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

The Global NEW LIGHT of MYANMAR

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US Embassy Unveils Health, Humanitarian Aid Package for Myanmar, Others

ON 28 September, the US Embassy in Yangon announced that Myanmar is among the countries set to receive new global health and humanitarian assistance worth nearly US$2 billion.

The statement noted that this assistance will be provided through trusted faith-based and community-based organizations, delivering vital ongoing support to the people of Myanmar.

The embassy stated that efforts are underway to partner with aid organizations that have demonstrated positive results to ensure resources directly reach areas in greatest need. SEE PAGE 3



This image attached to the US Embassy statements published on 21 and 28 September.

Push to Transition from E-Government to Digital Governance



Vice-President U Nyo Saw presides over the coordination meeting 1/2026 of the e-Government Steering Committee in Nay Pyi Taw.

Vice-President U Nyo Saw, who chairs the e-Government Steering Committee, emphasized the importance of information security and cybersecurity measures during a coordination meeting of the committee held at the Ministry of Digital Development and Communications in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, the Vice-President highlighted the need for more effective implementation of the e-government processes to facilitate the transition to a digital government across all government sectors. This initiative requires not only efforts from the government but also the development of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) frameworks that encourage cooperation and participation from the private sector and technology experts.

He stressed the importance of operating service provision through the Single Window and One-Stop Digital Services Platforms.

Additionally, the Vice-President called for the approval of the National Digital Development Strategy 2030 and the enactment of the Digital Development Law.

He urged all departments and organizations to coordinate their efforts harmoniously in establishing a digital government based on e-government, which should serve as a reliable application for the public.

Union Minister for Digital Development and Communications U Mya Tun Oo, who is also Vice-Chair of the Steering Committee, along with the secretary, reported on the progress of implementing the e-government process. Union ministers, who are also members of the steering committee, discussed efforts to successfully carry out the e-government initiative.

The Vice-President coordinated necessary measures during the discussions and delivered a concluding remark.

Present at the meeting were Union-level dignitaries, deputy ministers, the president of the Myanmar Computer Federation, departmental officials, and chief ministers of regions and states, who participated through videoconferencing. — MNA/TTA

Kunming Seminar Spotlights Myanmar's Economic Environment & Investment Opportunities



This image shows the seminar on Myanmar's Economic Environment and Opportunities.

A seminar on Economic Environment and Opportunities in Myanmar was held in Kunming, Yunnan Province, jointly organized by the Myanmar Consulate General in Kunming and the Kunming Young Entrepreneurs Association, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The event took place at the meeting hall of Yunnan Lingyun Law Office in Kunming, with a view to strengthening cooperation between businesses in Myanmar and Yunnan Province, building a secure and highly operational network for Kunming's young entrepreneurs to share information needed for investment and business operations in Myanmar, connect business partners, exchange innovation and technological resources, and promote practical bilateral cooperation in projects and industrial investment.

The event highlighted an introduction to Myanmar's current investment opportunities and development landscape, a presentation on the Kunming Young Entrepreneurs Association's activities and growth, an exchange of views on investment and trade opportunities in Myanmar and an open discussion and Q&A session with attendees. — ASH/KK

"She Made Myanmar" FMCG MSME Award Opens for Entries

THE "She Made Myanmar by MWEA FMCG MSME Award" competition will be held to promote women entrepreneurs engaged in agricultural production or manufacturing in Mandalay Region, as part of the 10th anniversary of the Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association (Mandalay) (MWEA).

Applications are now open for those wishing to participate in the competition. Applicants must be members of MWEA and must be women entrepreneurs actually engaged in agricultural production or manufacturing products in Mandalay Region. Their businesses must have been operating for between three and five years.

Applicants must submit valid business registration and licence documents, such as a company registration certificate, municipal licence, SME or FDA licence, together with evidence of having paid income tax for the past three years and financial statements for the past two years.

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Yangon Region works to reduce crime

NATIONAL PAGE 11



Monks, novices, and nuns to get 10-digit Unique ...

NATIONAL

Objectives of 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition 2026

(a) To enhance national prestige, integrity, and preserve the traditional cultural heritage of ethnic people
(b) To preserve national characteristics and promote the national spirit, cherishing traditional culture among the younger generation
(c) To explore, preserve and promote the sustainable development of traditional Myanmar arts
(d) To function as a cultural and artistic institution that contributes to nation-building

MAI welcomes new ATR 72-600 aircraft in Yangon

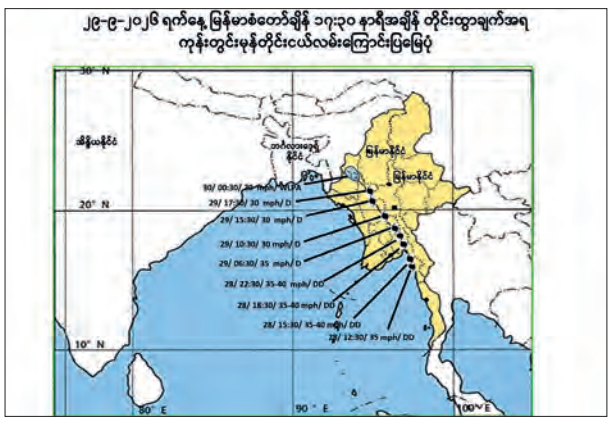
MYANMAR Airways International (MAI) welcomed a new ATR 72-600 aircraft, XY-ANE (MSN 1827), at Yangon International Airport at 5 pm on 28 September as part of its fleet expansion, according to the airline.

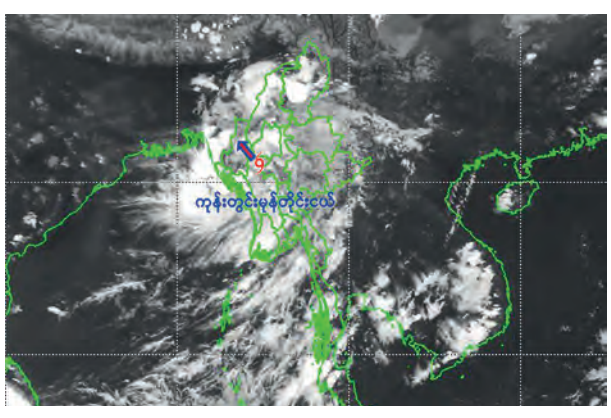
The aircraft was delivered from Toulouse, France, and arrived at Yangon International Airport on 28 September, where it was welcomed with a water cannon salute. In line with MAI's tradition of naming its aircraft after cities in Myanmar, XY-ANE has been named "Nay Pyi Taw".

The aircraft is the first ATR 72-600 in Myanmar equipped with the latest-generation PW127XT engines. The engines are expected to improve operational performance, reduce fuel consumption by up to five per cent and enhance on-wing reliability. The aircraft will also strengthen MAI's connectivity on domestic and regional routes.


This image captures a new ATR 72-600 aircraft.

Another ATR 72-600, XY-ANF (MSN 1836), will also join the fleet, with MAI planning further expansion in line with its goal of building a modern and efficient fleet. — BaLa/KZL





Land Depression Warning, No 8 2026

Issued at 7 pm MST on 29 September 2026

Land Depression Condition

According to observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Land Depression has crossed between Yenangyoung and Kyaukpadaung in Myanmar moved north-north-westwards and continue to move west of NyaungU in Myanmar. It is centred at about 15 miles west of NyaungU, 20 miles southeast of Pauk and 70 miles south-southwest of Monywa, Myanmar.

Its present state of Land Depression is coded as brown stage, it could cross between Yenangyoung and Kyaukpadaung in Myanmar.

Position of Land Depression, centre pressure and wind

The Land Depression is located at Latitude 21.2 degree North and Longitude 94.7 degree East, centre pressure of Depression is 1,004 hPa and maximum wind speed near the centre is 30 miles per hour at 10:30 am MST today.

Next 12 hours forecast

It is likely to move north-north-westwards and may cross Magway, and Lower Sagaing Regions and Chin State during the next 12 hours and weaken into a Well Marked Low-Pressure Area.

General caution

Due to the Land Depression, rain or thundershowers are likely to be fairly widespread to widespread in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyawady, and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin. Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine, and Shan States with a likelihood of regionally and isolated heavy falls from tonight to 1 October 2026. Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet in off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware of the natural disasters such as the heavy rainfall with strong wind, thunder, lightning strikes, lightning, hails, flash floods and landslides in hilly areas and peoples living in the Land Depression crossing areas and to make necessary preparations for inland water transport, domestic flights and irrigation dams. — DMH

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Tuesday 29 September 2026

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, the Land Depression has crossed near west of Yedashe in Myanmar moved north-north-westwards and continue to move between Yenangyoung and Kyaukpadaung in Myanmar. It is centered at about 10 miles south-northeast of Yenangyaung, 20 miles south-southwest of Kyaukpadaung and 25 miles South-Southeast of Chauk, Myanmar.Its present state of Land Depression is coded as brown stage, and it could cross between Yenangyoung and Kyaukpadaung in Myanmar. Monsoon is moderate to strong over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Weather is a few clouds over the Westcentral Bay of Bengal and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 30 September 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Sagaing Region and Kachin State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with a likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Bago and Magway Regions and Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States and isolated heavy falls in Yangon, Sagaing and Ayeyawady Regions and Chin and southern Shan States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Regions and Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States. In areas along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along the Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 30 miles per hour. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Sagaing Region and Kachin and Chin States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 30 September 2026: Some rain or thundershowers which may be heavy falls at time. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 30 September 2026: One or two instances of rain or thundershowers which may be heavy falls at time. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 30 September 2026: One or two instances of rain or thundershowers which may be heavy falls at time. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent. — DMH

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw arranges debates for ordinances, nomination of Supreme Court Judges

DURING its second regular session, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw formed 18 joint budget scrutiny groups to scrutinize the budget and meet the scheduled legislative timeline, said Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe at the first-day meeting of the third regular session of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw at its building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.



The first-day meeting of the Third Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's third regular session is underway in Nay Pyi Taw, chaired by Speaker U Aung Lin Dwe.

The Speaker underlined that as representatives of all citizens, the Hluttaw members will have to undertake greater responsibilities during the current regular session than in previous sessions.

Union Minister at the President's Office U Khin Maung Yi explained matters related to the motion sent by the President on releasing Ordinance 5/2026 on 24 August 2026 to rename the Ministry of Hotels, Tourism and Culture as the Ministry of Culture, Hotels and Tourism.

He stated that, in terms of organizational and personnel structure, the Ministry of Culture is larger than the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism. The immediate purpose behind renaming the ministry was to prioritize and honour culture in time for the upcoming Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition. Because an administrative necessity for the State arose while the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was in recess, the ministry was renamed through the issuance of an ordinance; this motion is therefore submitted to seek the confirmation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that Hluttaw representatives wishing to discuss the motion can list with the director-general of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.

The Union minister also clarified matters related to the motion sent by the President on the replacement of the Union minister and the release of Ordinance 6/2026, stating that Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Nyunt Win Swe was reassigned to the original military duties while General Ko Ko Oo from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) was appointed as Union Minister for Home Affairs. To carry out the Ministry of Home Affairs' national security and peace and order responsibilities for the people more effectively, an immediate need arose while the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was in recess, prompting this appointment via an ordinance. This motion is therefore submitted to seek the confirmation of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The Speaker announced that any Hluttaw representatives who wish to object to the individual nominated by the President of the Union for appointment as a Union minister by providing clear evidence that the nominee does not meet the qualifications stipulated in Section 232 (c) of the Constitution may submit their name to the Director-General no later than 4 pm on 1 October.

The Speaker stated that regarding this matter, the proceedings to declare approval of the appointment, if there are no objections concerning the person nominated by the President as Union Minister for Home Affairs – or to table an objection motion if any Hluttaw representatives wish to object – will be conducted on the second day of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session.

The Speaker also outlined that concerning submitting the proposal on the nomination of Dr Myo Win Aung and U Saw Myo Myo for the Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union, Hluttaw representatives wishing to object the appointment for the judges can list at the director-general of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office no later than 4 pm on 1 October, and the discussions for the appointment will be held on the second day meeting of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Han Win Aung explained the motion to seek the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accordance with Section 37 of the Union Taxation Law 2026, to grant an additional one-month extension from 1 to 30 September, for the exemption of Special Goods Tax and Commercial Tax on high-speed diesel (HSD 500 ppm), as well as Commercial Tax exemption on liquefied natural gas (LNG).

The Speaker announced that the Hluttaw representatives wishing to discuss the motion can list at the director-general of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.

The Hluttaw recorded the appointment of Colonel Soe Yan Naung as Kachin State Minister for Security and Border Affairs instead of Colonel Kyaw Thura.

The Speaker sought the approval of the Hluttaw to record the foreign trips undertaken by Hluttaw committees during the Hluttaw recess.

Moreover, the Speaker sought the approval of the Hluttaw on the replacement of members at the Joint Bill Committee, Joint Public Accounts Committee and ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will continue the second-day meeting on 6 October. — MNA/TTA

US Embassy Unveils Health, Humanitarian Aid Package for Myanmar, Others

FROM PAGE 1

The US Embassy also highlighted that it is working to ensure measurable results in humanitarian operations and responsible spending of US taxpayer funds, delivering aid to the people of Myanmar in their time of critical need.

Earlier, on 21 September, the US Embassy released a statement noting that US assistance is providing temporary support for basic needs such as food, clean water, healthcare, and sanitation. The embassy stated that its goal is to save lives in Myanmar and contribute to a safer, more secure United States by strengthening peace, security, and long-term stability. — TWA/ZN

Myanmar, IUCN discuss nature conservation cooperation

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Hsan Oo received Mr Jacob Sebastian Brunner, Head of the Lower Mekong Sub-Region of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), at the ministry's Office 28 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.



Union Minister U Hsan Oo receives Mr Jacob Sebastian Brunner, Head of the Lower Mekong Sub-Region of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The Union minister said Myanmar joined IUCN as a member country in 2017 and has been making continuous efforts to promote cooperation that would produce positive results. He said the country is working to formulate key national frameworks for nature conservation and sustainable development, including a National Mangrove Action Plan, a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and a National Integrated Coastal Resources Management Programme.

They also discussed biodiversity and sustainable natural resource conservation, protected areas, mangrove conservation and the promotion of cooperation in environmental conservation in Myanmar.

Deputy Minister Dr Thaung Naing Oo, the director-general of the Forest Department, and relevant officials also attended the meeting. — MNA/KZL

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Pyithu Hluttaw Discusses Tourism, Regional Infrastructure, and UNESCO Bid



The seventh-day meeting of the Third Pyithu Hluttaw's third regular session in progress in Nay Pyi Taw, presided over by Speaker U Khin Yi and Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn.

The seventh-day meeting of the third regular session of the third Pyithu Hluttaw was held at the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Yi, Deputy Speaker U Maung Maung Ohn, and parliamentarians. During the session, MPs raised 10 starred questions and tabled one motion concerning tourism facilitation, municipal tube-well water supply, land grant approvals, road and bridge upgrades, and affordable housing.

Replying to a query raised by U Soe Hla of Kyaikto constituency on easing foreign visitor entry to Kyaiktiyo Pagoda, Deputy Minister for Culture, Hotels and Tourism U Phyo Zaw Soe stated that an online clearance system has been introduced to streamline approvals. To enhance visitor convenience and security, the Tourist Police Force coordinates closely with local security personnel, while the advance submission window for package tours arranged by travel agencies has been relaxed from 14 days to 10 working days.

Addressing municipal and land-related queries, Nay Pyi Taw Council Member U Win Moe Khaing explained that supplying clean drinking water to high-elevation quarters in Mahlaing Township will require an estimated K298.6 million for drilling a six-inch tube-well, building storage tanks, and laying pipelines, which will be proposed for the 2028-2029 financial year. Regarding bus stops in Yangon, he stated that the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) has not granted a monopoly to FML Decaux Co Ltd, noting that the firm has fully complied with contract regulations and faces no punitive action. In response to questions on Insein Township housing schemes, he clarified that construction permits have not been issued for villa projects including 9-Avenue Villa, Palm Hill Villa, OASIS Villa, and Royal Ponnami Residences, adding that legal action under the 2018 YCDC Law has been taken where fencing was erected without authorization. For Hinthada Township, he noted that downtown land occupied by the Red Cross Society and the Maternal and Child Welfare Association will not be surrendered for private land grants, as the development affairs body plans to develop the site into a public recreation area.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Myo Myint answered multiple infrastructure and urban development questions. In Setoktara Township, Magway Region Government will allocate funds in FY 2028-2029 to repair 1.4 miles of heavily damaged gravel sections along the 16.1-mile Myinchaung Hill-Tapwin village-access road, with plans to concrete the route in phases. Touching on urban housing and trade, he highlighted ongoing initiatives providing low-cost and fair-value public rental housing in major cities, managing over 12,000 acres of industrial zones in Yangon alongside extensive agro-livestock zones, and relocating roadside vendors into designated municipal markets to maintain order. Regarding road networks in Ayeyawady Region, repairs on four furlongs of damaged macadam on the 12.5-mile Nyaunggon-Chaungphya-Thayetgon road in Einme Township are slated for FY 2027-2028, followed by new gravel paving from FY 2028-2029. In Ingapu Township, three furlongs of the Htugyi-Kanyutgon road will undergo gravel repairs in FY 2026-2027, with five furlongs of new gravel surfacing planned under the regional supplementary capital budget. For Tiddim Township, he explained that upgrading the 350-foot Manipur River suspension bridge along the Patzang-Helei road to a 60-tonne load capacity is not currently planned and will be considered only when future traffic demands it.

Following the question-and-answer session, Dr Shwe Pyi Soe from the Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township constituency tabled a motion urging the government to propose Myanmar's traditional culinary dish Htamane and the classical weaving craft Lunyagyaw for inclusion on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list. The motion was seconded by U Nay Lin Aung from the North Okkalapa Township constituency.

The Speaker announced that the Hluttaw agreed to deliberate the proposal and invited interested MPs to submit their names for debate. The seventh-day meeting then concluded, with the eighth day scheduled to convene on 30 September. — MNA/ST

Myanmar attends 12th St Petersburg Intl United Cultures Forum

A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Culture, Hotels and Tourism U Maung Myint attended the XII Saint Petersburg International United Cultures Forum, held in Saint Petersburg, the Russian Federation, from 24 to 26 September.

On 24 September, the Union minister and his delegation visited the Catherine Palace Museum.

At the forum on the morning of 25 September, the Union minister participated in discussions on plans to preserve as cultural heritage the primate fossils discovered in Myanmar dating back approximately 40 million years, Myanmar-Russia cooperation in the cultural sector, and the important role of cultural heritage in the development of future societies.



Union Minister U Maung Myint (2R) is pictured during his observation tour in Saint Petersburg.

In the evening, he attended a ceremony addressed by President Vladimir Putin of the Russian Federation, together with ministers and heads of relevant departments from invited countries.

He also gave interviews to Russian media outlets.

On the morning of 26 September, he attended a ceremony to present awards to organizations and individuals who contributed to the successful organization of the forum. He also gave interviews to Russian media outlets and participated in sectoral discussions and clarification sessions.

The delegation arrived back in Myanmar on the evening of 28 September. — MNA/KTZH



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

NATIONAL

Thayawady's MSY village project loans disbursed

THE Department of Rural Development held a ceremony to disburse revolving funds under the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project in Phokhaung Village, Thayawady Township, Bago Region, yesterday. Thayawady Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Lay Lay Lwin explained that the revolving funds were provided under the MSY Village Project with the objectives of creating employment opportunities and increasing family incomes for rural residents, as well as enabling them to implement village development activities with increased revolving funds. Officials then handed over K52 million in revolving funds to members of the project implementation groups. Phokhaung Village is implementing family income-generating activities using K52 million from the MSY Village Project. The 13th round of revolving loans at low interest rates was disbursed to 146 members from the village, including 97 members engaged in agriculture receiving K34.8 million, 48 in livestock breeding receiving K16.8 million, and one in other economic activities receiving K400,000. — Maung Khaing (Rural)



A village representative receives the MSY fund in Thayawady Township.

NSPNC meets NCA-S EAOs to discuss future peace processes

THE National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) and the negotiation team of the signatories to the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA-S EAOs) held a meeting yesterday morning at the meeting hall of the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Centre in Yangon.



Discussions between the National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) and the NCA-signatory EAO negotiation team are underway in Yangon.

Speaking at the meeting, NSPNC Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae stated that discussions would be held either group by group or individually to address the differing objectives and aspirations of EAOs regarding the peace process and return to initial conditions, while political parties representing the public would be treated not merely as dialogue partners but as collaborative partners, and everyone should strive to bring ethnic armed organizations that have not signed the NCA into the peace process and encourage open discussions on future peace initiatives.

Speaking on behalf of the NCA-S EAOs, negotiation team leader and RCSS Secretary 1 Sao Sai Ngeng expressed his delight at learning that appropriate avenues would be pursued to meet and hold discussions with all ethnic armed organizations to enable them to join the peace process. He stated that the NCA-S EAOs would strive to resume the peace process and, most importantly, build mutual trust.

Subsequently, NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing explained the arrangements being made to commemorate the 11th anniversary of the NCA and hold a workshop, future peace processes to be pursued with the NCA-S EAO negotiation team, and matters concerning the formulation of specific agreements during the meetings.

Attendees then discussed modalities for continuing peace process discussions based on the essence of the NCA, topics for dialogue, the implementation of confidence-building measures, the safeguarding of fundamental principles in political talks, encouraging the further participation of ethnic armed organizations in the peace process, carrying out peace and development activities in areas where EAOs are based, holding public discussions and forums in regions and states, and matters related to future peace processes.

The first day of the meeting was then adjourned, with the second day of discussions scheduled to continue on 30 September, according to reports. — MNA/TH

Successful Conclusion of 8th Myanmar-China (Yunnan) Cooperation Forum in Nay Pyi Taw

MYANMAR successfully hosted the 8th Myanmar-China (Yunnan) Cooperation Forum at the MGallery Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 29 September 2026.

The forum was attended by the Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ko Ko Kyaw, along with representatives from 19 line ministries, the Mandalay Region government, the Shan State government, the Central Bank of Myanmar and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI). The Chinese delegation was led by Mr Zhao Junmin, Member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee.

In his opening address, the deputy minister emphasized that the relationship between Myanmar and Yunnan Province serves as the "Frontline Foundation of broader China-Myanmar 'Pauk-Phaw' Relationship". He noted that Yunnan Province, which shares a nearly 2,000-kilometre border with Myanmar, accounts for more than half of total bilateral trade and continues to expand cooperation across various sectors. He called for implementing practical, mutually beneficial initiatives and cooperation through the forum, further enhancing the bilateral "Pauk-Phaw" friendship, and strengthening cooperation under the Yunnan Cooperation Forum framework.

Following the opening ceremony, representatives from the respective ministries conducted sector-specific breakout discussions. The sessions were co-chaired on the Myanmar side by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of National Planning, Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, and on the Chinese side by the Deputy Secretary of the CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee and representatives from its Publicity Department. The discussions focused key attention on maintaining peace, stability, and the rule of law in border areas; jointly combatting cross-border crime; boosting trade, economic ties, and regional connectivity; expanding direct air routes between Myanmar and Yunnan Province; promoting industrial growth and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs); fostering people-to-people ties and deepening exchanges and high-level visits between sister cities.



Deputy Minister U Ko Ko Kyaw and Member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee Mr Zhao Junmin sign the Agreed Minutes of the Forum.

At the conclusion of the breakout sessions, the plenary meeting was convened where the two group leaders summarized the main outcomes. Subsequently, the head of the Myanmar delegation (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs) and the head of the Chinese delegation (Member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Yunnan Provincial Committee) signed the Agreed Minutes of the Forum.

At noon, Deputy Minister U Ko Ko Kyaw hosted a working luncheon in honour of the Chinese delegation led by Mr Zhao Junmin.

The Myanmar-China (Yunnan) Cooperation Forum has been held alternately in Myanmar and Yunnan Province since 2013. It serves as a platform aimed at deepening cooperation on stability and the rule of law in border areas, economic and regional connectivity, and people-to-people ties and cultural integration, as well as amicably coordinating and resolving challenges and obstacles encountered in cooperation between Myanmar and Yunnan Province. — MoFA

NATIONAL

Htantabin Workers' Hospital offers hemodialysis in early Oct

HEMODIALYSIS has been run on a trial basis at the Workers' Hospital (Htantabin) in Yangon Region, and it is expected to be available in early October for insured workers, according to the Ministry of Labour.

Union Minister for Labour U Khin Maung Soe visited the hospital and examined the trial run. During his visit, the Union minister instructed that the necessary medicines and medical supplies be fulfilled in order to start an official launch of the service as early as possible in October.



Union Minister for Labour U Khin Maung Soe visiting the hospital.

When the service is available, insured workers from Shwepyitha and Hlinethaya townships, where many industrial zones are located, can easily obtain access to medical treatment at the hospital.

The Social Security Board has worked for insured workers who have chronic kidney disease to have the right to obtain hemodialysis services. According to statistics until August 2026, it helped patients receive the service – 530 patients for 3,045 times in Yangon and 308 patients for 2,542 times in Mandalay. — TWA/ZS

Yangon Region works to reduce crime



PHOTO: YANGON REGION POLICE FORCE

POLICE personnel at township police stations across Yangon Region are working with traffic police and relevant administrative authorities to reduce crime and prevent criminal activities in the region.

Today, Police Captain Win Naing Soe, officer-in-charge of Wanetchaung Police Outpost in Hmawby Township, and his team; SIP Zaw Zaw Aung, area security officer of Satsan Ward Police Station in Kyimyindine Township, and his team; SIP Nanda Zaw Win, area security officer of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Police Station; SIP Lin Zaw and members of Hlinethaya (East) Myoma Police Station; and members of the traffic police teams from Bahan and Kyauktada townships conducted crime prevention awareness activities in wards and villages.

The activities included door-to-door crime prevention awareness campaigns, educating the public to cross roads systematically at pedestrian crossings and distributing pamphlets.

On the previous evening, Police Major Myint Khaing, commander of Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Township Police Force, and a joint team; Police Major Thein San Oo, commander of Kyimyindine Township Police Force, and members; Officiating Police Major Zaw Win, commander of Dagon Myothit (North) Township Police Force, and members; Police Captain Aye Nyein Zaw, Police Captain Aung San Lin and members of Mingala Taungnyunt Myoma Police Station; Police Captain Khin Zaw and members of Thakayta Myoma Police Station; SIP Nay Win Tun of Hlinethaya (West) Township Myoma Police Station; and SIP Zaw Zaw Oo, area security officer of Phaunggyi Area Police Station, and members conducted vehicle inspections and checkpoints, checked guest lists, carried out mobile patrols using patrol vehicles and inspected KTV establishments. — Aung Thu/KZL

Laterite paving for Yenangyoung-Hteinchaung-Nyaungbintha-Phayagon Road inspected



This image captures the laterite paving work in Yenangyoung Township.

OFFICIALS conducted a field inspection on the morning of 28 September to inspect the progress of the earth embankment formation and red laterite paving work on the Yenangyoung-Hteinchaung-Nyaungbintha-Phayagon Road, executed by the Department of Rural Road Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development in Yenangyoung Township, Magway Region.

U Khine Min Soe, In-Charge of the Project Inspection and Quality Control (QC) Team under the Magway Region Department of Rural Road Development, together with Daw Thiri Phyo Wai Wint, Township In-Charge Engineer (Civil) of the Yenangyoung Township Department of Rural Road Development, and responsible officials, inspected the execution of the red laterite paving work on the Yenangyoung-Hteinchaung- Nyaungbintha-Phayagon Road. QC In-Charge U Khine Min Soe checked whether the operations met the designated quality standards and provided necessary instructions.

The Department of Rural Road Development commenced the project – comprising earth embankment formation and eight-inch-thick red laterite paving across two miles in length and 18 feet in width – on 1 August of this year, using K176 million allocated from the Regional (Capital) Fund for the 2026-2027 financial year. Currently, the project is 70 per cent complete. Upon 100 per cent completion of the roadwork, local communities will benefit from smooth and convenient transport. — Naw Lu (DRD)

Kunhing enjoys fruits of spring water supply

OFFICIALS of the Department of Rural Development, this morning inspected the progress of an ongoing spring water supply project in Wanhein Village, Kunhing Township, Shan State (South).

Kunhing Township Department of Rural Development Head U Aung Kyaw Hein and staff observed the installation of a seven-furlong-long spring water pipeline extended from the water source to Wanhein Village, the construction of a 5,000-gallon water tank measuring 15 feet in length, 10 feet in width and six feet in height, and the construction of a water barrier measuring 25 feet in length, three feet in width and five feet in height. He urged officials, to ensure the project's completion on schedule in compliance with prescribed standards, and coordinated necessary measures based on the requirements raised by residents.



The spring water supply system and related work are being implemented during the 2026-2027 financial year with K44.899 million in State-approved budget by township department engineering staff and tender-winning companies. Work commenced in the third week of July, and construction is currently 50 per cent complete. Upon completion, the system will ensure year-round access to a sufficient supply of clean drinking water for residents, addressing water shortages faced during the summer. — Karan (Rural)

NATIONAL

Repatriation of verified Myanmar Nationals from Malaysian Detention Camps

MYANMAR Navy vessels, namely UMS Mottama, UMS Than Lwin and UMS Sin Phyu Shin, arrived at Lumut Port, Malaysia, on the morning of 28 September to repatriate 1,476 verified Myanmar nationals who had been detained in the Malaysian Immigration detention camps and faced difficulties following completion of their sentences due to violations of the immigration regulations. Following the systematic handover of the verified Myanmar nationals by the Myanmar Embassy and the Office of the Military Attaché (Army Navy and Air) of Myanmar in Kuala Lumpur, the vessels carrying the returnees departed from Lumut Port, Malaysia, on the evening of 29 September 2026 for Yangon. — MoFA



Returnees are seen boarding Myanmar Navy vessels in Malaysia.

"She Made Myanmar" FMCG MSME Award Opens ...

FROM PAGE 1

They must also provide information on the history of their businesses, sales and market growth over the past two years, use of digital technology, innovation, environmental protection, ability to overcome challenges and contributions to the community, along with relevant supporting documents and 10 photographs of their businesses.

Those interested in entering the competition can apply directly to the Myanmar Women Entrepreneur's Association (Mandalay).—ASH/KZL

Over 19.8M people die from CVDs

ACCORDING to the World Health Organization (WHO), more than 19.8 million people die from Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) worldwide each year, with about 85 per cent of deaths attributed to heart attacks and strokes.

Speaking at the 2026 World Heart Day ceremony, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Aye Tun said a 2024 STEPS Survey found that 24.4 per cent of adults in Myanmar have hypertension, while 13.4 per cent of people aged 40-69 have CVDs or are at high risk of developing them within 10 years.



Deputy Minister Dr Aye Tun speaks on the occasion of World Heart Day 2026.

This year's World Heart Day theme, "Don't Miss A Beat," highlights the importance of recognizing heart disease symptoms early, seeking timely medical care and maintaining heart health through a healthy diet, regular exercise, avoiding tobacco and excessive alcohol consumption, and reducing stress.

As part of the ceremony, AI ECG vests were used to screen 100 people at Nay Pyi Taw 1,000-Bed General Hospital, while similar heart-health screenings were conducted for 300 people in Yangon, 250 in Mandalay and 257 at North Okkalapa General Hospital. — MNA/KTZH

Preparations underway to build 250 MW solar power plant in Ngwehsaung

PREPARATIONS are underway to construct a 250-megawatt (MW) solar power plant project in Ngwehsaung, according to the Ayeyawady Region government.

On 28 September, officials from Myanmar's Galaxy Red Star Co Ltd and China's GCL Green Energy Technology Co Ltd presented the technical details and implementation plans for the joint 250 MW solar power plant project in Ngwehsaung, Pathein District, to the regional government.

The project is proposed to be developed on approximately 1,000 acres of vacant land. They detailed the phased implementation plans, starting from project design, connecting to the national grid, and the technical advantages of the solar energy system. The electricity generated aims to help meet regional power demands and boost overall electricity production. Following the presentation, relevant government departments discussed sector-specific requirements and necessary procedures.



Technical presentation on 250 MW solar power plant project in Ngwehsaung.

Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Aye Kyaw stated that achieving an adequate power supply within the region is a top priority, and local and foreign investors are being invited to participate in power generation. He added that efforts are also underway to produce 30 MW of solar power at the Pathein Industrial Project. — MT/ZN

K12B+ disbursed in social security benefits

THE Ministry of Labour disbursed over K12.97 billion in social security cash benefits from February to August 2026.

At the Social Security Board meeting held at the Ministry of Labour on 24 September, Union Minister U Khin Maung Soe, Chairman of the Social Security Board, disclosed the inoformation.

Currently, the social security project has been implemented for over 1.38 million insured workers from 36,899 workplaces in 136 townships. An MOC has been signed with the Social Security Board of Malaysia for the social protection of Myanmar migrant workers abroad, and cooperation is being negotiated with the Social Security Board of Thailand.

In addition, in order to provide more effective health services to insured workers, contracts have been signed with private hospitals and clinics, and 72 clinics and eight maternity wards are being opened under the Fee-for-Service Payment system. For the 2025-2026 academic year, over K3,583 million was disbursed as family support for 89,967 students and children of 68,379 insured workers, and this is continuing for the 2026-2027 academic year. In addition, the Ministry of Labour has approved over K10,988 million as family support for natural disasters for 134,283 insured workers from 7,163 works that were affected by the Mandalay earthquake. — TWA/MKKS



This photo displays a meeting of the Social Security Board held at the Ministry of Labour on 24 September 2026.

The people are urged to receive vaccination of COVID-19 without fail as full-time vaccination of COVID-19 and receiving booster shots can effectively mitigate infection of the virus, severe suffering from the disease and increase of death rate due to the disease.

OPINION

Harnessing digital technology and AI to boost tourism

Every country is continuously striving to promote its development. A strong economy can make a significant contribution to national development. As countries are making efforts to strengthen various sectors of their economies, the tourism sector has also become an important sector that every country needs to prioritize.

As countries around the world began placing greater emphasis on tourism, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), a United Nations specialized agency, was established in 1975. It was established to promote sustainable tourism development and the advancement of the tourism industry. As the present era is one of digital technology, digital tools have made it increasingly convenient to obtain information and carry out various activities. The use of digital technology has also become widespread across many businesses in Myanmar. Furthermore, combining digital technology with artificial intelligence (AI) can help businesses achieve greater success.

Efforts must be made to effectively utilize these resources and develop nature- and culture-based tourism to the fullest extent. Myanmar is rich in natural landscapes, including water resources, forests and mountains, and has many destinations capable of attracting tourists. The cultural traditions and customs of the Myanmar people are also refined and diverse, while different ethnic groups have their own distinctive cuisines.

Tourism is an industry that needs to be developed sustainably over the long term. Myanmar has many places of interest for visitors, including the Maravijaya Buddha Image and the stone inscription stupas in Nay Pyi Taw, which is the tallest seated stone Buddha image in the world; the renowned Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon; the Kanbawzathadi Palace, a relic of the Toungoo Dynasty, in Bago; and the Mandalay Royal Palace, the royal palace of the Konbaung Dynasty, in Mandalay.

In addition, Myanmar has favourable conditions for the development of the tourism industry, with its beautiful beaches such as Ngapali, Chaungtha, Ngwehsaung and Setse; scenic natural landscapes featuring lakes, forests and mountains such as Indawgyi, Inlay, Kyaiktiyo and Zwegabin; national heritage sites in ancient cultural areas inscribed on the World Heritage List, such as Sri Ksetra, Beikthano, Hanlin and Bagan; prominent ancient Buddhist pagodas that have earned Myanmar the epithet "Golden Land"; and the traditional Thingyan Festival, an intangible cultural heritage representing the first human civilization, among other attractions.

Efforts must be made to effectively utilize these resources and develop nature- and culture-based tourism to the fullest extent. Myanmar is rich in natural landscapes, including water resources, forests and mountains, and has many destinations capable of attracting tourists. The cultural traditions and customs of the Myanmar people are also refined and diverse, while different ethnic groups have their own distinctive cuisines.

With regard to the tourism sector, countries around the world regard tourism as a "smokeless industry" and are relying on it as an important sector for development. Therefore, further developing Myanmar's tourism sector and generating national income from it would bring significant benefits.

ARTICLE

Reflections on a Memorable School Health Trip: **A Nostalgic Trip down Memory Lane**

By Soe Moe

I was en route to PyinOoLwin, driving at a steady pace on the New Yangon-Mandalay Expressway when, out of nowhere, nostalgia struck.

Why so? Because at that very moment we were speeding through the same old area where I had travelled around repeatedly on many occasions during my government service in the township health department. This new highway had not yet been constructed then, and we had to use the old Yangon-Mandalay highway for supervisory tours. The area I am referring to is Pyawbwe Township in Mandalay Division.

At that time, I was serving as a Township Health Officer at the Pyawbwe Township Public Health Department, and I also served as the Secretary of the Township School Health Supervisory Committee.

With the Assistant Township Education Officer, Saya U Chit Khin, who was the Joint Secretary of the Township School Health Supervisory Committee, we used to go on supervisory tours.

What came to my mind was a particular tour we made travelling to Taung Lal Village, a remote area under the jurisdiction of the Thee Bin Rural Health Centre in the western part of Pyawbwe Township. This area was situated on the "Kyaww ma" Range (Central Yoma) in the dry zone of Myanmar. It was an administrative unit that grouped nineteen surrounding villages and was locally known as Shauk-Say-Naing Region (pronounced as ChaukSiDaing in the regional dialect).

This event took place 35 years ago, but I can still vividly remember what took place. We were at the time supposed to see what could be done to collaborate on health and education matters for that area.

On our return trip to town, using a jeep arranged by the township administration, a memorable little incident occurred which I now recall.

The organizational structure of the township's School Health Supervisory Committee is, by mandate, uniform throughout the country, and each consists of the Township Medical Officer as the Chairperson, the Township Education Officer, the Vice-Chairman, and the other members are one headmaster each representing those from the high schools, one from middle schools, two from the 190 primary schools, the chairman of the township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the township Sports Officer, the township Construction Engineer, and a Joint Secretary, who was the Assistant Township Education Officer. As the Township Health Officer, I served as the Secretary of the Township School Health Supervisory Committee.

That period was after the events of 1988. We, the health and education officials, were on very friendly and close terms, almost like family, working together in unity towards a common goal. Our firm belief was that if the school was not good, the village could not be good; and if the village was not good, the township could not be good; and if, in turn, the township was not good, the country could not be good.

We believed that the initiation of education and discipline for a nation begins at schools, and likewise the health of a nation must also start from the schools and thus nurture the future leaders of the country who are well educated, healthy and disciplined. We were thus determined to foster health awareness among young students.

The fact is, school health work is not an extra burden that hinders education; it supports education and is an integral part of school development, more like "killing two birds with one stone."

The seven areas of school health work are:

(1) Environmental Sanitation (use of fly-proof latrines, access to clean water, personal hygiene, hand cleanliness and food sanitation.)

(2) Health Examination.

(3) Treatment when illness is found and referred if necessary.

(4) Communicable Disease Prevention and Control.

(5) School Nutrition Promotion.

(6) Health Education.

(7) Health-related Research, such as identifying the malnourished and monitoring physical growth.

We ensured that health education poems were taught in every high, middle and primary school within the township. We composed these poems and had teachers explain their meanings.

For security and privacy we instructed schools to build fences if they had none, encouraged them to plant Flowering, shady and edible plants within school compounds, and for health habits taught physical exercises (Sets 1 & 2), for sanitation promoted systematic waste disposal using garbage bins and pits with subsequent burning, taught poems about clean water to encourage upgrading water sources and using clean, handled drinking cups, ensured every school built fly-proof latrines, and instilled healthy habits like washing hands with soap or ash after using the toilet and for proper nutrition taught about the three food groups through poems to encourage eating balanced diet from all groups, promoted supplementary feeding and communal lunch for those who could bring a lunch box,

Our township committee distributed and taught the health education poems we had composed to all teachers during monthly meetings. Through the teachers, these poems were recited township-wide, their meanings explained, and they became widely used.

At that time, Pyawbwe Township had eight urban wards and 315 villages, with two high schools, eight middle schools, and 190 primary schools, totalling 200 schools.

As mentioned, 35 years ago, when Assistant Township Education Officer Saya U Chit Khin and I were returning from the ChaukSiDaing area by jeep on the Natmauk-Pyawbwe road, an unforgettable incident occurred near Pay Pin Lay Village, about 18 miles from Pyawbwe town.



File photo shows a nurse administers a vitamin A capsule to a schoolchild at the Basic Education High School in Bokpyin, Taninthayi Region.

Pay Pin Lay Village was located in a dry, arid area with no irrigation, making paddy cultivation unfeasible. In good years, they could grow upcountry crops like beans, maize, sesame, and cotton. In drought years, they collected dried plums from the plum tree bushes on the slopes around the village to sell, so the economy was not thriving.

By the Pyawbwe-Natmauk asphalt road stood the Pay Pin Lay village monastery with its magnificent building, gleaming with mirrored and gilded doors. The two-storey monastery roof was topped by layered, pointed multi-tiered spires ("Pyathart") that seemed to pierce the sky. Next to it, on the east side, stood the school building, a simple structure with a thatch roof, bamboo mat walls, and wooden posts.

The education department's goal of having well-built schools along both sides of the road had not yet materialized here.

As Saya U Chit Khin and I entered the school compound, a lively young woman in her mid-twenties emerged from the school building, greeted us, and introduced herself as a general worker from this Pay Pin Lay school.

We entered the school with her. There were no permanent partitions dividing the classes. Groups of students were scattered here and there, classes seemingly divided as convenient. Children of various ages were staring at us intently, curious about who those visitors might be.

The thatch roof of the school building, which nurtured the future leaders of Pay Pin Lay village, was full of holes – so many you could almost see the stars at night. But now, during the day, sunlight streamed through the holes, casting spots on the sandy floor below. The blackboards inside had lost their blackness, taking on a whitish hue. The young woman worker alone was teaching all the classes in turn.

When Saya U Chit Khin suddenly asked, "Where is the headmistress, young lady?" she hesitated to answer. Some students promptly shouted in response, "Teacher has gone to her plot to pick tomatoes, Sir!"

Saya U Chit Khin replied, "Oh, I see. Well, we'll wait until tomorrow to meet your headmistress." The students retorted, "Tomorrow, the teacher might go for alms to the Taungywa village over there!" Their answer made me want to laugh more than cry.

"Alright, children, even without the headmistress, can you recite the 'UCI' poem from the school health poems she taught you? I'd like to hear it," I said.

"Yes, we can, Sir!" said the bright-eyed children, suddenly standing up from the floor, clasping their hands behind their backs, and beginning to recite the UCI poem in unison.

" ယူစီအိုင် "
ရေခဲပုံးလေး ဆရာမလွယ်
ရွာထဲလာပြီကွယ်
ကလေးငယ်တစ်နှစ်အောက်
ဆေးထိုးပေးဖို့ရောက်။
ရောဂါခြောက်မျိုး ကင်းအောင်သာ
ကာကွယ်ပေးတော့မှာ
ဘီစီဂျီဟာ ကာကွယ်ဆေး
လက်မောင်းမှာ ထိုးပေး။
မေးခိုင်ဆုံဆို့ ချောင်းကြက်ညှာ
ဝက်သက် တင်ပါးမှာ
ပါးစပ်ကသာ တိုက်လို့ကျွေး
ပိုလီယိုတဲ့ဆေး။
ထိုးပေးတိုက်ကျွေး အကြိမ်မှာ
ဆက်ဆက်ထိုးတိုက်ပါ
သို့မှသာ စိတ်ချရ
ရောဂါခြောက်မျိုးကင်းမယ်ပ။

Universal Child Immunization (UCI) was a component of the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI), a routine immunization program for children under one year. Community health midwives maintained lists of eligible children in their areas. On scheduled days, vaccines were transported from the township hospital in large RCW-25 cold boxes to rural health centres, and from there, needed vaccine doses were carried in vaccine carriers on the shoulder of the midwife, maintaining the cold chain, to the vaccination sites.

At that time, there were only six kinds of vaccines. Based on practical needs and availability, the number of vaccine-preventable diseases covered has since been expanded, and today, antigens for 13 diseases are administered.

My point is that in such an economically disadvantaged rural area, teaching health education poems and explaining their meanings proved highly effective. Poetry is melodic, good to recite, and even more enjoyable when chanted in unison. From sound comes awareness, from awareness comes action, from action comes habit – this chain of behavioural change can be set in motion. This health knowledge, through children, can multiply to peers and spread back to parents, relatives, and the community at large eventually.

Previously, the under-one child immunization coverage in that area was very low. About a year after teaching these poems, through lessons from teachers about the benefits of vaccination, how vaccines could not simply be bought and administered even if you have money, and how vaccines produced abroad are carefully transported, maintaining the cold chain until they reach the child, knowledge spread to adults at home. As a result, UCI coverage in that area significantly improved, a fact I experienced firsthand.

Lost in memories of the past, passing by Pay Pin Lay village school near the current Yangon-Mandalay Expressway – which was formerly in the arid central range (Alel-Yoma) area locally known as "Kyaww Ma" – I felt an irresistible urge to see the village children again after 35 years.

The village monastery remained as majestic as before. The school building had also greatly improved, now a brick structure fully furnished with desks and benches.

After introducing myself to the teacher, I asked permission to have the children recite a poem. The teacher looked at me with a surprised smile. "Alright children, there's a poem called 'U C I' that was once taught in your school long ago. I'd like you to recite it for me if you still know it. Students from your school recited it back then." The children, just like over thirty years ago, stood up from their benches, clasped their hands behind their backs, and began chanting the 'U C I' poem.

Filled with amazement and joy, I watched the children reciting, and my thoughts drifted back to the realm of nostalgic memory.

The school health education efforts ignited by our Pyawbwe Township School Health Supervisory Committee over thirty years ago were still being passed down, firmly entrenched even today. I witnessed this firsthand.

Indeed, while physical facilities like school buildings and classrooms can be easily built with financial resources in a short time, the health awareness, attitudes, and practical actions of the students – the future leaders and good citizens – are matters of mindset. If we don't start cultivating them today, we will be late in the future.

School health work is a nurturing task for future children, based on the foundation of health awareness. Among the members of the township School Health Supervisory Committee who worked hand-in-hand with me back then, most have passed away. Those remaining, I hear, are suffering from illnesses due to the ravages of age.

Recalling with satisfaction our approach of not just selecting roadside schools with good buildings for annual "model school" inspections – a process that did seem like a superficial competition – but striving to include all schools across the township, I felt a surge of pride.

While feeling this pride, I listened to the students of Pay Pin Lay Primary School in Pyawbwe township, located at the foot of the "Kyaww Ma" range along the Pyawbwe-Natmauk road, finish their recitation. I applauded heartily and with deep appreciation.

May the sound of children reciting poems like that from this village school, and supportive gestures like my applause, transcend the plains of Pay Pin Lay village at the foot of the "Kyaww Ma" range and spread throughout all of Myanmar. ■

NATIONAL

Frontline-Returning Tatmadaw Personnel Honoured in Kayin State

A ceremony to honour and welcome frontline-returned Tatmadaw personnel who had performed security duties for State stability and regional peace and tranquillity was held yesterday morning at a local battalion in Myainggalay, Kayin State.


Triumphant Tatmadaw troops are pictured being warmly welcomed home.

Officials from the South-East Command, officers, soldiers and their family members, departmental officials, members of the Myanmar Police Force, members of the War Veterans Organization, members of the People's Militia (Local) troops, local ethnic people, teachers and students attended the ceremony.

The attendees warmly welcomed the frontline-returned Tatmadaw personnel who had performed their duties tirelessly on frontline battlefields, away from their families, to enable ethnic people across regions and states to live and work peacefully, safeguard their lives and property, maintain State stability and ensure regional peace and tranquillity.

The returning personnel were welcomed back with Eugenia sprigs and victory flower garlands, as well as musical performances and dances. A responsible official from the command delivered a congratulatory speech to the victorious frontline-returned Tatmadaw personnel and presented cash awards to them. — MNA/KZL

RBF project implementation inspected in Pantanaw

THE Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development reported that officials conducted a field inspection on the morning of 29 September regarding the implementation of the Rural Business Fund (RBF) project involving mat-weaving enterprises in Sankyaung Village, Pantanaw Township, Ayeyawady Region.

Maubin District Department of Rural Development Head U Aung Kyaw Oo, Pantanaw Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Aye Aye Hlaing, and project staff observed the operations carried out by livelihood groups Township Head Daw Aye Aye Hlaing coordinated and fulfilled the requirements in connexion with the RBF project.

The RBF project is being implemented with K30 million in project funds and K10 million contributions from the groups. The project aims to provide necessary capital for agricultural, livestock, and small and medium enterprise (SME) operators in the village and to foster practical experience in conducting livelihood operations through a group-based system, according to Pantanaw Township Department of Rural Development Township Head Daw Aye Aye Hlaing. — Nyein Thu(Rural)


This image shows one of the Rural Business Fund projects in Pantanaw Township.

MRCS Ramps Up Emergency Response, Rescue and Relief after Deep Depression

THE Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) is carrying out emergency rescue and response activities, providing emergency relief supplies and assisting with recovery efforts in response to the current Deep Depression affecting Myanmar.

To ensure timely emergency response operations for people who may be affected by the storm, the MRCS held a coordination meeting yesterday in a hybrid format at its Yangon office with officials from states and regions and representatives of partner Red Cross societies.


Myanmar Red Cross Society President Dr Myo Nyunt chairs a meeting in a hybrid format.

During the meeting, MRCS President Dr Myo Nyunt discussed preparations for possible emergencies caused by the Deep Depression, including pre-positioning emergency relief supplies, keeping emergency response teams on standby in the affected states and regions, arranging necessary vehicles and boats in advance, and preparing temporary shelters by coordinating with relevant local organizations.

The regions and states Red Cross supervisory committees reported on the ongoing work plans, and the attendees coordinated the discussion.

The coordination meeting was attended by MRCS executive members, members of Red Cross supervisory committees, deputy secretaries-general and assistant secretaries-general from Mon State, Kayin State, Bago Region, Yangon Region and Ayeyawady Region, and representatives from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Korean Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, British Red Cross, Australian Red Cross and Japanese Red Cross. — MNA/KTZH


Pre-painted Galvalume sheets being donated to the Myanmar Red Cross Society.

Metal roofing sheets donated for quake-affected communities

UNDER the rehabilitation programme for quake-affected communities, Shwe Project donated a total of 10,772 4-angle PPGL roofing sheets to the Myanmar Red Cross Society.

The donation ceremony was held on 28 September at Myanmar POSCO C&C and during the event, U Arkar Aung and Mr Jungbum Lee from Shwe Project transferred the metal roofing sheets to MRCS EC member, Professor Dr Tin Maung Hlaing.

MRCS's EC member, deputy general secretary Daw Ei Ei Htwe and officials, as well as Shwe Project's director U Arkar Aung, head of procurement Mr Jungbum Lee and officials and Myanmar POSCO C&C officials attended the ceremony.

MRCS has proceeded with the provision of humanitarian aid to reach quake-affected communities. — MT/ZS

NATIONAL

Metmung's VDP project introduced; committee formed

A ceremony to conduct an introductory briefing on the Village Development Project (VDP) and form a project committee took place in Panhone Village, Metmung Township, Wa Self-Administered Division, yesterday.

Metmung Township Department of Rural Development Head U Hlaing Min Tun met village elders and villagers in the village and explained the objectives, processes and expected benefits of the Village Development Project (VDP). Project staff explained the rules and regulations to be followed in selecting and forming the Village Development Committee, as well as the tasks to be carried out by the village. The villagers formed a seven-member Village Development Committee to effectively carry out village development activities.

In the village, villagers will undertake village development activities using K15 million in support funds from the Village Development Project (VDP) and contributions from residents, with technical assistance and close supervision from officials of the Department of Rural Development. — Sein Lwin (Rural)

Monks, novices, and nuns to get 10-digit Unique ID (UID) numbers



A branch building of the Ministry of Immigration and Population.

THE Ministry of Immigration and Population stated that all monks, novices, and nuns nationwide will be issued 10-digit National Identification Numbers (Unique ID - UID).

The UID system is a core component of the e-ID (electronic identification) system as well as a unique number issued to each individual based on information stored in a central database.

Currently, instructions have been issued to issue UID numbers to monks, novices, and nuns in Mandalay Region, and the system will be expanded nationwide. In the implementation of the process, in-person screening will be conducted in coordination with the relevant Sangha Nayaka Committees. In such screening, personal information, facial features, fingerprints and iris biometrics of 10 fingers will also be collected.

The UID number is a unique number for each person, so even in cases where the name and address are the same, the information of the person concerned can be accurately verified without any confusion.

The UID number will make it easier to carry out religious affairs, apply for a passport, go on pilgrimage abroad, receive medical treatment and obtain banking services. — TWA/MKKS

CHUBB Life Myanmar due diligence on policyholders nears completion at 90%

ABOUT 90 per cent of the due diligence process for life insurance policyholders has been completed in the case of CHUBB Life Myanmar Insurance Company, according to Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue U Han Win Aung.

The insurance company suspended its operations based on a unilateral decision without giving prior notice to policyholders, resulting in losses of about US$50 million in insurance premiums paid by more than 20,000 policyholders.

The Amyotha Hluttaw is reportedly discussing a proposal urging the Union Government to establish an Insurance Guarantee Fund and enact laws and regulations for a policy transfer protection system to ensure that policyholders do not lose their rights when foreign insurance companies suspend operations or withdraw from Myanmar.

Twenty-six domestic and foreign private insurance companies currently operate in Myanmar, and the state-owned Myanma Insurance also provides insurance services. — ASH/MKKS

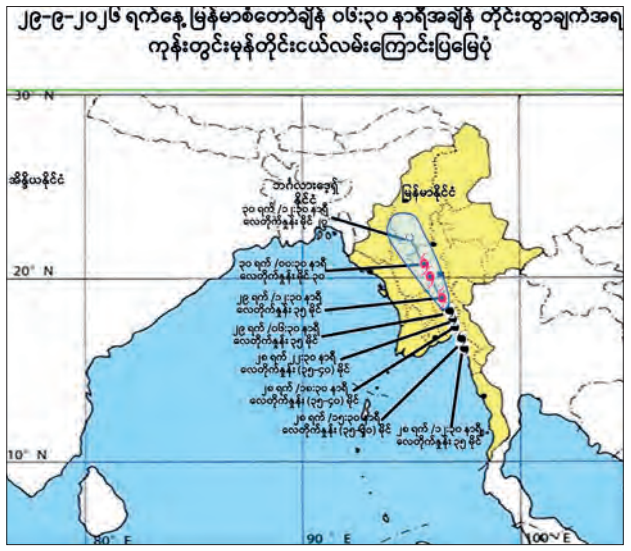


A general view of the CHUBB Life Myanmar Insurance Company building.

Land Depression Brings Thunderstorms, Heavy Rain to 8 Regions, 7 States including Nay Pyi Taw

DUE to the Deep Depression that crossed near Kyaikto, rain or thundershowers will be scattered in eight regions and seven states, including Nay Pyi Taw, from yesterday morning through 1 October, according to the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH).

The Deep Depression brought heavy rainfall as it passed over Yangon on Monday evening, causing waterlogging and flooding on some roads in Yangon and several townships. The water receded within a few hours after the rain stopped, although light rain continued intermittently during the night.



This map shows the track of the Land Depression.



Floodwaters in downtown Yangon.

The Deep Depression downgraded into a Land Depression is centred about 30 miles South-Southeast of Pyu, 60 miles South-Southeast of Toungoo and 120 miles South-Southeast of Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

The Land Depression near Pyu has been classified as the Brown Stage. It is forecast to continue moving north-northwestward over the next 36 hours. Thunderstorms are likely to occur in various areas of Taninthayi, Ayeyawady, Yangon, Bago, Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Sagaing, Magway, Mon, Kayin, Kayah, Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Shan, and the DMH also announced that weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied by rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur; therefore, it is recommended to be aware of these phenomena. Wave height will be about 9-11 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

"The Land Depression passed over Yangon on Monday and is now moving across Pyu yesterday morning. From there, it may continue moving through Nay Pyi Taw Council, Mandalay, Sagaing, Magway, Chin and Kachin," said Dr May Khin Chaw, director of the department.

Yangon remained cloudy yesterday due to the influence of the Land Depression, although no rainfall was reported and wind conditions remained relatively calm.

On Monday night, local administrative authorities issued warnings to residents in townships near rivers and streams to remain alert to possible flooding and strong winds caused by the depression. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH

NATIONAL

Over 500 balloons to compete at Taunggyi Tazaungdine Hot-Air Balloon Festival

ALTOGETHER, 541 balloons will compete at this year's Taunggyi Tazaungdine Traditional Hot-Air Balloon Festival, according to the festival's news and information team.

This annual festival, organized by the Shan State government, will be held at the Awaiya Balloon Ground in Taunggyi from 18 to 24 November, with a prize presentation ceremony set for 25 November.

The night-launch competition will include 106 balloons, with 39 Seinnapan hot-air balloons with innovative designs and 67 Nyameekyi (fireworks-carrying balloons). Furthermore, 435 hot-air balloons crafted into various shapes of two-legged or four-legged creatures will be launched during the daytime.

The Financial Supervision Committee of the Shan State Internal Revenue Department has invited competitive tenders for four businesses to operate during the festival. The four businesses are shop stalls; popup markets; mobile vendors; Ferris wheel; children's playground; soft play areas; parking services; and restroom facilities. Tender forms have been available since 25 September during office hours. The submission deadline is 4:30 pm on 7 October.

Forms can be collected from and submitted to the Financial Supervision Committee Office. Bids will be opened at 9:30 am on 8 October at Meeting Hall 2 of the Shan State government.

Companies wishing to install advertising billboards or telecommunication companies seeking to deploy temporary mobile towers must also contact the committee.

Late submissions and applications not meeting the specified criteria will not be accepted. Interested individuals can enquire about details through the Financial Supervision Committee at 09 792733356, 09 402576283, 09 445131692, or 09 261746199 during office hours. — NN/KK

42 unauthorized containers at Yangon ports set for auction

THE contents of 42 containers that were imported without prior permits at MIP, AWPT, and MITT ports will be auctioned off through an open tender. This decision was announced by the Myanma Port Authority's Auction and Disposal Committee.

Those seized goods will be sold in their current asis condition at 1 pm on 15 October.

Auction forms and terms and conditions will be available by 13 October at the Central Store, Myanma Port Authority, located on Strand Road in Botahtaung Township, Yangon. Individuals can also enquire about further details in person, according to the Auction and Disposal Committee. — NN/KK

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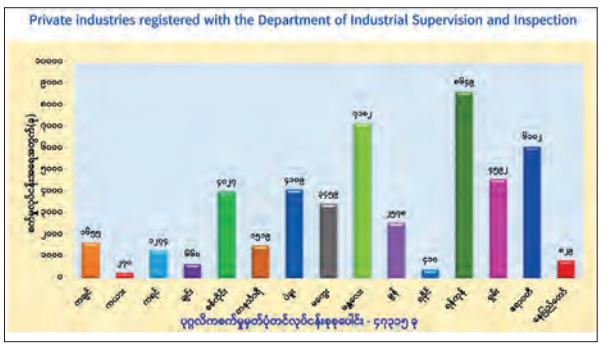
DISI: large-scale industries account for 48% of Industrial Zone

OF 8,283 registered private industries operating within the Industrial Zone as of August 2026, large-scale industries make up about 48 per cent of the Industrial Zone with 3,997 businesses, with medium-sized industries accounting for approximately 30 per cent with 2,553, and small-scale industries constituting around 21 per cent with 1,733, according to data released by the Directorate of Industrial Supervision and Inspection (DISI).



Private industries registered with the DISI as of August 2026 reached 47,315 as of August 2026. Yangon Region, a commercial hub of Myanmar, is home to 8,649 private industries, followed by Mandalay Region with 7,182 and Ayeyawady Region with 6,102.

The registered private industries totalled 47,609 in the financial year 2023-2024, up from 45,015 registered in the 2022-2023 FY. A total of 206 industries were officially listed in the 2024-2025 FY, reaching a total of 47,815 private industries.

The majority of the registered private industries are engaged in the food group. The list of registered private industries is classified into 24 business groups: food, tobacco, clothing, wood and finished wood slabs, printing, chemical, rubber and plastic, basic mineral, computer and electronic device, unclassified machine, beverage, fabric, leather, paper and paper products, charcoal fuel, pharmaceuticals, non-metallic minerals, metal refining equipment, electronics, vehicle and trailer, furniture and machines and equipment repair and installation.

The DISI is providing services for small and medium enterprises to get access to technical assistance and funding, explore markets, register private industrial enterprises in accordance with existing laws and conduct safety inspections of boilers and electrical usage at the workplace. — KK

Tender invited for cotton undershirt sales agent

THE Ministry of Industry and MSME Development has invited tenders for sales agents to handle wholesale distribution of various types of 100 per cent cotton undershirts manufactured by Factory 8 (Yamethin).

Forms are available starting on 28 September. The submission deadline is 4 pm on 12 October.

Interested individuals can enquire about tender forms, terms and conditions, and further details through the No 3 Heavy Industries Enterprise (Head Office), Ministry of Industry and MSME Development, located at Office 37 in Nay Pyi Taw by dialling 067 408157, 067 408203, or 067 408362. — NN/KK

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 29 September 2026

	US$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,649.00~3,671.00	557.00~558.70	124.90~125.70	-
Trading amount in the market	13,145,674.78	11,763,460.34	8,893,189.57	-

MoH warns public against 4 unregistered traditional medicines

THE Ministry of Health has issued a public warning about four traditional medicines found to be unregistered or noncompliant with licensing requirements.

The ministry conducts regular inspections of traditional medicines sold in the market to ensure they are genuine, safe, effective, and of good quality for public use. During recent inspections, four traditional medicines were identified: Sayagyi U Tin Aye's Kachin brand blood pressure medicine (tablets and powder) holds traditional medicine registration but has no production licence application on file, and the registration has expired. Lay Par Yazar brand blood pressure medicine (tablets/packets) holds traditional medicine registration, and a production licence has not been applied for licence renewal. Shin brand blood pressure medicine (tablets/packets) has neither traditional medicine registration nor a production licence. Furthermore, Shwe Min Thar brand tonic medicine (powder/packets) without traditional medicine registration is using another product's TMR registration number. The ministry stated that these products cannot guarantee authenticity or efficacy and are therefore not safe for public use. The ministry informed the public not to purchase or use traditional medicines that are not registered with the Department of Traditional Medicine under the Ministry of Health. Manufacturers, distributors, and pharmacies are strictly prohibited from importing, distributing, or selling unregistered traditional medicines, counterfeit medicines, substandard products, or any medicines declared unsafe for public use. Violations will result in legal action under Sections 31 and 32 of the Traditional Medicine Law. — NN/KK

Panama Canal to increase daily transits through larger locks to 10

THE Panama Canal will increase daily transits through its larger Neopanamax locks to 10 starting 15 October, the Panama Canal Authority said Monday.

The move will bring the total number of daily transit slots across both sets of locks to 33. The canal authority said the decision was based on current and projected water levels in Gatun Lake, a key source of water for the canal, which connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.



The Norway-flagged LPG tanker Nantes (L) and the Liberia-flagged container ship MSC Conakry IV sail through the Panama Canal near the Pedro Miguel Locks in Panama City on 4 September 2026, as a reduction in canal transits linked to the El Niño phenomenon comes into force. **PHOTO: AFP**

Near-average rainfall in the canal's watershed has also allowed authorities to set the maximum draft for ships using the Neopanamax locks at 49 feet (14.94 metres), effective immediately. Draft is the depth of a ship's hull below the waterline.

As water shortages persist, the authority said its booking system remains the only way to guarantee passage on a specific date, adding that it will continue monitoring water levels and rainfall and announce further changes as conditions allow.

The Neopanamax locks, which opened in 2016, accommodate ships too large to pass through the canal's original locks. — Xinhua

Vietnam raises record sum of over US$1 bln in govt bond auction

VIETNAM'S State Treasury raised more than 27 trillion Vietnamese dong (about US$1.05 billion) through a government bond auction last week, the highest amount raised on record, according to S&I Ratings, an independent credit rating service provider in Vietnam, local media outlet VnExpress reported Monday.

The treasury offered 33 trillion Vietnamese dong (about $1.29 billion) in bonds across different maturities, the report said, adding that 10-year bonds proved the most popular, with bids from investors exceeding the planned offering of 20 trillion Vietnamese dong (about $780.28 million), while demand for three- and 30-year bonds was modest.

The strong demand came as government bond yields rose to around 4.1-4.3 per cent for five- and 10-year maturities, up from around four per cent early this year.

The government bond market has heated up amid strong demand for medium- and long-term funding for major public investment projects, while the treasury is also under pressure to meet its annual fundraising target of 500 trillion Vietnamese dong ($19.5 billion). It has so far achieved just over 53 per cent of that target, the report added. — Xinhua

Higher energy prices raise euro area inflation risks: ECB President Lagarde

EUROPEAN Central Bank (ECB) President Christine Lagarde said Monday that higher energy prices are increasing inflation risks in the euro area, although there are no signs yet that the effects are becoming embedded in the broader economy.



This photo taken on 17 April 2025 shows flags of the European Union in front of the European Central Bank (ECB) headquarters in Frankfurt, Germany. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Speaking at a hearing of the European Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs in Brussels, Lagarde said the ECB raised its three key interest rates by 25 basis points earlier this month. The central bank does not react to energy prices themselves, but to the risk that higher energy costs could become embedded in inflation, she said. — Xinhua

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
Central Committee for Holding Myanmar Gems Emporium
The Information about 61st Myanmar Gems Emporium 2026

1. The significant 61st Myanmar Gems Emporium 2026, under the supervision of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, will be held from October 8 to 17, 2026 at Maniradana Emporium Hall in Nay Pyi Taw. Genuine Myanmar pearl, gems and rough jade lots will be sold at the Emporium.
2. The local gems entrepreneurs who got the permit and the local gems merchants who got the license to operate in the finished gemstone making and dealing under the Myanmar Gem Law, will be allowed to attend and purchase the Lots at 61st Myanmar Gems Emporium, 2026 according to the terms and conditions.
3. For further information in detail about granted admission to purchase Lots at 61st Myanmar Gems Emporium, 2026, any merchants can inquire and keep contact with Emporium Central Committee, Myanmar Gems Enterprise (Head Office), Myanmar Pearl Enterprise (Head Office) in Nay Pyi Taw.

Emporium Central Committee

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V SITC QIUMING VOY.NO. (2613N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC QIUMING VOY.NO. (2613N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-9-2026** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO.,LTD.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
M.V AS SUSANNA VOY.NO. (0058N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SUSANNA VOY.NO. (0058N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **30-9-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP/MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: **2301185**

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ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

Nagasaki's A-bombed Virgin Mary to be displayed in US, 1st time in 16 yrs

THE surviving head of a wooden statue of the Virgin Mary destroyed in the US atomic bombing of Nagasaki is expected to be brought to the United States for the first time in 16 years, a source familiar with the matter said Tuesday.

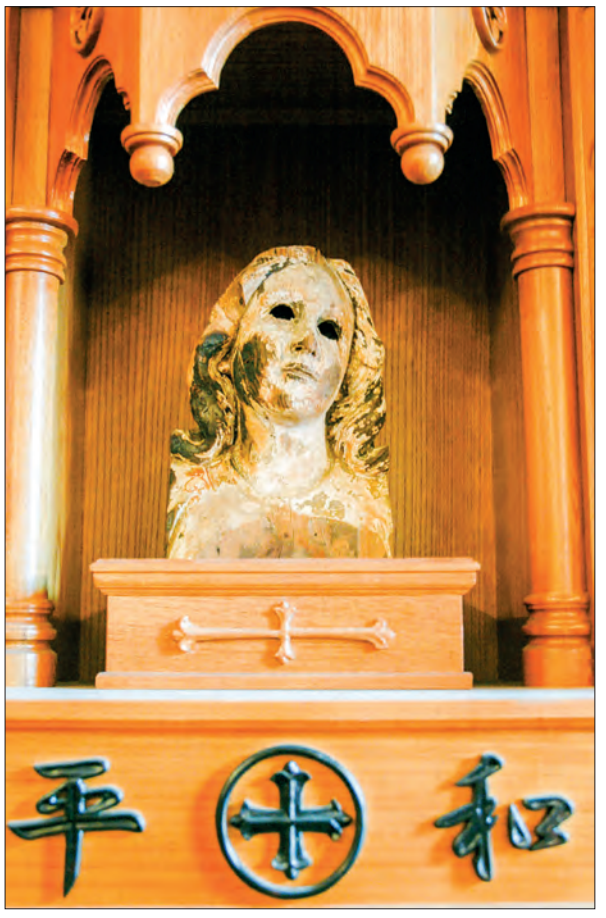
The statue fragment will be brought by a Catholic clergy group to New York in time for the conference in November to review the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, to highlight the reality of the atomic bombing amid a recent global trend away from nuclear disarmament.

It is currently enshrined at Urakami Cathedral in the southwestern Japanese city. The Catholic clergy group includes members of a nuclear disarmament advocacy network comprising Catholic organizations and archdioceses in Japan and the United States, the source said.

According to the Archdiocese of Nagasaki, the last time the statue's head was brought to the United States was in 2010, when a five-year review conference for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was held in New York.

Plans are underway to put the head on public display at UN headquarters and churches across the United States in November and December, as well as introduce it to civic groups.

The head was found in the rubble of the old Urakami Cathedral, destroyed by the bombing, and was returned to the church after being kept in Hokkaido for many years. — Kyodo



File photo taken in October 2009 shows the surviving head of a wooden statue of the Virgin Mary enshrined in Urakami Cathedral in Nagasaki. **PHOTO: KYODO**

'We just need rain': Germany's Rhine river hits new low

PARTS of Germany's Rhine are now unnavigable for most shipping, an industry group warned Tuesday, after the river dropped to an all-time record low following months of little rainfall and hot weather.

The waterway, which flows through the industrial heartland of Germany, has been at record lows since late July when Europe was struggling through a series of heatwaves.

It has already led to some restrictions on commercial shipping, affecting industries from chemicals to steel-making, and heaping extra pressure on Europe's long-stagnant top economy.



A bardge sails on the Rhine river with the Cologne cathedral in the background in Cologne, western Germany, on 6 July 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

But continued dry weather this week pushed water levels at Kaub on the Rhine — a reference point for vessels — even further downwards and made the area unpassable for laden cargo vessels.

"Most German ship captains say, that's too shallow, I'm not sailing there anymore," Matthias Roeser, from the German Inland Shipping Association, told AFP.

The navigable depth of the river around Kaub was just over a metre Tuesday. Only specially adapted vessels, or those carrying almost no cargo, can navigate such low waters.

This means the Rhine has effectively been split into two sections, Thomas Puls, a transport expert from the IW Economic Institute in Cologne told AFP. — AFP

Netanyahu confirms UAE visit, meeting with UAE president

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office confirmed on Monday that he visited the United Arab Emirates (UAE) a day earlier at the invitation of President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, saying their talks focused on relations between the two countries.

"The visit focused on bilateral ties and regional challenges," a statement from Netanyahu's office said, adding that his wife, Sara, joined him during the visit.

The UAE's state-run Emirates News Agency said earlier on Monday that the two leaders discussed relations between the countries and ways to strengthen them, without providing further details.

Citing officials familiar with the meeting, Israeli state-owned Kan TV News reported that Netanyahu had asked the UAE president to publicly deny reports that he had warned the Israeli prime minister before Hamas' 7 October 2023 surprise attack that the group was planning a major operation. — Xinhua

OPEC chief says Algiers Accord's legacy remains relevant to oil market stability

SECRETARY General of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Haitham Al Ghais on Monday highlighted the lasting legacy of the Algiers Accord, a deal reached 10 years ago at an OPEC meeting in Algiers to address severe imbalances in the global oil market.

Al Ghais, who has been paying a working visit to Algeria since Saturday, made the remarks after being received by Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune, according to a statement released by the Algerian presidency.

"After 10 years, the Algiers Accord remains a lesson for history," Al Ghais said. "Market stability is not built by data alone, but is built by confidence, adopted mechanisms, and the will of countries to unite when conditions become critical."

Al Ghais stressed that investment, securing supplies and economic stability are closely linked to the stability resulting from the OPEC+ agreement, adding that the need for dialogue "has not decreased, but has become more important than ever before." — Xinhua

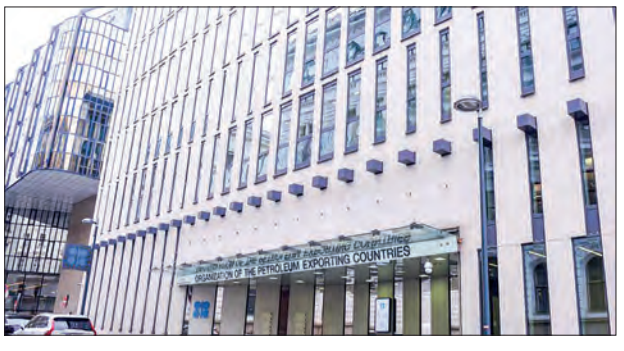


Photo taken on 30 November 2023 shows the headquarters of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in Vienna, Austria. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

SPORTS

Man Utd do not deserve medals if Man City stripped of titles: Rooney

WAYNE Rooney insists his old club Manchester United do not deserve Premier League winners' medals if Manchester City are stripped of their titles for breaking financial rules.

City are reported to have been found guilty of the vast majority of 115 financial misconduct charges brought against them by the Premier League.

They have strenuously denied the charges and City chairman Khaldoon Al Mubarak on Saturday said he is still confident of proving the club's innocence.

City are expected to appeal against their eventual punishment, which is yet to be announced and could include a points deduction, expulsion from the Premier League or a huge fine.

There have also been calls for City to be stripped of their eight Premier League titles won since 2008.

Rooney's former United team-mates Rio Ferdinand and David de Gea have said their old club should be awarded retrospective title wins. Rooney, a five-time title winner, was a member of the United side that finished as runners-up in 2012 after Sergio Aguero's dramatic late winner for City against QPR on the final day of the season. — AFP

Japan's Ochiai sets meet record to win men's 800

JAPAN'S Ko Ochiai ran to victory in the men's 800-metre final Tuesday at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games in a meet-record one minute, 44.48 seconds, while Japan's men's 4x400 relay team also clinched gold.



Japan's Ko Ochiai (front) runs to victory in the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games men's 800-metre final in Nagoya on 29 September 2026. **PHOTO: KYODO**

Ochiai shaved nearly a second off the previous Asian Games record of 1:45.45 set by Iran's Sajad Moradi in 2010. The 20-year-old Ochiai, who finished 0.62 ahead of silver medallist Ali Amirian of Iran, is the first Japanese athlete to win the event in 64 years.

"I was aiming for the 43-second range and a personal best — so in that sense, the time didn't quite materialize — but since this was a race where the outcome was what mattered most, the fact that I managed to secure the win is something I can view positively," Ochiai said. In the women's race, 18-year-old Rin Kubo finished fourth in 2:05.46, trailing gold medallist Wu Hongjiao of China by 0.97. Japan's Ayano Shiomi was fifth in 2:05.76. Japan's men's 4x400 team clocked 3:00.75 to finish 0.18 clear of silver medallist Qatar.—Kyodo

Nakhat Min to compete in ONE Friday Fights 173

Myanmar fighter Nakhat Min will compete in ONE Friday Fights 173 & The Inner Circle 33, scheduled to take place in Bangkok, Thailand, on 2 October.

Nakhat Min will face Thai fighter Bukhopakhun, marking his second bout under ONE Championship. He made his ONE debut against Thai fighter Phonphet on 24 July this year and suffered a third-round stoppage defeat. He will seek his first victory under ONE Championship in the upcoming bout.

His opponent Bukhopakhun has fought twice under ONE Championship and won both bouts. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL


PHOTO: ONEFC

China loses to DPRK 2-0 in women's football semifinal

CHINA lost 2-0 to DPR Korea in the women's football semifinal at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games here on Tuesday. China reached the last four after a 1-0 extra-time win over Vietnam in the quarterfinals, and head coach Ante Milicic made several changes to its line-up for the semifinal, with Zhang Linyan and Li Qingtong sidelined by injury and Wang Yanwen suspended after accumulating yellow cards.

DPR Korea threatened early, hitting the crossbar in the third minute when Myong Yu Jong's shot from the right rebounded after a cutback. Heavy rain made the remainder of the first half cagey. China's first effort on goal came only in first-half stoppage time, when Shao Ziqin nodded over. China almost took the lead shortly after the restart. In the 47th minute Wang Shuang's free kick found Zhang Chengxue, who beat the offside trap and headed towards goal, but DPR Korean keeper Yu Son Gum saved and Zhang's follow-up narrowly missed.

DPR Korea was awarded a free kick from a similar position six minutes later. Under pressure in the box, China defender Yao Wei inadvertently headed the ball into her own net to hand DPR Korea a 1-0 lead.

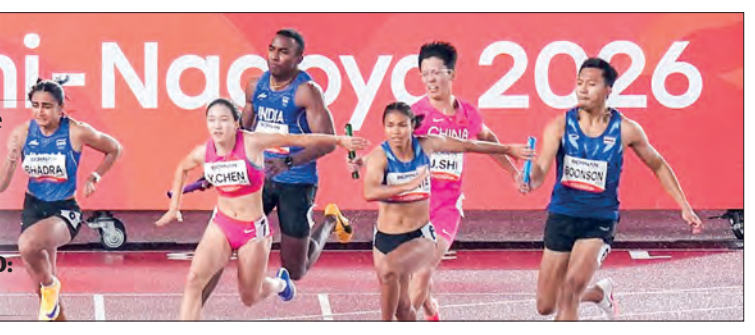
China coach Milicic brought on striker Yuan Cong as he sought to bolster the attack, but pushing forward left space at the back and DPR Korea increasingly controlled the game. They made the advantage safe in the 79th minute when a partially cleared corner fell to Myong, who was unmarked and fired into the far corner.

DPR Korea finished with 10 shots, five on target, while China managed only five shots with one on target."We always knew it was going to be a difficult game against a strong opponent in difficult conditions. I thought we defended well," Milicic said after the match. "Unfortunately, we conceded an own goal. We probably didn't have enough depth in our team to get back into the game." — Xinhua

China wins 4x100m mixed relay gold

CHINA won the 4x100-metre mixed relay gold at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games on Tuesday, with the quartet of Chen Jinfeng, Liu Guoyi, Shi Junhao and Chen Yujie clocking 40.78 seconds. Thailand took silver and India claimed bronze.

It was the third gold of the Games for Chen Yujie, who had already won gold in the women's 100-metre and the women's 4x100-metre relay, along with a silver medal in the 200 metres. — Xinhua



Shi Junhao (C, back) and Chen Yujie (C, front) of China compete during the 4x100-metre relay mixed final of athletics at the 20th Asian Games Aichi-Nagoya 2026 in Nagoya, Japan, 29 September 2026. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

WORLD

ROLLING UPDTAES: WORLD

Nagasaki's A-bombed Virgin Mary to be displayed in US, 1st time in 16 yrs

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IRGC warns Iran to use new weapons if conflict takes on another form

THE Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) on Tuesday warned that if the conflict against Iran takes on a new form, the country will definitely bring new weapons to the battlefield.

Speaking at a live press conference in the Iranian capital Tehran, IRGC spokesman Hossein Mohebbi highlighted the country's constant efforts to expand its defence capabilities.

"We are incessantly designing new weapons, upgrading the existing ones, and continuing our mass production of weaponry to be able to defend ourselves. We employ technologies from around the world to manufacture arms capable of defending our country and our people," he said, adding, "If the conflicts assume another form, we will definitely bring new weapons to the battlefield."

He listed some of the US hostile actions against Iran within the past months, including imposing the 40-day war as well as the naval and aerial blockades, intensifying the economic pressure, inciting "street riots" in January and arming the anti-Iran groups stationed along the country's northwestern and southeastern borders, noting that those scenarios were all doomed to failure. — Xinhua



Commuters ride scooters past military drones on display at Baharestan Square in Tehran on 28 September 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

APEC CEO Summit draws strong global interest with US firms leading registration: spokesperson

WITH 50 days remaining until the opening of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) CEO Summit 2026, the event has attracted global attention and strong interest from both Chinese and international companies, with US firms being the most active, China's trade promotion body said Tuesday.

US firms have been particularly active in the signing up process and the United States is currently the APEC economy with the largest number of registered companies, said Wang Wenshuai, spokesperson for the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), at a regular press briefing.

American Fortune Global 500 companies and well-known firms, including Amazon, Walmart, Apple, Google, ExxonMobil and Microsoft, have submitted applications to attend, Wang said. — Xinhua

China to complete new-generation Mars geologic map by end of 2028

China plans to complete a new-generation geologic map of Mars by the end of 2028, aiming to reconstruct the red planet's watery past and introduce a Chinese system for dividing Martian geologic time.

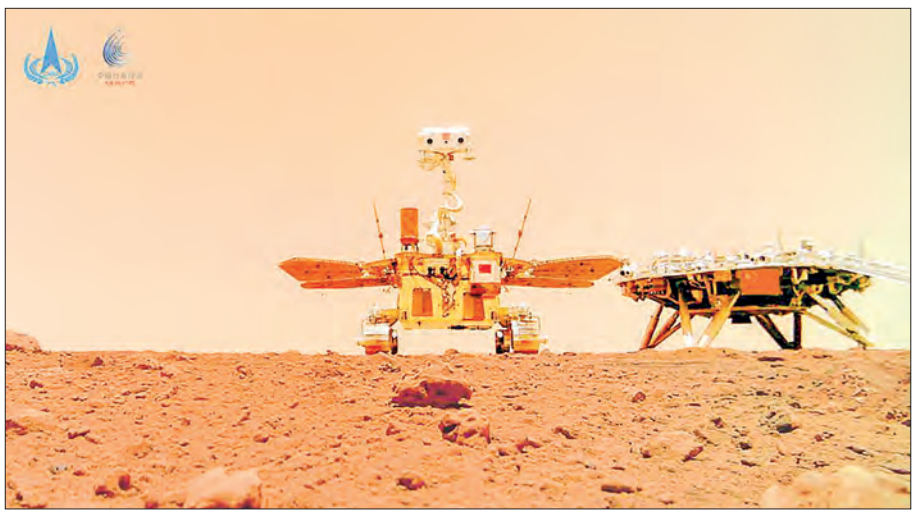

Photo released on 11 June 2021 by the China National Space Administration (CNSA) shows a selfie of China's first Mars rover Zhurong with the landing platform. **PHOTO: CNSA/HANDOUT VIA XINHUA**

Hou Zengqian, an academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and chief scientist of the Tianwen-3 Mars sample-return mission, revealed the plan at a symposium held Monday at the Institute of Geology under the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences.

Zhurong, the rover China landed on Mars in 2021 as part of its Tianwen-1 mission, has offered new clues to the planet's water history: a vast ancient ocean still existed some 3.5 billion years ago, and short-lived floods possibly occurred 1.6 billion years ago. These findings, which help fill gaps in the evidence chain of how Mars' ancient climate evolved, will be incorporated into the new map.

On that basis, the new map will lay out a Chinese scheme for dividing Martian geologic time. The current timeline splits Mars into the Noachian, Hesperian and Amazonian periods, defined by densities of visible craters rather than absolute dates. China aims to make its new scheme an international consensus, Hou said.

The project will primarily utilize the data from Tianwen-1, supplemented by US and ESA (European Space Agency) Mars probe data, enabling the integration of orbital and ground-based data. By fusing imagery, spectra, radar, gravity and magnetic readings, a global database will be built that couples the planet's multiple physical fields. — Xinhua

Thai capital cleans up after deadly floods

BANGKOK residents were cleaning up Tuesday after days of flooding that left at least four people dead, while the national carrier warned of continued delays in and out of the Thai capital.

Around 700,000 people have been affected by floods that prompted Bangkok authorities to declare a city-wide disaster on Saturday, the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation said.

Parts of the capital remained waterlogged on Tuesday, with schools closed for a second day and many people still working from home.



A resident pulls food and supplies towards residential flats while navigating floodwaters in Bang Kapi district in Bangkok on 28 September 2026. **PHOTO: AFP**

In one of the worst-hit areas in the east of the city, Supreeya Kasim swept muddy water from the floor of the restaurant where she works.

"It has never flooded up to my knees like this before. This time is the worst," the 25-year-old told AFP at the modest one-room venue.

"All our belongings are completely ruined," she said.

The floodwaters only started to recede on Monday evening, she said, after being waist-high on the street outside and calf-high inside.

Three staff are helping with the clean-up, but they still do not expect to open until Thursday.

"We have to wait for it to dry first, and then we need to spray things like alcohol or (bleach) because otherwise, mould will start to grow," Supreeya said. — AFP