also be systematically demolished.

The Government is reportedly making concerted efforts to combat online fraud and gambling as a matter of national responsibility. — 100/MKKS

Paungde's vocational furniture training concludes

A ceremony to mark the successful completion of a vocational furniture training course, conducted by the Paungde Township Department of Rural Development, Bago Region, was held at Natpadee Village in Paungde Township yesterday.

The training course was organized with the aim of creating employment opportunities and increasing family incomes through vocational skills development.

At the ceremony, U Htay Lwin Soe, Head of the District Department of Rural Development of Nattalin District, delivered a closing address to the trainees.

Daw Thanda Oo Shwe, Head of the Township Department of Rural Development of Paungde Township, explained the benefits of the vocational training course and the opportunities it would provide for the trainees.

Afterwards, departmental officials presented training aids and materials to the trainees.


The launch of the vocational furniture training in progress in Paungde Township.

A total of 20 trainees from Natpadee Village, Paungde Township, attended the course, which was conducted by an instructor through both theoretical and practical lessons over a period of 30 days, from 6 October to 4 November, according to the Department of Rural Development of Paungde Township. — Thanda (DRD)

Mongyawng's MSY income-generating activities inspected

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday to review the progress of household income-generating activities financed through the revolving fund of the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Wanpamang Village, Mongyawng Township.

Mongyawng District Department of Rural Development Head U Sai Soe Soe and officials visited the village to inspect the progress of systematic agricultural activities being carried out with loans from the project's revolving fund. He met members of the Mya Sein Yaung Village Project Management Committee to examine whether the monthly financial records had been properly completed and urged committee members to expand household income-generating activities while ensuring systematic management of the revolving fund to prevent any loss or misuse.

The Mya Sein Yaung Village Project was launched in Wanpamang Village with an initial revolving fund of K30 million. At present, concessional revolving loans totalling K50.5 million have been disbursed to 38 project members, all of whom are successfully operating local income-generating agricultural activities with support from the project funds. — Thaw Zin Htoo (Rural)


Officials oversee an agricultural project in Mongyawng Township.


Officials inspect the construction of concrete wheel tracks in Monyo Township.

Monyo's concrete wheel-track paving work inspected

OFFICIALS from the Monyo Township Department of Rural Development, Thayawady District, Bago Region, inspected the progress of wheel-track concrete paving in Thabyaypin Village with funds from the Village Development Project (VDP) yesterday.

Monyo Township Head Daw Than Than Khaing of the Department of Rural Development, together with departmental staff, inspected the ongoing construction work and met members of the Village Development Committee. She also gave necessary instructions and guidance for the successful completion of the project.

The concrete footpath is 650 feet long, 12 feet wide and six inches thick. The project has a total estimated cost of K18.97 million, comprising K15 million from the Village Development Project fund and K3.97 million contributed by residents.

The construction work commenced in the third week of September 2026 and is being carried out collectively by local communities with technical assistance and close supervision from departmental staff. To date, approximately 50 per cent of the work has been completed.

Upon completion of the concrete footpath, residents will be able to transport agricultural produce from the village more conveniently and at lower costs. The project is also expected to contribute towards improving the living standards of rural people, according to the Department of Rural Development. — Aye Myat (DRD)

France's blood bank hit by cyberattack

Measures were taken to ensure that no samples or blood products had been affected.

THE cooling system of France's blood bank has been hit by a cyberattack, French blood bank authorities (EFS) said on Wednesday.

The refrigeration systems were manipulated remotely, causing operating temperatures to rise to very high levels, it said, adding the temperature change was detected quickly, and measures were taken to ensure that no samples or blood products had been affected.

Blood products and bio samples are kept in cooling units before being delivered to healthcare facilities.



Blood products and bio samples are kept in cooling units before being delivered to healthcare facilities. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Also on Wednesday, French banking group Credit Mutuel Arkea confirmed fraudulent transactions due to a cyberattack, but assured customers that the incident has stopped and their funds remain secure.

According to a company statement, the group temporarily suspended certain transactions as a precaution upon detecting the breach. — Xinhua

Dinosaur fossil uncovers oldest confirmed evidence of blood

AN international research team has discovered what it says is the oldest unequivocal evidence of fossilized red blood cells and collagen amino acids in the bones of a 115-million-year-old dinosaur.

Researchers discovered mineralized red blood cells and intact heme biomolecules in the limb bones of a 115-million-year-old theropod dinosaur recovered in northeastern Brazil, according to a statement released Tuesday by Australia's Curtin University. The bones contained numerous red blood cells preserved within vascular canals. While previous studies have reported possible red blood cell structures in fossils, this study is the first to chemically prove the presence of hemoglobin-derived molecules inside the cells.

The red blood cell-like structures were mineralized with hausmannite, which may have helped preserve their cellular structures and associated biomolecules over millions of years, according to the findings published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Researchers from Australia, Japan, Brazil and the United States believe the exceptional preservation resulted from the dinosaur being rapidly buried in a low-oxygen, microbially rich environment shortly after its death. — Xinhua

The Importance of Strengthening Primary Healthcare for Sustainable Healthcare Development

FROM PAGE 9

Fifth, a strong PHC system reduces the burden on hospitals. Many common illnesses can be managed effectively at the primary care level. Early diagnosis, appropriate treatment, and timely referral can prevent complications and unnecessary hospital admissions. This allows secondary and tertiary health facilities to concentrate on patients who require specialized treatment. Consequently, the overall healthcare system becomes more efficient and cost-effective.

Sixth, strengthening PHC promotes community participation and empowerment. Community members are important partners in identifying health problems, planning health activities, and implementing solutions. Health workers can cooperate with community leaders, volunteers, and local organizations to improve health awareness and encourage healthy behaviours. Community participation also builds trust between healthcare providers and the people they serve.

Seventh, strengthening PHC improves the quality of health services through the development of human resources. Adequately trained and competent health workers, including doctors, nurses, midwives, and community health workers, are essential for providing quality care. Continuous training, supportive supervision, teamwork, and adequate supplies help health workers perform their duties effectively. The availability of essential medicines, equipment, and appropriate technology is also necessary for delivering safe and reliable services.

Furthermore, PHC contributes to the management of non-communicable diseases and long-term health conditions. Diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular diseases, and asthma require continuous monitoring, health education, and regular treatment. Strong primary healthcare services help patients manage these conditions, prevent complications, and maintain a better quality of life.

In addition, PHC strengthens the ability of the health system to respond to public health emergencies. Community-based health workers can help identify unusual disease patterns, report outbreaks, provide health information, and support vaccination campaigns. Strong primary health care services are therefore important for preparing for and responding to epidemics, natural disasters, and other emergencies. Strengthening PHC supports sustainable healthcare development. It encourages the effective use of limited resources and promotes collaboration between the health sector and other sectors, such as education, agriculture, nutrition, water, and sanitation. These combined efforts address the social and environmental factors that influence health. PHC also contributes to achieving the health-related Sustainable Development Goals, particularly the goal of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all.

Strategies for Strengthening PHC

Several strategies can be implemented to strengthen primary healthcare, such as allocating adequate financial resources to primary health services and ensuring the equitable distribution of health facilities and health workers. Health workers should receive appropriate training and continuing professional development. Essential medicines, vaccines, medical equipment, and reliable referral systems should be available. Community participation and health education should be encouraged, while health information systems should be strengthened to support effective planning, monitoring, and evaluation. Collaboration among government agencies, non-governmental organizations, communities, and other sectors is also necessary to improve the effectiveness and sustainability of PHC.

In summary, strengthening Primary Health Care is essential for sustainable health care development because it improves access to health services, promotes disease prevention, reduces maternal and child mortality, and supports Universal Health Coverage. It also reduces the burden on hospitals, improves health equity, encourages community participation, and makes effective use of available resources. However, achieving these benefits requires adequate funding, skilled health workers, essential medicines, and active community involvement. Therefore, strengthening Primary Health Care should be given high priority in health policies and development plans.

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ECONOMY
WORLD

AI to reshape India's office space demand, workforce seen at 48 million by 2030: Report

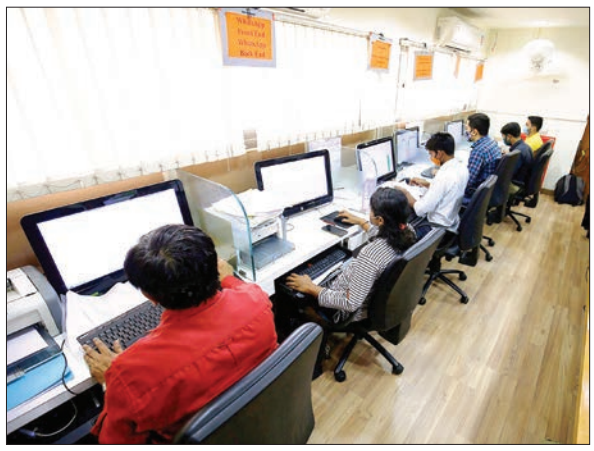
Office-using workforce projected to grow from around 38 million in 2025 to 48 million by 2030.

ARTIFICIAL intelligence (AI) is expected to change the nature of India's office space demand rather than reduce it, with the country's office-using workforce projected to grow from around 38 million in 2025 to 48 million by 2030, according to a study by Cushman & Wakefield.

The study said continued expansion of office-based services and Global Capability Centres (GCCs), along with their shift towards higher-value activities, would support demand for commercial office space even as AI automates routine tasks.

Under its baseline scenario, which carries a 50 per cent probability, office-using employment is projected to increase by nearly nine million between 2025 and 2030, adding around 1.8 million workers annually.

The report said GCCs would remain a key driver of office demand as their operations increasingly move towards research and development, product engineering and analytics. This shift is also expected to increase demand for high-quality, well-located and adaptable office spaces. "AI will undoubtedly change the nature of work and the skills businesses require, but that does not necessarily translate into lower office demand," said Anshul Jain, Chief Executive – India, SEA, MEA and APAC Office and Retail at Cushman & Wakefield. — ANI



The report said GCCs would remain a key driver of office demand. **PHOTO: ANI**

European Commission unveils 2027 EU competitiveness plans

THE European Commission on Wednesday unveiled its 2027 work programme, outlining plans to boost competitiveness by deepening the European Union (EU) single market, lowering energy costs and cutting red tape, while strengthening defence and security, improving the social model, tackling climate change and expanding global partnerships.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said the programme sets out ambitious policies to strengthen the EU's influence and prepare it for future challenges.

From deepening the single market to expanding our global partnerships. With strategic, streamlined policies, we will keep building a strong, independent Europe. — Xinhua

Kazakhstan to launch around 200 industrial enterprises by end of 2026

KAZAKHSTAN plans to commission approximately 200 new industrial enterprises with a total investment of around 1.7 trillion tenge (US$3.76 billion) by the end of 2026, the Kazinform news agency reported Wednesday, citing First Deputy Prime Minister Nurlybek Nalibayev.

The country's manufacturing sector grew by 8.6 per cent in the first nine months of the year, with output reaching nearly 24.2 trillion tenge, Nalibayev said at a government briefing.



This photo shows part of the Caspian Asphalt Plant in Aktau, Kazakhstan, 5 May 2025. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Meanwhile, Energy Minister Yerlan Akkenzhenov announced plans to modernize the country's three existing oil refineries, raising their combined processing capacity from 18 million tonnes to 27.7 million tonnes and upgrading fuel quality to the K5 standard, Kazinform reported. — Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

Japan conveys concern to France over EV incentive

PRIME Minister Sanae Takaichi said Thursday she conveyed Japan's "strong concern" over the European Union's consideration of a preferential treatment scheme for electric vehicles produced within the bloc during phone talks with French President Emmanuel Macron.

Takaichi told reporters in Tokyo after the talks that she sought a "proper response" from France to the initiative, following its agreement with Germany last month on a measure aimed at excluding Japanese-made vehicles from preferential treatment. — Kyodo

Canada reports higher trade surplus in September

CANADA'S trade surplus edged up in September, driven by higher oil exports, but US President Donald Trump's tariffs also pinched multiple sectors, official data showed Wednesday. Overall, Canada's trade surplus hit CAN$5.4 billion ($3.9 billion) in September, up from CAN$5 billion in August, Statistics Canada said. Higher energy prices caused by the Iran war raised the value of Canadian crude exports, including oil sales to the United States. — AFP



Gabon has signed deals transferring sovereign carbon credits offsetting six million tonnes of planet-warming CO2 for the German state-owned energy company SEFE. **PHOTO: SEFE**

Gabon sells first carbon credits to Germany's SEFE

GABON has signed deals transferring sovereign carbon credits offsetting six million tonnes of planet-warming CO2 for the German state-owned energy company SEFE, the central African country's presidency said on Tuesday.

With nearly 90 per cent of its land covered by forests, Gabon forms part of the Congo basin, considered by scientists to be a key sponge for the heat-trapping emissions responsible for man-made climate change.

The financial terms of the deal, announced by presidency spokesman Theophane Nzame-Nze Biyoghe on social media, were not made public.

The deal was signed in London by the Gabonese Agency for the Development of the Green Economy (AGADEV). — AFP

German EV registrations surge in Oct while auto production falls

NEW registrations of battery-electric vehicles (BEVs) in Germany surged nearly 80 per cent year-on-year in October, accounting for more than a third of the country's new car market, while both domestic auto production and exports fell, official data showed Wednesday.

A total of 254,492 new passenger cars were registered in October, up 1.7 per cent from a year earlier, according to the Federal Motor Transport Authority (KBA).

Registrations of BEVs jumped 79.5 per cent to 94,086 units, lifting their market share to 37 per cent. Together, electric vehicles (EVs), including BEVs and plug-in hybrids, accounted for 48.2 per cent of all new passenger car registrations in October.

Chinese automaker BYD recorded the fastest growth, with registrations rising 54.3 per cent year-on-year and its market share reaching two per cent, the KBA said. — Xinhua



The image shows a Smart Fortwo Electric Drive plugged into an EV charger. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/AFP/FILE**

Australian energy giant Woodside to cut over 500 jobs

AUSTRALIAN oil and gas giant Woodside Energy on Thursday said it will cut over 500 jobs from its global workforce under a new target to cut costs.

Woodside said in a statement to the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) that it is targeting US$400 million of annual structural cost reductions from 2028.

It said that the reduction would be delivered by optimizing its portfolio and supply chains and by cutting more than 500 jobs from its global workforce. — Xinhua

Toyota lifts FY 2026 operating profit outlook

TOYOTA Motor Corp on Thursday raised its operating profit outlook for the year to next March to 3.9 trillion yen ($25 billion), expecting its first profit growth in three years helped by cost-cutting efforts.

The new projection would represent a 3.6 per cent increase, compared with a 9.7 per cent decline to 3.4 trillion yen estimated in August, even though the automaker cut its vehicle sales target, including those of its Daihatsu Motor Co unit, for the full year to 11 million vehicles from 11.2 million vehicles.

The world's largest automaker by volume expects higher material costs and the impact of the Middle East crisis to dent operating profit by 1.5 trillion yen this financial year.

Still, "we are offsetting the higher costs through sales efforts and continued cost improvements, maintaining our earnings power", said Takanori Azuma, chief accounting officer, at an online briefing. — Kyodo



The headquarters building of Toyota Motor Corp in Toyota, Aichi Prefecture, central Japan. **PHOTO: KYODO**

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of Shandong Max Agro Co.,Ltd have registered the following product in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now,we have to change from old distributer name " Y Agro Solution Co.,Ltd ", to new distributor name "Y Agri Tiger Co.,Ltd''. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Y Agri Tiger Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Mong Nyin Pyaung	Bensulfuron-methyl 30% WP	P2025-6815

PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

The manufacture of Qingdao Ernest Chemical Co.,Ltd have registered the following products in Pesticide Registration Board of Myanmar to distribute in Myanmar. Now, we have to change from old distributer name "Yazt Pone Thee Co.,Ltd", to new distributor name "Agri Alinn Myanmar Co.,Ltd''. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Plant Protection Division, Bayint Naung Road, West Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon, from here to next 14 days. Agri Alinn Myanmar Co.,Ltd. Ph-09401573814

Sr.	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration No.
1.	Wan 2-4	2,4-D dimethyl amine salt 72% SL	P2025-6671

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MTT SAPANGER VOY.NO. (642W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MTT SAPANGER VOY.NO. (642W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-11-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MAERSK A/S

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC BRAVE VOY.NO. (2617N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC BRAVE VOY.NO. (2617N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-11-2026** 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. (370W)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CTP FORTUNE VOY.NO. (370W)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-11-2026** 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

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Trump renews push for permanent daylight saving time, urges Senate to pass Sunshine Protection Act

The proposed legislation aims to establish daylight saving time permanently across the country, thereby halting the biannual ritual of adjusting clocks backwards and forwards.



The image shows the clock tower and the William Penn statue at the top of Philadelphia City Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ WIKIMEDIA COMMONS**

US President Donald Trump has strongly urged the Senate to clear the Sunshine Protection Act, voicing sharp frustration over early evening darkness in a recent social media statement.

Taking to Truth Social, the US leader drew attention to the swift onset of dusk, noting that sunset occurred at 5:06 pm while total darkness had descended by 5:31 pm.

"It's so dark outside, so early," he wrote, reflecting on the seasonal shift.

The proposed legislation aims to establish daylight saving time permanently across the country, thereby halting the biannual ritual of adjusting clocks backwards and forwards.

Reflecting on the public frustration surrounding time changes, Trump remarked, "Just a few days ago it was so nice and sunny at this same time," while adding that citizens had been "running around changing their clocks all over the place".

The President highlighted that the House of Representatives has repeatedly endorsed the bill with substantial bipartisan backing, citing a decisive vote of 308-117, whereas the upper chamber has consistently stalled consideration. — ANI

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ukraine, US, Russia to hold working-level trilateral talks

UKRAINE, the United States and Russia are preparing to hold working-level trilateral talks within a week, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Wednesday (local time) after a detailed conversation with US President Donald Trump's envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner. In a post on X, Zelenskyy said the discussion with Witkoff and Kushner lasted around an hour and a half, with the three sides preparing for the next round of diplomatic engagement aimed at ending the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.

"We just had a very detailed, hour-and-a-half-long conversation with Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner. We are preparing for a trilateral format at the team level between Ukraine, the United States, and Russia - to take place in less than a week," he said. — ANI

Paraguay opposition seeks president's removal over banking crisis

THE Paraguayan opposition presented a motion to remove President Santiago Pena from office over the Central Bank's seizure of a major lender linked to him, a lawmaker told AFP on Wednesday. Protests have rippled across the South American nation after the takeover of Ueno Bank a day earlier left millions of depositors, including pensioners, without access to their money.

Right-winger Pena owned shares in a group that controlled Ueno Bank, but he sold them last year.

The request for his dismissal for alleged misconduct and conflict of interest received 35 signatures among opposition lawmakers, dissident ruling party lawmaker Mauricio Espinola told AFP. — AFP

Japan to set up public-private cyber expert team amid data breaches

THE Japanese government plans to set up a team of cybersecurity experts from the public and private sectors to help companies respond to cyberattacks, a government source said Thursday, amid a series of personal data breaches.

The plan is part of a package of emergency measures expected to be finalized as early as Friday, which will also aim to boost cyber defences by utilizing artificial intelligence to identify vulnerabilities in security systems, the source said, citing a draft.

Requiring businesses to review what personal data should be retained or deleted, given necessity, is also specified in the draft, the source said.

The government plans to expand cooperation with overseas IT firms and developers of advanced AI systems to swiftly gain information on cyberattacks and take preventive actions, according to the source.

In cases of potentially serious damage to national security, the government could despatch a support team comprising officials from the National Cybersecurity Office, the National Police Agency and the Defence Ministry, among others, the source said. — Kyodo



GMO Internet Group Inc CEO Masatoshi Kumagai said Monday that the company had failed to adequately address a security vulnerability despite being alerted to the weakness in 2024, before a recent cyberattack resulted in a data leak. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Bomb threat wave hits European aviation

A string of bomb threats has targeted commercial flights across Europe, triggering emergency landings, military jet escorts, and widespread airport disruptions.

In one of the primary incidents on Thursday, reported by Euronews, French authorities confirmed that an airliner travelling from Dublin to Rome was rerouted to France, where it was escorted by military aircraft after a suspected bomb threat. France's air force stated that it had despatched planes "as soon as the threat was reported".

A statement from French Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu's office confirmed that "the situation is being monitored".

Prime Minister Lecornu later updated that "the aircraft has landed safely at Évreux. The 151 passengers and six crew members have been brought to safety, and bomb disposal teams are on-site."

Flight tracking website Flightradar24 publicly posted regarding the diversion, writing in a post on X, "Aer Lingus flight #EI402 (Dublin - Rome) is diverting to Evreux Fauville Air Base, with squawk 7700." — ANI

SPORTS

Inter-Ministry Volleyball Tournament opens in Nay Pyi Taw

THE opening ceremony of the 2026 Inter-Ministry Volleyball Tournament was held at Gymnasium B of Wunna Theikdhi Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.



A first-stage men's round-robin match in action at the Inter-Ministry Volleyball Tournament 2026.

The tournament runs from 5 to 19 November, with 19 men's teams and nine women's teams from various ministries taking part. A total of 459 athletes are participating in the 15-day event, which aims to revive volleyball and raise the standard of the sports in Myanmar.

At the ceremony, Union Minister U Ye Myint Tun said the tournament aimed to strengthen friendship among ministry staff, develop emerging athletes and improve the standard of volleyball. He encouraged the Myanmar Volleyball Federation to work continuously to produce promising athletes capable of representing the country in international competitions and contributing to the revival of Myanmar volleyball. He also urged participating athletes to strive to become outstanding representatives of the country before officially opening the tournament.

The athletes then recited the four sports pledges. An award of K500,000 was also presented to the marching band of Basic Education High School No 6 in Zabuthiri Township in recognition of its participation.

Union ministers and deputy ministers later watched a closely contested first-stage men's round-robin match between the Ministry of Construction team and the Ministry of Border Affairs team. — MNA/KZL

Alcaraz into Paris Masters quarters after Berrettini withdraws

CARLOS Alcaraz was given a walkover through to the quarterfinals of the Paris Masters on Thursday after Matteo Berrettini withdrew from the tournament.



Carlos Alcaraz set up his match with Matteo Berrettini by beating Alex Michelsen on Wednesday. **PHOTO: AFP**

The seven-time Grand Slam champion was scheduled to play the Italian in the last 16, but Berrettini pulled out ahead of their encounter due to an elbow injury.

"Unfortunately, the pain in my arm that I've been putting up with for the past few days means I won't be able to take to the court tonight," Berrettini posted on social media.

After receiving a bye through the first round due to being a top-eight seed, Alcaraz is now into the last eight with only one match under his belt in Paris.

He will meet either Arthur Fils or Taylor Fritz on Friday for a spot in the semifinals. — AFP

Bayern extends Kane's contract until 2029

BAYERN Munich has extended Harry Kane's contract until June 2029, securing the future of the newly crowned Ballon d'Or winner for another two years beyond his previous deal.

The 33-year-old, who joined Bayern from Tottenham Hotspur in August 2023, has scored 156 goals in 161 competitive appearances.

"For me, the negotiations were really straightforward. In my mind, I always wanted to stay here and continue what we have built," Kane said. "I feel at home at Bayern Munich. I love the club, the fans and the city of Munich. My whole family is very happy here."

Kane helped Bayern secure consecutive Bundesliga titles over the past two seasons under coach Vincent Kompany. The England striker has finished as the Bundesliga's leading scorer in each of his three seasons in Germany, beginning with 36 goals during his debut campaign.

He followed that with 26 league goals in the 2024-25 season, becoming the first non-German player to win the Bundesliga scoring award in both of his opening seasons. — Xinhua

Haaland breaks City out of mini-rut at Leipzig



Erling Haaland scored the winner as Manchester City beat Leipzig 3-2 on Wednesday. **PHOTO: AFP**

ERLING Haaland's 78th-minute strike helped Manchester City shake off a mini-slump with a 3-2 Champions League win at RB Leipzig on Wednesday.

After an excellent start to the season, City had lost two Premier League games in a row either side of beating Brighton on penalties in the League Cup.

The visitors twice went ahead — through a Castello Lukeba own goal and an Enzo Fernandez header — only to be pegged back by goals from Ridle Baku and Antonio Nusa.

Despite having scored more against Leipzig than any other opponents in his career, Haaland had few chances but was right on the spot to turn in an Elliot Anderson cross for the winner.

"For me I think it's easy. It's around 100 minutes a game to just stay fully focused," Haaland told reporters. — AFP

Klopp recalls veteran Fuellkrug to Germany squad

JURGEN Klopp on Thursday recalled experienced striker Niclas Fuellkrug to Germany's 24-man squad for November's Nations League fixtures.

Teenage Borussia Moenchengladbach midfielder Wael Mohya received a surprise call-up for Germany's games away to Serbia and at home against the Netherlands in Berlin.

Having named 44 players in his first Germany squad as he hoped to get a better idea of the talent at his disposal, Klopp was forced to cut a number of established internationals and younger talents.

Nick Woltemade, Karim Adeyemi, Nadiem Amiri and David Raum were among those left out of the squad, while Jamal Musiala and Serge Gnabry are still out with long-term injuries. — AFP



Niclas Fuellkrug (R) has been in excellent form since his return to Werder Bremen. **PHOTO: AFP /FILE**

Trump renews push for permanent daylight saving time, urges Senate to pass Sunshine Protection Act

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WORLD

US Senate democratic leader says to end Iran war

US Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer said on Wednesday that "we are going to end the war" with Iran, and that there will be support from some Senate Republicans.

"We are going to end the war. We have some Republicans already who have joined us in ending the war, and the Founding Fathers had the power of the purse as one of the ways of deterring a president who does war without the consent of the American people," Schumer said at a press conference at the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee headquarters in Washington, DC Schumer's remarks came a few hours after Election Day, when Democrats are projected to flip control of the House of Representatives and Senate in the midterm elections.

President Donald Trump told The Wall Street Journal on Tuesday night that the war was partially to blame for widespread Republican losses in the midterm elections. Trump, however, maintained that he didn't regret launching the war earlier this year.

"Iran was a piece of it," Trump said in a phone interview with the US daily when asked about whether the war contributed to Republicans' poor performance in the elections.

In June, four Republican senators voted with Democrats in support of a war powers resolution directing Trump to withdraw US troops from hostilities against Iran that came without a formal authorization for use of military force from Congress. — Xinhua

Singapore, Norway launch green shipping decarbonization grant

THE Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, the Research Council of Norway (RCN) and the Singapore Maritime Institute (SMI) have launched a joint research grant call to develop technologies and solutions to support the decarbonization of international shipping, the three parties said in a statement on Thursday.

The grant call will focus on three areas: alternative fuels and energy infrastructure; vessel energy efficiency and emissions reduction; and digitalization and greener shipping operations.

The SMI will provide up to 2.7 million Singapore dollars (US$2.12 million) for Singapore-based research partners, while the RCN will allocate up to 20 million Norwegian kroner (US$2.15 million) for Norwegian partners. Each proposal must involve research institutions and industry partners from both countries to ensure practical industry applications.

Selected projects may receive funding for up to four years. This marks the third Singapore-Norway joint research grant call, following earlier rounds in 2015 and 2018, which supported four projects covering maritime energy efficiency, emissions reduction and emerging technologies. — Xinhua

India launches $1.5 billion energy storage plan

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the scheme would help deliver "more reliable power, greater renewable energy integration, and stronger energy security".

India has launched a $1.5-billion scheme to develop 92 gigawatt-hours of energy storage capacity as it seeks to accelerate its shift towards renewable energy, the government said Wednesday.

Energy demand in India, home to more than 1.4 billion people, is expected to continue rising rapidly even as the government pursues its goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070.

The scheme, which runs from 2026-27 to 2030-31, will support 60 gigawatt-hours of pumped hydro storage, 30 GWh of battery storage, and two GWh using emerging technologies, the government said.



India is set to commission 45 to 50 GWh of battery energy storage system (BESS) capacity across fiscals 2027 and 2028, scaling up sharply from roughly 1 GWh installed by the end of financial 2026. **PHOTO: ANI**

New Delhi's incentives would support an estimated $10 billion of investment in the next five years, it added, with the planned additions equivalent to 170 per cent of India's existing grid-scale energy storage capacity.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the scheme would help deliver "more reliable power, greater renewable energy integration, and stronger energy security". — AFP

S Korea to expand anti-piracy unit's mission area closer to Hormuz

SOUTH Korea planned to expand the mission area of its anti-piracy Cheonghae Unit in the Gulf of Aden to the waters south of Oman, closer to the Strait of Hormuz, while deploying more naval assets such as a maritime patrol aircraft and an explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) team, according to Yonhap news agency Thursday.

The deployment of the EOD team and unmanned mine-countermeasure equipment was also aimed at preparing for South Korea's potential participation in future international mine-clearing operations in the Strait of Hormuz, which could begin after the conclusion of conflicts in the area, Yonhap said.



The image shows a commercial cargo vessel anchored off the coast of Yemen near the strategic Bab al-Mandab Strait, which links the Red Sea with the Gulf of Aden. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

The South Korean Defence Ministry confirmed the report, which said that the ministry planned to submit a revised deployment extension motion to the National Assembly, detailing the expanded mission area and additional military assets.

The motion passed a vice-ministerial meeting earlier in the day and will be sent to the parliament for approval after next week's cabinet meeting and presidential endorsement. The Cheonghae Unit, first deployed to the Gulf of Aden in 2009 with the mission of anti-piracy operations and vessel escort, currently operates a 4,400-tonne destroyer equipped with one maritime operation helicopter and up to three rigid-hull inflatable boats, manned by a crew of up to 320 personnel. — Xinhua