

The **Global** **NEW LIGHT** of **MYANMAR**

Four Objectives of the National Defence and Security Council

1. To steadfastly strive for emergence of political forces and the people’s representatives who can implement a genuine, disciplined multi-party democratic system while constantly emphasizing on the national interests of the State.
2. To persistently strive for promoting the socio-economic life of the people through the development of agro-based industries in improving the agricultural sector, the vital foundation of the economic growth of the State.
3. To put emphasis on enhancing the national education and health sectors for sustainable development of the State.
4. To implement multi-party democratic system, with the participation of the people, to ensure the success of multi-party democratic general election process and successfully moving towards with the multi-party democratic system aspired by the entire people.

Space Museum (Yangon) helps inspire youth to pursue their dreams

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing highlighted that the government plans to work in collaboration with partner organizations to provide opportunities for young scholars in the country to participate in space technology activities and programmes.

Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inaugurated the Space Museum (Yangon) at the People’s Square in Yangon yesterday morning.

At the ceremony, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Myo Thein Kyaw, Chief Executive Officer of Myanmar Space Agency Dr Soe Myint Maung and Yangon Mayor U Bo Htay cut the ribbon to open the Space Museum (Yangon).

The Senior General unveiled the signboard of the Space Museum and sprinkled scented water on the plaque.

He observed the GOTO Planetarium Analog Projection System used in the previous planetarium.

The Senior General and party visited the Deep Space Exploration booth, the Space Station booth, scale models of satellites and spacecrafts launched by the Russian Federation, India and the United States into the space in successive eras, running of the scale model satellites in the orbit, launching of the satellies from the space station and demonstrations at the museum.

In his speech, the Senior General

The State has assigned the responsibility of establishing the Myanmar Space Agency to ensure that space technologies can be used for peaceful purposes in socioeconomic development sectors.



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing observes the displayed at the opening ceremony of the Space Museum (Yangon) at the People's Square in Yangon yesterday.

Salient points in the speech delivered by the Senior General at opening of the Space Museum (Yangon)

1. The younger generation will be able to engage in and compete within the challenges and new opportunities of the modern space sector.
2. The nation will take pride in the emergence of researchers, engineers, astronauts, experts across various fields, and skilled human resources in the space sector in the future.

underscored that students and young people will now have the opportunity to explore, in an organized manner at the Space Museum (Yangon), topics related to space knowledge that they have read about in books or seen on television. This includes information about rockets launched into space, satellites orbiting in space, spacecraft and astronauts explor-

ing space, planets, constellations, and other space-related subjects.

Moreover, he added that as space science and its applications are becoming increasingly important in building a modern and developed nation, efforts are also being made to ensure that space technologies in Myanmar develop in line with the times.

SEE PAGE 4

NATIONAL



2025 MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTION

- Domestic election observers who wish to monitor the multiparty democratic general election, which will begin in phases on 28 December 2025, may apply for election observation permits at the Union Election Commission (UEC), as well as the relevant Region/State, District, and Township Election Subcommissions from today until 5 December 2025.
- The Union Election Commission announced on 16 September 2025 that domestic election observers must follow the Code of Conduct for Observers, issued under Notification 68/2025, and adhere to the procedures set out for their observation activities under Notification 69/2025. These notifications are available for viewing and can be downloaded from the Union Election Commission's official website <https://www.uec.gov.mm>.
- The Union Election Commission has also announced that international election observers will be allowed to monitor the multiparty democratic general election. Invitations will be extended directly to representatives of relevant countries and international organizations. In addition, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, invitations will be sent to representatives of foreign embassies, consulates, and permanent missions that maintain diplomatic relations with the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Union Election Commission



- Let us encourage production for prosperity of the Nation.
- Let us ensure education sector for the development of the Nation.
- Let us protect our environment for the prosperity of the Nation.



Condition of La Nina in First 10 days of December 2025

Issued at 30 November 2025

- (a) The Sea Surface Temperature (SST) over Tropical Pacific Ocean near the Equator and atmosphere phenomena is currently in a weak La Nina condition. According to the International Meteorological Agency, Numerical Weather prediction models are expected to continue weak La Nina level during the first 10 days of December.
- (b) Although the La Nina conditions occur at Pacific Ocean, more frequently occurs Easterly Waves, more low-pressure areas may form over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal, decrease of night temperatures in some regions and states, untimely rainfall will occur due to the impact of La Nina.
- (c) La Nina Condition will be updated in time. — DMH

Cyclonic Storm News, No 13, 2025

Issued at 4 pm MST on 30 November 2025

Cyclonic Storm "DITWAH" Condition

According to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, the Cyclonic Storm "DITWAH" over the Southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining Tamil Nadu- Puducherry coasts has moved Northwards and it is centred at about 765 Nautical miles West-Southwest of Coco Island (Myanmar), 50 nautical miles South-east of Puducherry (India) and 180 nautical miles North-Northwest of Trincomalee (Sri Lanka).

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

Position of Cyclonic Storm "DITWAH", centre pressure and wind

The Cyclonic Storm "DITWAH" is located at Latitude 11.5 degree North and Longitude

80.6 degree East, centre pressure of Cyclonic Storm is 998 hPa and maximum wind speed near the center is 45 miles per hour at 3:30 pm MST today.

Next 24 hours forecast

It is likely to move nearly Northwards parallel to North Tamil Nadu- Puducherry coasts (India) during next 24 hours.

General Caution

Sea will be moderate in the Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 5-7 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

Advisory

People should be aware that due to the Cyclonic Storm "DITWAH" domestic aviation, near-shore and offshore fishing vessels, and ships off and along the Myanmar coasts and offshore are also advised to take precautions. — DMH

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Sunday 30 November 2025)

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at 3:30 pm MST today, the Cyclonic Storm "DITWAH" over the southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining Tamil Nadu- Puducherry coasts has moved Northwards and it is centred at about 770 nautical miles west-southwest of Coco Island (Myanmar), 60 nautical miles southeast of Puducherry (India) and 170 nautical miles north of Trincomalee (Sri Lanka). It is likely to move nearly northwards parallel to North Tamil Nadu- Puducherry coasts (India) during next 24 hours. Weather is a few cloud over the Andaman Sea, North Bay and Eastcentral Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

SPECIAL FEATURES: According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the severe tropical storm "KOTO" over the South China Sea is downgraded into a tropical storm and it is centred at about 200 nautical miles northeast of Nhatrang, Vietnam. It is likely to reach East coasts of Vietnam on 2 December 2025. **FORECAST VALID UNTIL MORNING OF 1 December 2025:** Light rain are like-

ly to be isolated in upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is 60 per cent. Weather will be partly cloudy in Taninthayi Region and Kayin, Chin, Mon and northern Shan states and generally fair in the remaining regions and states.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in the Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 5-7 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Slight decrease of night temperatures in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway and Ayeyawady regions and Kayah and Shan states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 December 2025: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 December 2025: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 1 December 2025: Generally fair weather. — DMH

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NATIONAL

Residents Urged to Prioritize Public Safety Amid Armed Terrorist Threats

ARMED terrorists have been launching attacks by using residential homes and administrative buildings in towns and villages as cover, where they have forcibly settled. They aim to shield themselves from Tatmadaw counterattacks while also persuading temporarily displaced persons to return to their native areas and recruiting new members. That enables terrorists to use civilians as human shields. Tatmadaw is committed to safeguarding the sovereignty of the State and will respond to these threats based on intelligence and prevailing conditions. Therefore, residents in areas where terrorists have taken control must prioritize their safety and protect themselves from being exploited by these groups.

(An excerpt from guidance given by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing to Shan State cabinet members and state-level departmental officials on 3 September 2024)

Government and private sector initiate mutually supportive partnership to each other

Government is always ready to address the challenges and difficulties the private entrepreneurs encounter.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing stressed that the UMFC CI should actively work to promote the development of production and ensure that businesses operate properly with management to maintain fair pricing and ensure the quality of products.

The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFC CI) held its 34th annual general meeting at the National Theatre in Yangon yesterday afternoon, with an address by Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

In his speech, the Senior General said that the government and the private sector are mutually supportive partners, working hand in hand to implement initiatives that promote the nation's socioeconomic development.

He noted that as a nation, when formulating and implementing economic policies, the government studies and evaluates policies and guidelines that are suitable and adaptable to the changing circumstances before putting them into practice. In successfully implementing the established policy processes, the understanding and cooperation of the private sector play a crucial role.

He underlined that as private entrepreneurs implement the established policy processes on the ground, the government



Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits the booths of the exhibition displayed at the UMFC CI 34th AGM.

Salient points in the speech delivered by the Senior General at the AGM of UMFC CI

- 1. A plan is underway to reduce collection of taxes in the near future.
- 2. Reducing poverty within the country is a matter of national prestige.
- 3. Collective efforts should be made to advance the nation's economic development to uphold this prestige.
- 4. International friends and partner organizations can continue to actively collaborate and contribute to creating a mutually beneficial investment environment in Myanmar.

is always ready to address the challenges and difficulties the private entrepreneurs encounter. Likewise, private entrepreneurs can directly report the challenges and policy-related suggestions through the relevant sectors, enabling the government to coordinate and make necessary adjustments as needed.

The Senior General pointed out that since the private sector will play an in-

creasingly important role in the future economic landscape, they have to place emphasis on discussing and providing guidance on how the national economy should be managed based on fundamental national data, and how regional economies should be conducted according to differing local conditions.

He highlighted that through the current dialogue mechanisms between

the government and the private sector, effective implementation of processes — until tangible results are evident in the nation's development and public service operations — can strengthen mutual understanding and foster closer collaboration between the government and the private sector.

He remarked that in striving to achieve Myanmar's long-term, sustainable, and inclusive economic development, foreign investment plays an indispensable role in strengthening domestic economic sectors, creating employment opportunities, and facilitating the transfer of new technologies and international best practices. International friends and partner organizations can continue to actively collaborate and contribute to creating a mutually beneficial investment environment in Myanmar.

SEE PAGE 4

NATIONAL

Space Museum (Yangon) helps inspire youth to pursue their dreams

FROM PAGE 1

The Senior General expressed his firm belief that the ideas and inspiration gained from the Space Museum will help produce future astronauts, scientists, engineers, and experts in various fields who will contribute to the modern development of Myanmar.

He recounted that the Space Museum, jointly established by the governments of Myanmar and Japan in 1987, has now been upgraded and renovated into a Space Museum. The previously used analog projection systems have been replaced with modern digital projection systems, and new exhibition areas featuring space and astronomy displays, space stations, and other space technology-related exhibits have been added.

He highlighted that the government plans to work in collaboration with partner organizations to provide opportunities for young scholars in the country to participate in space technology activities and

programmes.

The Senior General emphasized that the State has assigned the responsibility of establishing the Myanmar Space Agency to ensure that space technologies can be used for peaceful purposes in socioeconomic development sectors. The agency has begun implementing short- and long-term projects in collaboration with international partner organizations.

In September, he retold that a total of 11 young participants from Myanmar were sent to compete in international competitions: six in the Open World Astronomy Olympiad (OWAO-25) held in the city of Sirius, the Russian Federation, and five in the International Olympiad on Climate Change and Environmental Issues (IOCE-2025). They were able to compete commendably in their respective events and won various awards for their achievements.

For the modern development of the nation, he stressed that it is essential to

cultivate and train the younger generation in space science and technology so that they can compete internationally, develop rapidly, and use these technologies effectively.

With the successful opening of the Space Museum, the Senior General expressed his aspiration that the younger generation will be able to engage in and compete within the challenges and new opportunities of the modern space sector. They will be able to generate ideas and turn them into reality. It is believed that in the future, the nation will take pride in the emergence of researchers, engineers, astronauts, experts across various fields, and skilled human resources in the space sector.

The Yangon Region Chief Minister presented commemorative gifts to the Senior General as well as diplomats.

The Senior General and attendees watched a dome video clip on the space and planetarium.

After the ceremony, the Senior General and diplomats signed the guest book of the museum.

Also present at the ceremony were Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, Union ministers, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, ambassadors and Charge's d'Affaires ad interim from the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, India and Belarus, and guests.

The Space Museum (Yangon) is located at the People's Park in Yangon. The former planetarium was upgraded and renovated to meet modern standards and reopened as the Space Museum (Yangon). Inside the museum, visitors can explore the Deep Space Exploration exhibit, the Space Station exhibit, and displays on rockets launched into space, orbiting satellites, spacecraft and astronauts exploring space, planets, constellations, and other space-related topics. — MNA/TTA

Government and private sector initiate mutually supportive partnership to each other

FROM PAGE 3

Regarding trade, the Senior General emphasized that there are products, onshore and underground mineral resources, and garment-related products. In utilizing mineral resources, it is necessary to focus on industries that produce renewable materials, such as timber and bamboo, as well as water-based product manufacturing.

The Senior General unveiled that a plan is underway to reduce collection of taxes in the near future. The government is taking actions to ensure the best outcomes for the national economy, and on the other hand, it is expected that merchants and industrial and handicraft

associations conduct their businesses properly and correctly.

He urged the UMFCCI to actively work to promote the development of production and ensure that businesses operate properly with management to maintain fair pricing and ensure the quality of products. Reducing poverty within the country is a matter of national prestige; therefore, to uphold this prestige, collective efforts should be made to advance the nation's economic development.

The Senior General spotted that the UMFCCI is necessary to actively participate and cooperate on behalf of the private sector, according to relevant sectors and fields, regarding

the nation's upcoming policies, business processes, suggestions, technologies, challenges faced, and priority matters that need to be addressed.

He expressed his hope that if the cultivation targets are fully achieved, an additional US\$8 billion could be earned per year, and if multiple crops are planted, the additional revenue could reach around US\$12 billion. By increasing production and exporting products abroad, the country would be able to secure sufficient foreign exchange earnings.

He continued that it is necessary to ensure the economic development of rural communities and to increase the output of

agricultural products. Industrial and handicraft entrepreneurs should collectively work to raise the economic standards and improve the living conditions in rural areas.

Concerning the garment industry, he underscored that efforts should also be made to achieve further development beyond the current level. Pawsan rice and coffee already have markets abroad, and efforts should be collectively made to produce other products that can access international markets.

The UMFCCI President extended greetings while the general secretary read the annual report and the financial statement for 2024-25 financial

year.

The Senior General had documentary photos taken together with UMFCCI executive committee members and guests.

The Senior General viewed round the booths of the exhibition displayed in commemoration of the UMFCCI 34th AGM.

Also present at the ceremony were Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, Union ministers, senior Tatmadaw officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief, the Yangon Region Chief Minister, the commander of Yangon command, deputy ministers and diplomats. — MNA/TTA

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CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

(+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 255597511

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 251022355
marketing@gnlm.com.mm
subscription@gnlm.com.mm

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

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NATIONAL

General Aung San Declares Firm Stand Against Election Disruption

“Our Government shall not permit any disruption of the forthcoming election. The electoral process shall remain free and fair, and no interference shall be exercised upon those who participate in it. Yet, let it be firmly declared that any attempt to disturb or sabotage the election shall be met with the full weight of authority”.

(An excerpt from the radio address regarding the election, delivered by General Aung San on 13 March 1947)



Victorious Myanmar U17 football squad honoured with K100M reward granted by the Head of State



State Security and Peace Commisson Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo and officials join the AFC U17 Asian Cup qualifiers between Myanmar U17 team and Syria U17 team in Yangon yesterday.

ACTING President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission Senior General Min Aung Hlang yesterday granted K100 million as the cash reward to the victorious Myanmar U17 men’s football squad qualified for the 2026 AFC U17 Asian Cup.

The qualifier match held at

the stadium of the Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna of Yangon yesterday afternoon was attended by State Security and Peace Commission Secretary and Joint Executive Chief General Ye Win Oo, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein, Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Pyae Sone Lin, regional ministers, the director-general of the

Department of Sports and Physical Education, the president of Myanmar Football Federation, departmental officials, guests and spectators, totalling more than 30,000.

In the match, the Myanmar U17 men’s football team and the Syria U17 men’s football team competed intensely during the first 45 minutes to score goals.



At 9 minutes and 52 seconds, Nyi Nyi Thant (10), scored the first goal for the team. At 14 minutes and 42 seconds, Ahmad Alfaraj (9), equalized with a goal. Myanmar U17 then made a substitution, replacing Lin Yaung (8) with Win Min Thant (6). At 34 minutes and 4 seconds, Arnt Htoo Paing (7) scored the second winning goal.

In the second half, at 85 minutes and 40 seconds, Odey Alfashtaki (16) netted another equalizing goal. The Myanmar team continued to compete intensely in an effort to score again, but by the end of the match, both teams had scored

two goals each, and the game ended in a 2-2 draw.

Today’s playoff match marked a historic day for the Myanmar U17 team, as they regained qualification for the AFC U17 Championship after a 19-year absence. In the group stage matches, the Myanmar U17 team defeated Afghanistan 3-1, beat Nepal 4-0, won against Oman 2-0, and drew 2-2 with Syria, finishing the group stage with 10 points and advancing to the playoffs. It has been reported that the 2026 AFC U17 Championship will be hosted by Saudi Arabia from 7 to 24 May 2026.

— MNA/TTA



Tatmadaw seagoing hospital vessel continues medical services in Ngayokkaung

TATMADAW’S seagoing hospital ship ‘Thanlwin’, accompanied by mobile specialist medical teams, has been providing healthcare services to residents in Ngayokkaung, Ngaputaw Township, Ayeyawady Region

Health services are being provided by the Thanlwin, the Tatmadaw Seagoing Hospital Ship, in Ngayokkaung, Ngaputaw Township, Ayeyawady Region.

yesterday. They were warmly welcomed by local officials, residents, teachers, and students.

The mobile medical team based their operations at the Station Hospital in Ngayokkaung and provided healthcare services to 475 locals. Treatment included 121 general illnesses, 56 surgical cases, 22 obstetric cases, 19 paediatric cases, 93 orthopaedic cases, 31 ENT cases, 80 eye cases, and 53 dental

cases.

Among them, four patients received general surgery, four had x-rays, 64 underwent ultrasound scans, 54 had ECG examinations, and 35 received laboratory tests.

Furthermore, arrangements were made for one patient requiring further treatment to be referred to Mingaladon Defence Services General Hospital. — MNA/KZL

NATIONAL

Sagaing Region Chief Minister inspects voter lists, local market fair in Monywa

CHIEF Minister U Myat Kyaw of the Sagaing Region, together with local authorities and officials of relevant election sub-commissions, visited Monywa yesterday morning.

They observed on-the-ground household checks being conducted in Aung Chantha Ward by the Township General Administration Department, the Township Election Sub-commission, and the Ministry of Immigration and Population to ensure the accuracy and completeness of voter lists for the successful holding of the 2025 multiparty democratic general election. They greeted local residents cordially during the visit.

Afterwards, the Chief Minister and officials proceeded to Monywa's Yongyi Ward, where they observed the household inspection activities.

On 29 November, the Chief Minister and officials visited the MSME Product Fair at Monywa People's Park. They viewed the displays and sales of over 98 booths showcasing township-level local products, garments, consumer goods, foodstuffs, household decorative items, ethnic traditional items, indigenous medicines, livestock products, and food stalls. They also visited the children's playground.

They greeted civil service



Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Myat Kyaw observes on-the-ground household checks activities in Monywa to complete of voter lists for the upcoming general election.

staff from various departments, university and degree college students, and local residents

at the fair, and watched performances by renowned singers entertaining the visitors, join-

ing the public in supporting and enjoying the event. — Regional IPRD/KZL

276 online scam hub buildings in KK Park demolished, 119 illegal buildings in Shwe Kokko sealed off

THE government continues to conduct joint operations in the Shwe Kokko and KK Park areas, where suspects are involved in telecom fraud and online gambling activities. The combined teams, comprising security personnel and administrative bodies, are carrying out these operations, which include entering the areas, dismantling illegal buildings, and destroying seized items used in online gambling and scams.

Yesterday, the authorities destroyed six illegal buildings — including three two-storey buildings and three four-storey buildings — in the Section 3 area. So far, 128 out of 425 buildings in Section 3 have been demolished, and a total of 276 out of 635 illegal buildings have been demolished in the KK Park area.

Similarly, the operation has been conducted in the Shwe Kokko area since 18 November, and the authorities yesterday searched four residential buildings, warehouses, gyms, power plants, shops, and labour barracks in the Shwe Kokko area were inspected again, including four one-storey buildings, 63 two-storey buildings, 17 three-storey buildings, three four-storey buildings, four five-storey buildings, one six-sto-



Security Forces are searching the illegal buildings and the structures used in telecom fraud and online gambling activities in KK Park area, and photos show sealed buildings in Shwe Kokko area.

rey building, two seven-storey buildings, two nine-storey buildings, one 16-storey building, and one 19-storey building, totalling 98. No individuals involved in telecom fraud and online gambling were found, but those offenders took mobile phones and materials along with them.

The inspections began on 18 November at buildings within the Shwe Kokko area that had been used for online scam operations. To date, a total of 140 illegal buildings have been

identified, and measures to seal and confiscate these buildings to prevent further use have continued. Yesterday, 18 more illegal buildings were sealed, bringing the total to 119 buildings already sealed and confiscated.

To date, the authorities have detained 1,954 undocumented foreign entrants and seized 3,310 computers, 21,870 mobile phones, 102 Starlink satellite receivers, and 22 routers used in telecom fraud and online gambling activities. The authorities

have systematically destroyed the seized materials and continue operations to expose the offences.

From 30 January to 30 November 2025, a total of 12,945 foreign nationals who had entered Myanmar illegally were detained. Of these, 10,029 individuals were screened to be expelled and were systematically repatriated to their respective countries through Thailand in accordance with legal procedures. The remaining 2,916 foreign nationals

are now ready to be transferred to their respective countries, and they are being properly held and cared for during this process.

The government considers the eradication of telecom fraud and online gambling crimes as a national responsibility and, to ensure that such activities can no longer operate within Myanmar, will continue its efforts in coordination not only with domestic forces but also with the governments of neighbouring countries. — MNA/TH

NATIONAL

United strength of people can manage appropriate protection against natural disasters

❖ “Natural disasters cannot be completely prevented, but appropriate protection can be provided through people’s preparedness, diligence, and efforts. Planting trees and conserving forests will create shade and shelter, as well as a greener and more vibrant environment.”

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the national-level second tree-growing ceremony 2025 with public activity in Minbu Township, Minbu District of Magway Region, for greening 13 arid zone districts on 19 August 2025)

Six-day illegal trade crackdown seizes goods worth K2.69 bln

UNDER the supervision of the Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee, efforts to combat the illicit trade are continued effectively by the law.

On 20, 22, 23, 24 and 25 November, the combined teams impounded a boat (approximately K1.8 million) carrying illegal timbers and charcoals worth K19.63 million in Kawthoung, Myeik, Kyunsu and Bokpyin townships, six unregistered motorbikes and three unregistered vehicles worth K36.3 million in Minbu, Ngaphe, Minhla, Seikphyu, Magway and Chauk townships, illegal teaks worth K37,500 in Taungdwingyi Township and two mobiles with cash for gambling valued at K746,500 in Minbu and Taungd-



Photo shows seized illegal timber in Taninthayi Region.

wingyi townships. The action was conducted under the Forest Law and the Export/Import Law. On 22, 24 and 26 November,

the combined on-duty teams seized a Higer bus (approximately K60 million) carrying foodstuffs and consumer goods valued at K60.053 million without official documents in TadaU Township, an unregistered vehicle and an unregistered motorbike worth K12 million in Kyaikmaraw Township, an unregistered motorbike worth K4 million in Myaungmya Township, and illegal timbers worth K2.261 million in Kyangin, Ingapu and Myanaung townships. The action was taken under the Forest Law, the Export/Import Law, and Customs procedures.

On 26 November, the combined teams confiscated MV MCL6 vessel (estimated value

of K920 million), docked from Kawthoung to Yangon, carrying industrial materials and consumer goods worth K1.463billion that are smuggled without declaration on ID at the Thakayta Port, industrial materials valued at K101.482 million without official documents from a container at the Asia World Port and consumer goods valued at K9.3 million without official documents from luggage at the Yangon International Airport. The action was taken under Customs procedures.

The Steering Committee reported 52 arrests on 20, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 November, seizing illegal goods worth approximately K2.690 billion. — MNA/MKKS

Taungpula receives some thousands of pilgrims on prominent religious holidays



Taungpula Pagoda

IN this year’s peak season, the visitor arrival to Taungpula located at Watwun village-tract in PyinOoLwin Township has mounted to even some thousands, said a member of the trustee board, U Kyaw Soe.

The arrival of pilgrims to Taungpula has become large as of this year’s Thadingyut and shelters and tents for staying overnight have been provided free. “Recently, we have received many pilgrims from

Yangon, Mandalay, Bago and other regions and states. The visitor arrival generally increases on public holidays and prominent religious holidays, even some thousands on some days. We have provided accommodation and photo-shooting sites for pilgrims,” U Kyaw Soe told the Global New Light of Myanmar. In addition, the trustee board has received many phone calls saying they would like to visit Taungpula during the journey to PyinOoLwin flower festival which has been scheduled to celebrate in December, he said. At Taungpula, breakfast, lunch and dinner as free meals have been served for all visitors. The arrival of pilgrims to Taungpula was also large in 2022-2023 peak season and it has been larger this year than last year. — MT/ZS

MGMA to open advanced sewing machine operator course batch 13 in December

MYANMAR Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) said the advanced sewing machine operator training course batch 13 will be conducted in December. It has been scheduled from 1 to 12 December and will include six specified sewing methods- button hold machine, button attached machine, bartack machine, overlock 4-thread, overlock 5-thread and 2-needle. Interested persons can reg-

ister to the Myanmar Garment Human Resource Development Centre (MGHRDC) located on lower Mingaladon Road in Insein Township and here are contact numbers- 09940858350, 09450723262, 09403912570, 09784085794 and 09952802635. The sewing machine operator basic course has been provided by MGMA for those who want to work in the garment industry and so far, 263 batches were completed.— MT/ZS



An image shows sewing machine operator training course.

See potential for sector-wise cooperation between Myanmar and Belarus

MYANMAR is a sovereign country that exercises a genuine, disciplined multiparty democratic system, with an independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy. Moreover, Myanmar maintains friendly diplomatic relations with other countries and engages in the principles of peaceful coexistence with them.

Among friendly countries, Belarus and Myanmar have been maintaining diplomatic relations since 1999. The bilateral relationship has strengthened over time through mutual trust, understanding, and cooperation. It is known that leaders from both countries have undertaken goodwill visits to each other’s nations to further foster friendly relations.

At the invitation of Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and State Security and Peace Commission Chairman Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, a high-level delegation led by President of the Republic of Belarus

The official goodwill visit of the Belarusian President to Myanmar is expected to further enhance bilateral diplomatic relations in addition to multiple sectors between the two countries. It is believed that this visit will strengthen cooperation and deepen the friendly ties between Myanmar and Belarus. Nevertheless, the official goodwill visit of the Belarusian President to Myanmar is believed to be a visit that will further strengthen friendship and cooperation between the two countries, while also enhancing benefit with momentum between the two countries.

countries exchanged ideas, explored potential partnerships, and shared relevant information for mutual economic collaboration.

In order to increase the value of domestic production in the country, Myanmar can gain significant benefits from Belarus’s advanced agricultural and food processing systems, machinery, data management systems, and integrated technologies, thereby strengthening cooperation between the two countries.

The official goodwill visit of the Belarusian President to Myanmar is expected to further enhance bilateral diplomatic relations in addition to multiple sectors between the two countries. It is believed that this visit will strengthen cooperation and deepen the friendly ties between Myanmar and Belarus. Nevertheless, the official goodwill visit of the Belarusian President to Myanmar is believed to be a visit that will further strengthen friendship and cooperation between the two countries, while also enhancing benefit with momentum between the two countries.

World AIDS Day 2025: Renewing Global and National Commitment to Ending HIV as a Public Health Threat

By Dr Aung Tun

World AIDS Day 2025
1 DECEMBER



World AIDS Day, designated on 1 December every year since 1988, is an international day dedicated to raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection and mourning those who have died of the disease.

EVERY year on 1 December, nations around the world commemorate World AIDS Day, reflecting on the profound human, social and economic impact of HIV and renewing commitments to confront one of the world’s longest-running health emergencies. As the world enters 2025, the message is clear: while extraordinary progress has been made, HIV remains an unfinished agenda. Millions continue to live with the virus, new infections occur daily, and inequalities still hinder access to prevention, testing and treatment services.

The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that HIV has already claimed 44.1 million lives since the beginning of the epidemic, and transmission continues in every region. Global efforts, strongly aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 3.3), aim to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. But this target demands strengthened public health systems, equitable access to care, and greater awareness in every community.

1. The Global HIV Situation in 2025

The epidemic continues despite progress

As of the end of 2024, the WHO estimates that 40.8 million people are living with HIV worldwide. Of this global burden, approximately 65 per cent — over 26 million people — live in the African Region, highlighting persistent structural inequalities across continents.

Despite decades of progress, the epidemic continues:

- 1.3 million people acquired HIV in 2024
- 630,000 people died from HIV-related causes in 2024
- HIV remains present in every country worldwide

These figures remind us that the epidemic is far from over. **Global treatment cascade: progress but gaps remain**

In 2024, the world achieved the following:

- 87 per cent of all people living with HIV knew their status
- 77 per cent of all PLHIV were receiving antiretroviral therapy

(ART)

- 73 per cent
- Per cent - achieved viral suppression

These numbers fall short of the 2025 global targets, known as the 95-95-95 goals, which aim for:

1. 95 per cent of PLHIV know their status
2. 95 per cent of those diagnosed to be on ART
3. 95 per cent of those on ART to achieve viral suppression

Viral suppression is critical because a person whose viral load is undetectable cannot transmit HIV sexually—a scientific breakthrough known globally as U=U (Undetectable = Untransmittable).

2. Myanmar’s HIV Situation: Latest Data (2023–2025)

Despite operational challenges, Myanmar has maintained significant progress in HIV diagnosis and treatment coverage.

Estimated national HIV burden

Based on UNAIDS, AIDS Data Hub, UN Myanmar; and ICAP (Columbia University), the latest consolidated estimates indicate:

- Estimated people living with HIV in Myanmar (PLHIV): 240,000–280,000
- Children living with HIV (≤15 years): 11,000
- New HIV infections per year: 11,000
- Annual AIDS-related deaths: Estimated 7,000–8,000 (modelled estimates)
- ART coverage: 208,480 individuals — approximately 74 per cent of PLHIV

Nature of the epidemic in Myanmar

Myanmar’s epidemic remains concentrated, with higher infection rates seen among:

- people who inject drugs
- men who have sex with men
- sex workers and their clients
- transgender people

These populations require intensified prevention services, stigma-free healthcare, and consistent treatment access.

Service delivery challenges

Ongoing social, economic and geographic barriers, including

population mobility, funding gaps and limited access in conflict-affected regions, can hinder testing, care and outreach coverage. Nonetheless, national and partner organizations continue working to sustain essential HIV services.

3. Understanding HIV and AIDS

HIV: The virus that attacks the immune system

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) weakens the body’s natural defences by attacking CD4 Cells – white blood cells are essential for fighting infections.

AIDS: The most advanced stage

Untreated HIV can eventually develop into acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), a life-threatening condition marked by severe infections and certain cancers.

Advanced HIV Disease (AHD)

WHO defines AHD as:

- CD4 count <200 cells/mm³, or
- Presence of WHO Stage 3 or 4 clinical events

All children under five living with HIV are classified as having AHD due to their vulnerable immune systems.

4. How HIV Is—and Is NOT—Transmitted

HIV is transmitted through:

- blood
- semen
- vaginal fluids
- rectal fluids
- breast milk

Transmission occurs through:

- unprotected sex
- sharing injection equipment
- mother-to-child transmission during pregnancy, delivery or breastfeeding
- transfusion of contaminated blood

medical procedures using unsterile equipment

HIV is NOT transmitted by:

- kissing or hugging
- shaking hands
- sharing food, cups, clothes or toilets
- mosquitoes or insects
- casual social contact

Dispelling myths helps reduce stigma and improves testing uptake.

5. Symptoms Across HIV Stages

Early infection (first weeks):

- fever
 - headache
 - sore throat
 - rash
- Some experience no symptoms, which makes testing essential.

Chronic infection:

- weight loss
- swollen lymph nodes
- fever
- diarrhoea
- persistent cough
- Advanced infection / AIDS: tuberculosis (TB)
- cryptococcal meningitis
- severe bacterial infections
- cancers (lymphomas, Kaposi’s sarcoma)

HIV can worsen hepatitis B, hepatitis C and mpox outcomes.

6. HIV Prevention: Tools That Work

HIV is preventable. Proven strategies include:

- consistent condom use
- regular HIV and STI testing
- voluntary medical male circumcision
- harm-reduction services (needle-syringe programmes, opioid substitution therapy)

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

WHO-recommended PrEP options include:

- oral tenofovir (TDF)-based PrEP
- dipivefrine vaginal ring
- long-acting injectable cabotegravir
- long-acting injectable lenacapavir (recently FDA-approved)

8. Treatment: HIV as a Manageable Chronic Illness

No cure – but highly effective treatment

Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)

PEP must begin within 72 hours after potential exposure.

Preventing mother-to-child transmission

With ART, the risk can drop to below one per cent.

7. HIV Diagnosis: Rapid, Accurate and Accessible

- Rapid diagnostic tests give same-day results
- HIV self-testing expands privacy and accessibility

- Confirmatory testing ensures accuracy

- Babies under 18 months require virological testing, not antibody tests

Correct diagnosis enables early treatment, which improves long-term health outcomes.

8. Treatment: HIV as a Manageable Chronic Illness

No cure – but highly effective treatment

Antiretroviral therapy (ART):

- suppresses the virus
- strengthens the immune system

- prevents HIV transmission to partners
- transforms HIV into a manageable chronic condition
- ART must be taken daily for life, but new long-acting injectables may change future treatment patterns.

Pregnant women

Early ART protects both

mother and child and prevents transmission.

Addressing Advanced HIV Disease

WHO supports countries to deliver essential AHD care, including rapid diagnosis, opportunistic infection screening and new therapeutic options.

9. The Road to 2030: WHO’s Strategic Response

WHO’s Global Health Sector Strategies (GHSS) 2022–2030 outline how countries can end AIDS, viral hepatitis and sexually transmitted infections by 2030. Key priorities include:

- universal health coverage
- equity-centred approaches
- reaching the most vulnerable populations
- strengthening community-led responses
- integrating HIV services into primary healthcare

10. Why World AIDS Day 2025

Matters for Myanmar and the World

The world has the tools to defeat HIV — but gaps in access, awareness and equity persist. For Myanmar:

- 240,000–280,000 people live with HIV
 - ~208,480 people receive ART, a major public health achievement
 - community support and awareness remain essential
- Globally, ending AIDS by 2030 is still possible — but only with sustained commitment.

Empathy, accurate information and inclusive public health strategies can eliminate stigma, support those living with HIV, and protect future generations.

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World AIDS Day, designated on 1 December every year since 1988, is an international day dedicated to raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection and mourning those who have died of the disease.

NATIONAL/Interview

“To stay at the top, we cannot underestimate any team. We are prepared to perform at our highest level and give our best effort.”

AS the Myanmar sports contingent will take part in 38 sports events of the XXXIII SEA Games to be hosted by Thailand from 9 to 20 December 2025, the U22 men’s selected football team left Yangon for Thailand by air to take part in the football tournament yesterday morning. An interview was made with former Myanmar’s selected footballer U Soe Myat Min, the administrators of the U22 men’s football team. The replies of U Soe Myat Min about the efforts of the team in the training with the golden dreams were presented as follows: -

U Soe Myat Min (U22 Myanmar men's football team administrator)

“I will be serving as the team administrator for the U22 men’s football team at the XXXIII SEA Games to be held in Thailand. Since March this year, the team has been organized and has played a series of friendly matches, as well as participated in various competitions. Under the training and guidance of head coach Mr Kurosaki, the team has been prepared in the best possible way.

“The head coach has monitored the Myanmar National League I matches and selected the 23 best players from the competition to take part in the tournament. Since the Myanmar U22 team will face the Philippines on 5 December, we are departing today to secure enough time for advance training and preparations. The team will conduct a three-day train-



U Soe Myat Min.

ber, followed by the final group match against Indonesia on 12 December. The team will compete with full strength and determination in every match.

“The U22 squad consists of 23 players and 13 coaching and management staff. I am satisfied with the training efforts shown by the young players. With the head coach providing the best

to perform at our highest level and give our best effort.

“All individuals from the team carry the ambition of bringing honour to the country and winning the championship. The young players, who will be the ones actually to compete, have shown strong determination and mental toughness. What matters now is progress-

like to say that we will do our very best.”

At the XXXIII SEA Games football tournament, the U22 men’s football event is organized into three groups. Group A includes Thailand, Singapore and Timor-Leste; Group B includes Vietnam, Malaysia and Laos; and Group C consists of Myanmar, the Philippines and

U Soe Myat Min (Administrator of U22 men's selected football team)
Interviewer: Thitsa (MNA)



Players of Myanmar U22 squad seen at the airport before departure for Thailand yesterday. **PHOTO: ZWE MARN**

ing camp at the Alpine Camp in Chiang Mai.

“The football tournament is divided into three groups, and the Myanmar U22 team is placed in Group C, which includes Myanmar, the Philippines and Indonesia. Myanmar will play its first match against the Philippines on 5 Decem-

possible training programme, we expect to see the team’s full capability in the tournament. In previous SEA Games football events, there were only two groups, but this year the competition has been divided into three groups. Therefore, to stay at the top, we cannot underestimate any team. We are prepared

ing step by step and achieving success at each stage. We have fully prepared and worked hard to ensure we are among the last four teams that reach the semi-finals. The team hopes to earn a good result at the SEA Games, and we look forward to the strong support of our fans. On behalf of the team, I would

Indonesia. Myanmar will play its opening match against the Philippines on 5 December. As supporters who love football and consistently cheer for the Myanmar national team, the people of Myanmar are encouraged to give their full support to the team as they strive to bring home honour for the nation.

Insurance negotiations underway for Danyingon Wholesale Market fire

THE management board of Myanmar Agro Exchange Public Co Ltd has announced that they will continue negotiations to receive insurance compensation for the fire that broke out inside the Danyingon Wholesale Market, as it is covered by fire insurance.

The fire occurred on 26 November in the complex No 3, which sells general merchandise, dry goods, and kitchen

supplies, and affected seven shops, resulting in only minor losses. As all market complexes are covered by fire insurance, negotiations with the insurance company will continue to secure the compensation.

The Fire Services Department’s assessment indicates that the cause of the fire was a short circuit from a vendor’s inverter. The management board stated that they will increase

fire hazard education to prevent such incidents in the future

Currently, the remaining shops in the market building, excluding those damaged by the fire, have reopened as usual since 27 November. — MT/ZN

The shops in the Complex No 3 of the Danyingon Wholesale Market are seen operating as usual on 27 November.



Re-registration allowed for previously licensed classic vehicles from December 2025 to March 2026

ACCORDING to the Department of Road Transport Administration under the Ministry of Transport and Communications, classic motor vehicles whose registration (licence) has been cancelled will be allowed to undergo re-registration.

This measure is being carried out to preserve classic motor vehicles as valuable heritage and to officially record them as historic vehicles.

The re-registration (licensing) applies to vehicles of the 1980 model year and earlier whose previous registrations were cancelled because the

owners failed to renew their registration before it expired.

Only vehicles that had been previously registered will be eligible for re-registration, and new registration numbers (not the original old numbers) will be issued. Classic vehicles which have never been registered before will not be granted registration (licences).

Re-registration services will be available from 1 December 2025 to 31 March 2026 at the respective offices of the Road Transport Administration Department in each region, state and district. — ASH/KNN



Some classic motor vehicles found within the country.

Timeless Strokes Exhibition showcases masterworks by veteran painters in Yangon

THE Timeless Strokes Group Art Exhibition, featuring veteran painters, is currently being held at the Kalasa Art Space Art Gallery in Kyauktada Township, Yangon Region. The exhibition opened on 29 November and will run until 3 December.

It showcases paintings created in watercolour, oil, acrylic and other media by renowned painters and artists, including Aung Htoo, Maung Myint Aung, Min Zaw, Moat Thone, MPP Ye Myint, Mya Thaung, Myint Naing, Myoe Thant Oung, NCS, Rahula, Sandar Khaing, Thet Aung, Tin Maung Oo, Win Pe, Win Thint, Zaw Lu Min, and Zaw

Win Pe. The works present a wide variety of themes and artistic expressions.

A curator from the Kalasa Art Space Art Gallery said, “This week, the exhibition entitled Timeless Strokes is on display. In the works of these famous veteran painters, the culture of their era and their creative ideas are interwoven. Each piece reflects the period in which it was created, the painter’s distinctive vision and their boundless creativity.

“The artworks collected by Kalasa Art Space over the years will be presented with an emphasis on each painter’s individual style and creative

approach. Through this exhibition, the gallery hopes to share these collected works with art enthusiasts and wishes that true admirers will have the opportunity to acquire them.

“Through the Timeless Strokes exhibition, I would like to say that great artworks never fade; even after many years, they continue to resonate from heart to heart and express countless meanings”.

The paintings on display come in various sizes, including 24 by 24 inches, 36 by 34 inches, 18 by 24 inches and 18 by 18 inches, offering a broad selection for art lovers and collectors. — ASH/KZL



Dubai construction entrepreneurs eye investment in Myanmar projects



This photo shows the launch ceremony for residential buildings developed by the Dubai-based real estate company Danube Properties, held at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Yangon on 29-30 November.

CONSTRUCTION entrepreneurs in Dubai, UAE, are interested in investing in construction projects in Myanmar, according to the Myanmar-India-China Association (MICA).

MICA has also invited Dubai construction companies with the aim of promoting cooperation between Myanmar and the UAE in the construction industry.

Danube Properties, a real estate development company based in Dubai, UAE, is visiting Yangon, Myanmar, to introduce its residential buildings. The launch event was attended by Danube Properties officials, Myanmar businesspeople, and

construction entrepreneurs, and it included discussions on the construction and housing sectors in both Myanmar and the UAE.

The launch ceremony for the residential buildings developed by the Dubai-based real estate company Danube Properties was held at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Yangon on 29-30 November.

Currently, there are job opportunities for Myanmar citizens in various industries in Dubai, UAE—such as construction, services, tourism, and food production—and many Myanmar citizens are already working in these sectors. — ASH/TH

ECONOMY
WORLD

Global commodity prices expected to decline by roughly 7%, precious metals to rise 5% in 2026: Report

Prices touched this level due to tight global supply, driven by mining disruptions and strong demand from the AI and clean-energy sectors.

GLOBAL commodity prices are expected to fall by nearly seven per cent in 2026, continuing a fourth straight year of decline. The fall is being linked to slower global economic growth, trade tensions, policy uncertainty, and abundant oil supplies. Precious metals, however, are projected to rise by around 5 per cent next year, building on a strong investment-led gain of over 40 per cent in 2025, according to a report by financial services firm Prabhudas Lilladher.

In the metals segment, global copper prices touched nearly US\$11,200 per tonne due to tight supply and mining disruptions. As per the report, Gold reached a record high of US\$4,370 an ounce in late October 2025, while Indian gold prices hovered around Rs 1,27,500 per 10 grams amid festive and safe-haven demand.



Precious metals such as gold and silver are widely expected to retain their safe-haven status, with prices responding strongly to movements in the US dollar, inflation trends, and geopolitical factors. Gold Bars. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

The report also said base metals like copper, aluminium, and zinc are expected to remain supported by limited supply and steady demand, though sharp gains are unlikely without major disruptions.

Precious metals such as gold and silver are expected to retain their safe-haven status, with prices responding to

movements in the US dollar, inflation trends, and geopolitical factors. Energy prices are likely to dip about 10 per cent in 2026, following a 12 per cent drop in 2025.

Metals and minerals are expected to remain steady, while agricultural commodities may edge lower due to ample supply. — ANI

US retailers, customers face off in Black Friday stalemate amid sinking confidence

HOLIDAY shopping, long anchored by Black Friday, has traditionally been a cornerstone of the retail sector, accounting for up to 40 per cent of annual fourth-quarter sales.

But this year, retailers entered the season locked in what analysts call a game of “discount chicken.” Retailers are waiting for consumers to spend, while consumers are holding out for deeper price cuts, Rob Garf, head of strategy and insights at Cordial, a marketing platform, told Quartz on Friday.

Consumers soured on the current economy and their prospects for the future, with worries growing over the ability to find a job, according to a Conference Board survey released earlier this week. The Consumer Confidence Index for November fell to 88.7 from 95.5, its lowest reading since April. Economists surveyed by Dow Jones had expected 93.2.

Only 20 per cent of US consumers plan to use Black Friday as their main starting point for holiday shopping, according to Cordial. — Xinhua



People shop at a store during the Black Friday sales event in San Jose, California, the United States, 28 November 2025. PHOTO: ZIYU JULIAN ZHU/XINHUA

OPEC+ likely to maintain current output levels

MINISTERS of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allied nations (OPEC+) are expected to keep current output levels unchanged when they meet for online meetings on Sunday, analysts told AFP.

The biannual ministerial meeting comes as uncertainty remains over how oil prices will develop in the near future, with traders looking for signs that indicate progress in ongoing negotiations on resolving the conflict in Ukraine, which could lead to the return of Russian

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allied nations (OPEC+) are expected to keep current output levels unchanged. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE/ISTOCK



crude to markets. Since April, eight key OPEC+ members led by Saudi Arabia and Russia have boosted production in an effort to regain market share amid strong competition from producers outside the group such as the United States, Canada and Guyana. But in early November, the V8 group announced they would pause their output increases in the first quarter of 2026 due to expected lower seasonal demand, following a small increase in December. — AFP

India's forex reserves drop \$4.5 billion, still hovers around record high

INDIA'S foreign exchange reserves declined by US\$4.472 billion in the week that ended 21 November to US\$688.104 billion, driven by a slump in

both foreign currency assets and gold reserves, the Reserve Bank of India's latest 'Weekly Statistical Supplement' data showed.

Over the past few weeks, the forex kitty has been largely in a downtrend, except for a few. Still, the country's foreign exchange (forex) kitty is hovering

close to its all-time high of US\$704.89 billion, reached in September 2024. For the reported week (that ended 21 November), India's

foreign currency assets (FCA), the largest component of foreign exchange reserves, stood at US\$560.600 billion, down US\$1.690 billion. — ANI

Oil India commences offshore drilling in Kerala-Konkan basin

ENERGY sector major Oil India Limited has commenced a landmark offshore drilling campaign in the Kerala-Konkan Basin by spudding the first well, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Puri announced on Saturday.

He termed this landmark development an inspirational stride in India's energy journey guided by the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

This frontier Category-III basin holds immense potential, and the planned 6000 m deep well to be drilled 20 nautical miles offshore will be among the deepest offshore wells in Indian waters, Minister Puri wrote on X.

"With over 1,028 sq km of 3D seismic survey already completed, this campaign will probe key Cretaceous plays and strengthen India's pursuit of new energy frontiers,"



the brief X post concluded.

As per estimates, India today imports 80 per cent of its oil and 50 per cent of its natural gas needs. India is now importing oil and gas from as many countries as possible to meet its demand. — ANI

Energy sector major Oil India Limited has commenced a landmark offshore drilling campaign in the Kerala-Konkan Basin by spudding the first well. **PHOTO: ANI**

Chinese landmark trade corridor handles over 5 mln TEUs

THE New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor (ILSTC), a key logistics route connecting western China to global markets, had transported a cumulative total of more than 5 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) of cargo as of Saturday, according to China Railway Nanning Group Co, Ltd.

The corridor connects the Silk Road Economic Belt in the north with the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road in the south, coordinating with the Yangtze River Economic Belt and playing a crucial role in China's



A drone photo taken on 29 November 2025 shows trains of the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor (ILSTC) at the Qinzhou Port East Railway Station in Qinzhou City, south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. **PHOTO: ZHANG AILIN/XINHUA**

coordinated regional development strategy. Since its pilot run in 2017, the ILSTC has evolved into a strategic route linking

China's inland regions with the markets of ASEAN countries and other parts of the world.

By Saturday, cargo volume along the corridor this year had reached 1.31 million TEUs — surging over 50 per cent year on year. — Xinhua

Grounded ANA Airbus planes back in service after software upgrade

ALL Nippon Airways Co said Sunday that Airbus SE aircraft grounded by a software problem have been put back into service after the airline completed a software update.

Despite the resumption of service, ANA cancelled six flights on Sunday as planned, in addition to the 95 that were scrapped the previous day. A total

of 13,730 passengers were impacted.

Airbus said Friday it discovered that intense solar radiation could corrupt data critical to the functioning of flight controls and "a significant number" of A320 aircraft could be impacted.

The software problem affected 6,000 jets worldwide, according to media reports. — Kyodo

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Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MSC ANDREA F VOY.NO. (SB547A)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **1-12-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Phone No: **2301185**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A

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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 THURIYA SANDAR WIN COMPANY LIMITED

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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:

(ONE) OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS LINE

ROLLING UPDATES
WORLD

After call for Christian unity, pope leaves Türkiye for Lebanon

The two-nation tour is the first major international test for the first American pope.



Pope Leo XIV has wrapped up a four-day trip to Türkiye where he won a warm welcome from its tiny Christian community. PHOTO: AFP

POPE Leo XIV headed to Lebanon on Sunday with a message of peace for the crisis-hit nation after wrapping up a four-day trip to Türkiye’s tiny Christian community that focused on unity within the Church.

Ending the first part of his maiden overseas tour since being elected

leader of the world’s 1.4 billion Catholics, Leo boarded the papal plane which left Istanbul for Beirut, where he was expected to arrive around 3:45 pm (1345 GMT).

The two-nation tour is the first major international test for the first American pope, who was elected in

May and whose understated style contrasts with that of his charismatic and impulsive predecessor, Francis.

Although Leo’s visit drew little attention in Türkiye, a Muslim-majority nation whose Christian community numbers only around 100,000, his 48-hour stopover is eagerly awaited in Lebanon, a religiously diverse country of 5.8 million inhabitants.

Since 2019, Lebanon has been ravaged by crises, including an economic collapse, a devastating port blast in Beirut in 2020 and the recent war with Israel, with Leo expected to bring a message of peace to the multi-faith country, whose last papal visitor was Benedict XVI in 2012.

In Türkiye, Leo’s visit was firmly focused on calls for greater unity among different branches of the Church.

He was the fifth pontiff to visit Türkiye after Paul VI in 1967, John Paul II in 1979, Benedict XVI in 2006 and Francis in 2014 and began his trip on Thursday by holding talks with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. — AFP

Kazakhstan protests attack on Caspian Pipeline Consortium

KAZAKHSTAN has expressed its protest against “a deliberate attack” on the critical infrastructure of the international Caspian Pipeline Consortium in the waters of Russia’s port city of Novorossiysk, the country’s Foreign Ministry said on Sunday.

“We emphasize that the Caspian Pipeline Consortium plays an important role in supporting the stability of the global energy system,” the ministry said in a statement. “We view what has occurred as an action harming the bilateral relations between the Republic of Kazakhstan and Ukraine, and we expect the Ukrainian side to take effective measures to prevent similar incidents in the future.”

The marine infrastructure facilities of the Caspian Pipeline Consortium near Novorossiysk were attacked by unmanned surface vessels on Saturday morning, causing significant damage to a single-point mooring unit, which has been taken offline until repair and restoration works are completed. — Xinhua

Pilot killed after reported mid-air collision in Australia

TWO light planes reportedly collided mid-air during a formation flight over Sydney’s outskirts on Sunday, sending one of them crashing to the ground and killing its solo pilot, authorities said.

Responders found the pilot’s body in bushland near the airport in Wedderburn, a southwestern suburb of Sydney, New South Wales state police said.

“Police were told two light planes had collided mid-air, before one of the planes crashed nearby in bushland,” they said in a statement. — AFP

Venezuela denounces US ‘aggression’ after Trump’s post concerning its airspace

THE Venezuelan government on Saturday denounced the US threat that “seeks to affect the sovereignty of its airspace,” calling it “another extravagant, illegal and unjustified aggression against the Venezuelan people.”

In an official statement, Caracas rejected Washington’s attempt to apply extraterritorial jurisdiction to Venezuela, saying the US move threatens Venezuela’s national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Amid heightening tensions between the two countries, US President Donald Trump said earlier on Saturday that the airspace above and surrounding Venezuela should be considered closed “in its entirety.”

“To all Airlines, Pilots, Drug Dealers, and Human Traffickers, please consider THE AIRSPACE ABOVE AND SURROUNDING VENEZUELA TO BE CLOSED IN ITS ENTIRETY,”



This handout picture released by Venezuela’s Defence Ministry shows Venezuela’s Defense Minister Vladimir Padrino Lopez (right) observing a soldier holding an Igla-S portable surface-to-air missile system during a training exercise in Caracas on 11 November 2025. PHOTO: HANDOUT / VENEZUELA’S DEFENSE MINISTRY VIA AFP

Trump wrote in a post on Truth Social without elaboration.

The US move amounts to an explicit threat of the use of force, prohibited under the UN Charter, the statement said. — Xinhua

Four killed, 10 wounded in California shooting: US police

FOUR people were killed and 10 wounded in a shooting in California on Saturday night, US police said, calling it a “targeted incident”.

“Approximately 14 individuals were struck by gunfire, and four victims have been confirmed deceased,” San Joaquin County Sheriff’s office said on social media, adding that information about the shooting in Stockton was limited. — AFP

SPORTS

Myanmar U17 book 2026 Asian Cup spot



Tens of thousands of spectators encourage Myanmar U17 squad which was playing with Syrian opponent at Thuwunna Stadium yesterday while the Myanmar player was scoring a goal into the net of Syria. **PHOTO: HTUN HTUN/ SOE NYUNT THAW**

MYANMAR U17 turned a long-held dream into reality at Thuwunna Youth Training Centre yesterday, sealing their place at the 2026 AFC U17 Asian Cup after earning the single point they needed in the final Group G match. The 4 pm kick-off drew a passionate home crowd and delivered a Myanmar football history.

Knowing a draw was enough but refusing to sit back, Myanmar made bold changes to their starting XI and opened the match on the front foot. The aggressive approach paid off early. After only ten minutes, Nyi Nyi Thant rose to meet a cross and

steered in a powerful header for the breakthrough goal, sending the stadium into celebration.

Syria struck back five minutes later when Ahmad curled in the equalizer, injecting intensity into the match. A few Myanmar players showed nerves, but the team's collective structure remained strong, allowing them to regain momentum. In the 34th minute, Arnt Htoo Paing found the decisive touch to restore Myanmar's lead at 2-1 and tilt the match back in their favour.

Team Myanmar controlled long stretches of the first half and protected their advantage until late in the game. Syria's

Odey pulled the score level at 2-2 in the 85th minute, but Myanmar kept their composure, managed the closing minutes, and secured the point that sealed qualification.

Myanmar finished Group G with four matches played, three wins and one draw without losses collecting ten points and topping the group. Despite being drawn with strong Middle East teams, Myanmar delivered their most balanced campaign in years, beating Afghanistan 3-1, overpowering Nepal 4-0, shutting down Oman 2-0 and finally earning a crucial draw against Syria.

U Thaung Win, a Myanmar football supporter who watched the match said, "Syria were pushing hard today because they needed a clean-sheet win after gaining an extra rest day. Their loss to Oman happened because they were reduced to ten men. Myanmar were the stronger side in the first half, but two key players were injured, so the team had to struggle in the second half. They deserve praise for holding on to the result".

With ten points, Myanmar officially qualified for the 2026 AFC U17 Asian Cup, which will be hosted in Saudi Arabia. In recognition of the historic achieve-

ment, Acting President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Chairman of the State Security and Peace Commission Senior General Min Aung Hlaing granted K100 million as a reward to the Myanmar U17 squad.

Teams already qualified for the 2026 AFC U17 Asian Cup now include Saudi Arabia (hosts, 2025 runners-up), Qatar (U-17 World Cup hosts), Uzbekistan (2025 champions), South Korea and North Korea (2025 semi-finalists), Japan, Indonesia, UAE and Tajikistan (2025 quarter-finalists), and Myanmar (winners of Group G). — Ko Nyi Lay/Htun Htun/MNA/KZL

Messi, Miami into first MLS Cup final after New York rout



Inter Miami celebrate after booking their place in the MLS Cup final with a 5-1 rout of New York City FC. **PHOTO: AFP**

INTER Miami coach Javier Mascherano hailed Lionel Messi as "extraordinary" after the Argentine superstar steered the club into their first MLS Cup final with a 5-1 thrashing of

New York City FC on Saturday. A Tadeo Allende hat-trick and goals from Mateo Silveti and Telasco Segovia sent a revitalised Miami roaring into Major League Soccer's cham-

pionship game next Saturday at their home field in Fort Lauderdale.

While Messi did not get on the scoresheet, the 38-year-old provided a crucial, classy assist for Miami's third goal scored by Silveti that effectively killed off the game as New York chased an equaliser.

"Leo has accustomed us to the extraordinary," Mascherano said of his former Barcelona and Argentina team-mate.

"He's someone extraordinary, someone we'll never see again. Today, perhaps we're surprised that he didn't score, but he gave us peace of mind with the third goal, an assist that only he can see. He practically sealed the game". — AFP

Spain's Puig wins Australian PGA for first DP World Tour title

NERVELESS young Spaniard David Puig on Sunday became the first European to win the Australian PGA Championship since 1998, holding off a chasing pack led by China's Ding Wenyi to claim a maiden DP World Tour title.

LIV Golf's Puig went into the final day at Royal Queensland Golf Club in Brisbane as joint leader, but asserted himself early and proved unflappable at the European-based circuit's 2026 season-opening event. — AFP



Spain's David Puig won his first DP Wold Tour title at the Australian PGA Championship. **PHOTO: AFP**



Ukraine should become ‘buffer state’ between Russia, NATO after conflict : Orban

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban reportedly stated that the only long-term solution to the war is for Ukraine to become a buffer state between Russia and NATO, which would necessitate ceding territory to Russia.

ORBAN believes this arrangement would restore the military balance he argues was disrupted by mutual accusations between NATO and Russia regarding Ukraine’s integration.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban said that the only long-term solution for Ukraine is to be a “buffer state” between Russia and NATO.

“The only possible long-term solution is for the post-war order to be founded on the underlying principle that Ukraine becomes the buffer state that it once was.

Russia retains the territory agreed upon at an international peace confer-

ence, and everything to the west of this line - all the way to NATO’s eastern border - comprises the territory of Ukraine, which will once again become a buffer state,” Orban told the Welt am Sonntag newspaper on Friday.

Russia and NATO must agree on the manpower and equipment of the Ukrainian armed forces that are allowed to operate in the buffer zone, and both would have to guarantee that “no one will subjugate this buffer state to their power”, Orban added.

“This is a matter for discussion, and international law provides the tools to create such a system of guarantees,” he said.



Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

On Friday, Orban said that talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin had been successful, as the meeting earlier in the day had secured Hungary’s energy supply. The talks in the Kremlin lasted for almost four hours. — SPUTNIK

Digital technologies fuel global smart energy development



The 7.5 MW facility is Sinopec’s largest floating PV system to date, integrating an existing pile-based floating plant. It is located in a sea-connected area and is designed to be fully operational in a seawater environment. PHOTO: SINOPEC

DIGITAL technologies are profoundly reshaping the energy industry, driving the global energy system toward greater efficiency, sustainability and intelligence, experts said at the World Internet of Things Convention (WIOTC) 2025, which runs from 28 to 29 November in Beijing.

The digital energy revolution has become a core engine for upgrading the energy digital economy, said He Qiang, vice chairman of the 2025 WIOTC

executive committee, during the smart energy forum.

He noted that big data brings transparency to energy system operations, while artificial intelligence (AI) provides the system with cognitive and decision-making capabilities. Additionally, blockchain technology creates a trusted foundation for distributed energy transactions. All of these technologies are interconnected through the Internet of Things (IoT), forming an integrated

digital ecosystem.

This transformation is now unfolding on a global scale.

Wang Yongjie, director of the Energy Working Committee of the China Information Association, observed that technology convergence is making energy monitoring in remote areas possible — as demonstrated by smart microgrid projects in Southeast Asia that provide renewable power while also boosting Chinese equipment exports. — Xinhua

Türkiye’s unmanned fighter jet completes 1st beyond-visual-range air-to-air strike

TÜRKIYE’S first unmanned fighter jet successfully shot down a jet-powered aerial target in a Black Sea test using a beyond-visual-range (BVR) air-to-air missile, its producer Baykar announced Sunday.

Bayraktar Kizilelma, the unmanned fighter jet, carried out the test off the coast of Sinop province, said Baykar, a leading Turkish defence and aerospace company, in a statement on social media.

The state broadcaster TRT reported that the test involved five F-16 fighter jets that took off from Merzifon’s 5th Main Jet Base and joined Kizilelma over Sinop. Flying together in a five-ship formation, Kizilelma showcased cooperative operations between manned and unmanned aircraft. — Xinhua