

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.

Myanmar rice exports top 1.2M tonnes worth US\$408M in H1 2025-2026 FY

Myanmar’s rice export in the first half of the current financial year 2025-2026, beginning 1 April, reached over 1.2 million tonnes, according to the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

Myanmar shipped 142,788 tonnes in April, over 529,500 tonnes in May, 212,415 tonnes in June, 230,671 tonnes in July, 192,984 tonnes in August and 168,045 tonnes in September, totalling 1.2 million tonnes worth around US\$408 million.

Myanmar mostly relies on sea trade for rice export.

The federation aims to achieve three million tonnes of rice exports in the current FY.

Myanmar bagged over US\$1.129 billion from 2.48 million tonnes of whole and broken rice exports in the financial year 2024-2025 (1 April 2024-31 March 2025).

Ministry of Commerce is working together with the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar Rice Federation, Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Maize and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association, Myanmar

Myanmar earned over US\$1.129 billion from the export of 2.48 million tonnes of rice and broken rice during the 2024-2025 financial year (1 April to 31 March).



Export rice bags are pictured being loaded onto the overseas-bound merchant vessel at Yangon Port.

Garment Manufacturers Association, Myanmar Industries Association, Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association, Myanmar Fisheries Products Processors and Exporters Association to meet monthly export targets and facilitate exports. — NN/KK

NATIONAL PAGE 7



Kyetmauktaung Dam overflow blocks sections of Kyaukpadaung-Meiktila road

NATIONAL PAGE 10




Free tents provided for pilgrims at Taungpula Pagoda, PyinOoLwin

OPINION

Apply the advancement of space technology to Myanmar society


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.



WORLD TEACHERS' DAY 2025

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Hotels fully booked in Bagan for Thadingyut

HOTEL rooms in Bagan are already fully booked for the upcoming Thadingyut holidays. The Bagan ancient cultural zone will host visitors starting from the opening season with the Aha festival at Mount Popa to the Thadingyut festival, and all the hotel rooms are fully booked for the full moon day of Thadingyut and one day in advance of the full moon day, especially from 4 to 7 October.

“Bagan is the heart of Myanmar, and both local and foreign travellers visit there.

This year, we see the arrivals of travellers starting from the Mount Popa Aha festival. All the hotel room reservations were made from 4 to 7 October, and all the rooms are fully booked for 5 and 6 October. Bagan cultural zone is a peaceful region, and we expect higher numbers of visitors this year. The hotels also offer the best services to the travellers,” said U Moe Wai, from Bagan Apartment 8 Guest-house.

All the hotel, motel and guesthouse rooms in Bagan are fully booked during the Thadingyut festival, and the monasteries are also packed with travellers. The

locals prepare to have a good trade as they expect higher numbers of travellers. There are 3,822 temples, stupas and religious buildings in Bagan, and 15 pagodas in Tantkyi Hill area, totalling 3,837 pagodas. The traveller mostly visit 18 famous sites. There are 135 hotels and guesthouses, and 75 municipal guesthouses in the Bagan Ancient Cultural Heritage Zone. — Thitsa (MNA)/KTZH



PHOTO: KANU

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)

Successive governments strive to boost industrial productivity and development

PRIME Minister U Nyo Saw, who chairs the Industry and Industrial Zone Development Central Committee, delivered a speech at the Central Committee meeting 1/2025 yesterday at the Ministry of Industry.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said: Myanmar possesses abundant natural resources as well as young human resources. As different forms of economies are changing in the world, Myanmar needs to strive for the production of value-added products from agricultural raw materials.

As production is pivotal in the development of the State, governments in successive eras have been striving to enhance the productivity of the State and develop the industrial sector. Currently, the government is encouraging the industrial sector in accord with the motto: Let us encourage production for the prosperity of the Nation.

It is necessary to assist in setting the standards and quality of domestically produced goods by encouraging the use of modern technology for boosting



Prime Minister U Nyo Saw addresses the 1/2025 meeting of the Industry and Industrial Zone Development Central Committee yesterday.

production, supporting functions of quality control, research and innovation. Moreover, emphasis must be placed on the development of human resources by improving the vocational education system, conducting on-the-job capacity building courses, ensuring worksite safety for workers, and granting suitable salaries and wages for workers as part of enhancing the working spirit and

productivity of workers. A total of 28 industrial zones and five industrial wards are being operated, while two industrial zones are underway across the nation. Upgrading industrial zones aims to develop the industrial sector of the State. The State and relevant organizations have to make utmost efforts for the implementation of policies supporting the promotion of pro-

ductivity, and creation of investment opportunities and market linkages. As it is necessary to prioritize greening in the establishment of industrial zones and treatment of wastes, industrial zones and industrial entrepreneurs have to strictly abide by laws, rules, orders and directives not to harm the environment. The production sector of

the State depends on the development of industrial zones. It is important for the systematic implementation of new industrial zones and the improvement of already-established industrial zones. Relevant region and state governments have to supervise the emergence of advanced industrial zones.

The member of the Central Committee who is the deputy minister for Finance and Revenue read the letters. The Union Minister for Industry explained the history of industrial zones in Myanmar, the formation of committees, and efforts to develop the industries. Union ministers, who are also central committee members, and deputy ministers reported on their sectors to successfully undertake the industrial development under the provisions of the industrial zone law and rules.

The meeting ended with remarks and coordination by the Prime Minister. The meeting was also attended by Union ministers, deputy ministers, departmental heads and officials. — MNA/TTA

Top websites and web portals to access Military Service Rules

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Office of the State Administration Council
https://sacoffice.gov.mm | 4. Ministry of Information
https://www.moi.gov.mm |
| 2. Ministry of Defence
https://www.mod.gov.mm | 5. Myawady Webportal
https://myawady.net.mm |
| 3. Ministry of Legal Affairs
https://www.mlis.gov.mm | 6. Myanmar National Portal
https://myanmar.gov.mm |

Fuel prices drop as supplies secured for Thadingyut and open season

DOMESTIC fuel prices are also declining due to the stability of the Myanmar kyat and the continuous drop in the foreign exchange rate. In addition, filling stations in major cities and along major roads have been stocking up ahead of the Thadingyut

holiday season. Adequate supplies have been prepared for the upcoming open season to meet demand during the festival period, as well as for transportation, the agricultural sector, industrial zones, and manufacturing industries. — MNA/MKKS

NATIONAL

MoST UM discusses AI development measures in Kazakhstan

UNION Minister for Science and Technology Dr Myo Thein Kyaw attended the first meeting of the Council for Artificial Intelligence Development and the Sixth International Forum “Digital Bridge 2025”: Generative Nation held from 1 to 4 October in Astana, Kazakhstan.

On 1 October, President Mr Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of Kazakhstan made an opening speech at the meeting of the Council for Development of Artificial Intelligence held at the EXPO International Exhibition Centre.

Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Kyaw attended the meeting together with AI and Digital Development Minister of Kazakhstan Mr Zhaslan Madlyev, governmental officials, international guests, experts and business people.

On 2 October, he attended the opening ceremony of the VI International Forum “Digital Bridge 2025”: Generative Nation held at Astana Hub in Astana.

The forum was attended by Kazakhstani President Mr Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Hungarian President Mr Tamas



Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Kyaw discusses bilateral cooperation on science and technology with Kazakhstan's Deputy Minister for AI and Digital Development Mr Kanysh Tuleushin on 3 October 2025.

Sulyok, Heads of Government, Telegram Founder and CEO Mr Pavel Durov and other invitees.

After the opening ceremony, the Union minister observed the galleries.

On 3 October, the Union minister met Deputy Minister

for AI and Digital Development of Kazakhstan Mr Kanysh Tuleushin and discussed bilateral cooperation on science and technology.

The forum aims to transform Kazakhstan into a technologically advanced country

serving as a bridge between Europe and Asia, and during the forum, world leaders, technology innovators, and investors engaged in discussions on digital transformation and regional cooperation in the field of artificial intelligence. — MNA/KTZH

MoFA Deputy Minister meets Belarusian FM, First Deputy FM separately

U Ko Ko Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, who is in Minsk to co-chair the 2nd Round of Myanmar-Belarus Bilateral Consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and Belarus, had a separate meeting with Mr Maxim Ryzhenkov, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus and Mr Sergey Lukashevich, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus. They cordially exchanged views on further promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation



in various sectors, including education, science and technology, sports and tourism. — MNA

Teams arrive in Nay Pyi Taw for 26th Traditional Performing Arts Competitions

THE 26th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (Central Level) will be held in Nay Pyi Taw from 7 to 13 October with great fanfare.

Contestants from various regions and states will take part in the competitions, as administrators, coaches, and performers from Kachin State arrived in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

Similarly, administrators, coaches, and contestants from Chin State and Rakhine State have already arrived, while participants from other regions and states are scheduled to arrive on 4 and 5 October.

The administrators, coaches, and contestants were warmly welcomed by officials and

accommodated at the designated Ywataw camp, where arrangements were made for their convenience.

“Since we learned that the competition would be held, our state has been preparing and training in advance. A total of 82 administrators, coaches, and contestants are participating to represent Rakhine State. We are very grateful to all state leaders and officials for organizing the Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competitions every year, which showcase the unique traditional cultures of all ethnic groups in Myanmar,” said Daw Aye Nilar, the administrator representing Rakhine State. — MNA/MKKS

Global NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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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

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)



Ethnic armed group members, PDFs, return to legal fold

THE government is extending an invitation to those involved in various armed groups, including the PDF, to return to the legal fold. Those who do so are being provided with necessary assistance and support.

A total of 30 members of DPLA, KNDF, PNLO, Karenni National People’s Liberation Front (KNPLF) and PDF, who came to understand and accept the true stance of the State and Tatmadaw, returned to the legal fold together with arms and ammunition yesterday.

These returning members stated that they could no longer accept the terrorist acts committed by the armed groups and PDF, such as forced conscription, threatening, arresting, and killing innocent civilians and civil servants for the benefit of terrorist organizations, planting mines and destroying non-military infrastructure like roads and bridges. They also cited discrimination, internal hierarchical



A ceremony underway yesterday to welcome 30 ethnic armed group members and PDFs returning to the legal fold.

oppression, torture, killings, violence, poor living conditions, and demoralization due to an inability to resist Tatmadaw operations as reasons for leaving. Moreover, they expressed trust in the State

and Tatmadaw’s peace processes and a desire to live peacefully under the law, hoping to contribute back to the State and people whom they had caused losses to. A total of 30 individuals –

12 DPLA members, one KNDF, four PNLO, one KNPLF and 12 PDFs—returned to the legal fold. At the handover ceremony, they returned to the legal fold through nearby Tatmadaw bases and

were accepted by responsible officials, who provided the necessary assistance and support. They were handed over to their parents or guardians at Thanlwin Hall of the Eastern Command yesterday.

The state chief minister and the commander made remarks respectively. Then, those who entered the legal fold presented one AK-47, three M-22, arms and munitions to the officials. The individuals who returned to the legal fold were offered specific cash rewards. They signed the pledge and were handed over to their parents or guardians.

There are still individuals who wish to return to the legal fold. Those who intend to do so are encouraged to promptly contact and report to the nearest Tatmadaw bases or police stations. They will be welcomed and accepted, provided with the necessary assistance and support, and cash rewards for any arms and ammunition. — MNA/KTZH

Security forces carry out cleaning at BEHS 1 in Kyaukme

TATMADAW carried out counter-terrorism measures to ensure the safety and stability of the people and has regained full control of Kyaukme in northern Shan State. Following the recapture of the town, restoration efforts are underway to reopen government offices disrupted by terrorists, repair damaged residential buildings, enable the reopening of schools for children’s education, and ensure the operation of hospitals for health-

care services. As part of these efforts, security forces today conducted cleaning at the No 1 Basic Education High School in Kyaukme. Tasks included trimming bushes inside and outside of the school compound, digging drains to improve water flow, cleaning classrooms, and carrying out other necessary maintenance to create a safe and clean environment for students to study peacefully. In addition, food supplies

donated by the Shan State government – 500 bags of rice, 500 visses of cooking oil, 500 visses of salt, and other provisions – have arrived and will continue to be distributed directly to local people for their daily needs. Security forces are also maintaining territorial security and administrative control in Kyaukme to ensure long-term peace, stability, and socio-economic development for local ethnic communities. — MNA/KZL



This photo shows food supplies donated by the Shan State government arriving for Kyaukme residents.

NATIONAL

MNHRC inspects Kengtung Prison, Shan Yoma Home for the Aged, Vocational Training Centre for Women, and Police Lock-ups

AN Inspection team led by U Paw Lwin Sein, Chairperson of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and U Kyaw Soe, member of the Commission conducted inspection visits to the Shan Yoma Home for the Aged, the Taunggyi Myoma Police Lock-up in Taunggyi Township and the Kengtung Prison, the Kengtung Myoma Police Lock-up, and the Vocational Training Centre for Women (Kengtung) in Kengtung Township, Shan State, from 29 September to 2 October 2025, respectively, under Sections 43 and 44 of the Commission Law.

During the inspection of the Kengtung Prison, the inspection team met prisoners and detainees in their dormitories and enquired into matters relating to their fundamental rights, including an adequate food supply, access to healthcare facilities and referral to external hospitals for treatment depending on illnesses, and provision of sufficient purified drinking water and water for bathing and use, the situation of allowing family visits, the receipt of items issued by the prison and those sent by family members, the provision of physical exercise and sports activities for health and fitness, the right to practise religion in accordance with their faith. The team also inspected the situation of teaching basic literacy and numeracy for the prisoners, and interviews were conducted in



MNHRC Chair U Paw Lwin Sein and Member U Kyaw Soe are pictured during their inspection tours.

relevant ethnic languages such as Shan, Lahu, and Akha. Furthermore, the team enquired whether there were instances of human rights violations or torture by prison officials and fellow inmates and conducted private and confidential interviews with one prisoner who requested to meet separately, and recorded his statement.

The inspection team then inspected various facilities, including the dormitories of prisoners/detainees, the prison hospital, library, family visit area, kitchen, food warehouse, water purifiers, water storage tanks for use/bathing and the cleanliness of internal/external toilets. They also followed up on the implementation status

of previous recommendations. The Commission donated 70 knowledgeable books for prisoners to read and study.

At the Shan Yoma Home for the Aged, the inspection team met the elderly at their dormitories and assessed whether they had access to their fundamental human rights guarantees, including freedom and fairness, and whether they were receiving care as per international standards, based on compassion and respect for human dignity. The inspection team also examined the conditions of the provision of healthcare services, food and nutrition support, access to clean drinking water and household water, freedom of religion and belief, and the

overall hygiene and sanitation standards of dormitories, bathrooms, toilets, and kitchens. The team also enquired about arrangements for recreation and relaxation, the accessibility of pension payments for eligible residents, and the availability of social pension support for those aged 85 and above. The team also enquired about the measures taken for the enjoyment of secular benefits and transcendental merits for the elderly, as well as arrangements for ease in mind and body of the elderly. Moreover, the team extended warm words of encouragement to 22 elderly individuals residing at the facility.

During the inspection of the Vocational Training Centre for

Women (Kengtung), the inspection team inspected the situation of healthcare for the young women trainees, food provision, the conditions of the dormitories, the receipt of citizenship Scrutiny Card, the provision of clean drinking water and household water, the measures taken for their physical and mental developments, the facilitation of formal education, the provision of vocational training, and the situation of ensuring basic human rights such as the right to contact their families, the right to family reintegration, and freedom of religion.

During inspections of the Taunggyi Myoma Police Lock-up and the Kengtung Myoma Police Lock-up, the MNHRC team inspected the conditions of detainees during the remand period, whether any torture occurred while in custody, and whether there were opportunities to meet the family members, as well as the arrangements for food provision during the court appearance period, the disposal of sewage and the overall cleanliness of the facilities, the conditions of meeting with family members and access to legal assistance during the court appearance period.

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

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7 pm Friday 3 October 2025)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is weak to moderate over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

SPECIAL FEATURES: According to the observations at 5:30 pm MST today, the Severe Tropical Storm "MATMO" crossing over the northern part of Philippines is likely continue to move west-northwestwards and may further intensify into Typhoon "MATMO" over the South China Sea on 4 October 2025.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 4 OCTOBER 2025: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Magway, and Lower Sagaing Regions scattered in Yangon, and Mandalay. and Ayeyawady Regions and Kayah, Rakh-

ine, and (northern and eastern) Shan States and fairly widespread in Bago, and Upper Sagaing Regions, Kayin, Chin and Mon States and Widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy fall in Nay Pyi Taw and Bago Region. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, and Ayeyawady Regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and southern Shan States. The area along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied with rain, thunder, lightning and hail may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 6-8 feet off and along

the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Taninthayi Region and Kayin, and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 OCTOBER 2025: Some rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 OCTOBER 2025: One or two rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 OCTOBER 2025: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon Region and isolated in Mandalay Region. — DMH

NATIONAL

Agro-based industrial nation requires agricultural and livestock raw materials, electricity and energy

❖ In building an agro-based industrial nation like ours, agricultural and livestock raw materials are of primary importance, while electricity and energy are also critical input factors.

(An excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council, Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, at the opening ceremony of the Myanmar Foodstuff Development Forum (2025) on 19 February 2025)

CBM pumps over US\$3.2M into fuel oil, edible oil sector

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) sold over US\$2.6 million to edible oil-importing companies and \$656,270 to fuel oil-importing companies on 2 October, in addition to an injection of over 524,200 yuan into the foreign exchange market.

CBM announced on 2 October that it would sell \$25 million to fuel oil entrepreneurs.

CBM sold \$1.8M to edible oil-importing companies and \$366.000 to fuel oil-importing companies on 30 September.

CBM sold over \$712,900 to edible oil-importing companies and \$472,100 to fuel oil-importing companies on 29 September from CBM's foreign reserve purchased from the CMP companies after the injection of \$25,230 to the foreign exchange market.

CBM sold over \$943,600 to edible oil-importing companies and \$622,500 to fuel oil-importing companies after sales of over 627,500 yuan on 26 September.

CBM sold \$826,100 to edible oil-importing companies and over \$534,700 to fuel oil-importing companies on 25 September.

CBM sold over \$1 million, 11 million yuan and four



A vehicle is seen refuelling at the petrol station in downtown Yangon.

million baht in August. Furthermore, CBM also pumped over \$32 million, purchased from the companies working on a Cut, Make, and Pack basis, into the financial market. CBM aims to curb the instability in the foreign exchange market and currency devaluation. According to CBM's notification on 15 March 2024, it has been collaborating with law enforcement agencies to combat and prosecute those who attempt to manipulate the currency market under the existing laws. CBM allowed authorized dealers (private banks) to operate online foreign exchange trading freely as per the market rate, depending on supply and demand, starting from 5 December 2023. — NN/KK

MADB to disburse loans for wheat growers

THE Myanma Agricultural Development Bank (MADB) under the Ministry of Finance and Revenue will offer loans for wheat growers to enhance the productivity of the wheat crop.

MADB will offer agricultural loans of K150,000 per acre for wheat crops through the respective bank branches in districts and townships starting from the upcoming winter growing season, with a five per cent per annum interest rate.

MADB notified wheat farmers to contact the respective bank branch to receive the agricultural loan in time.

MADB has been providing agricultural loans for farmers of 23 crops, including paddy, in each growing season (pre-monsoon, monsoon, winter), in which farmers repay the loan after the harvest time and cooperate with them to enhance the agricultural sector. — NN/KK

Kyetmauktaung Dam overflow blocks sections of Kyaukpadaung-Meiktila road

KYAUKPADAUNG Township, Mandalay Region, has been hit by heavy rains, and flooding from the Kyetmauktaung Dam has affected the Kyaukpadaung-Meiktila Road, according to the Kyaukpadaung Township Fire Services Department.

On the afternoon of 2 October, after receiving reports that the water level at the Kyetmauktaung Dam had risen due to heavy rains, flooding occurred on the Kyaukpadaung-Meiktila Road. The Kyaukpadaung Township Fire Services Department, in collaboration with search and rescue teams and relevant organizations, assisted vehicles in travelling safely.

On 1 October, the dam also caused flooding on the Kyaukpadaung-Meiktila Road between

mileposts 51/4 and 51/7, forcing officials to temporarily close the road to prevent danger to travellers.

“The Kyetmauktaung Dam near Magyitain village in Kyaukpadaung has reached full capacity and is overflowing, so the Kyaukpadaung-Meiktila Road has been temporarily closed since the morning of 30 September. Villages downstream of the dam are also being warned to remain cautious,” said a resident.

Similarly, due to the high-water level in the Kyetmauktaung Dam, some parts of the Meiktila-Bagan Road have also been flooded in recent days, making travel difficult.

“From Bagan to NyaungU, and from Yangon to Mandalay,



This photo captures firefighters assisting at the flooded Kyaukpadaung-Meiktila Road.

travellers have to go through the Theegon and Meiktila junction, then take the Mondaing-Let-panpya-Kyaukpadaung-Bagan-NyaungU route. Most of the other junctions are inconvenient, so this is the only practical way,” said an official from a transport company. — Htun Htun/MKKS

OPINION

Apply the advancement of space technology to Myanmar society

THE UN General Assembly on 6 December 1999 proclaimed World Space Week with the aim of celebrating the contribution of space science and technology to the betterment of human society. This year, World Space Week is set from 4 to 10 October.

Thanks to advancements in science and technology, including space technology, humans can broaden their knowledge and ambitions, exploring the possibilities of expanding habitable areas. Powerful nations compete in space exploration to study living and non-living entities in the universe and to seek ways to establish strategic footholds in space.

World Space Week will serve as a catalyst to accelerate Myanmar's efforts in studying space technology and applying it for the benefit of society, with the aim of improving the socioeconomic life of the people through the peaceful exploration of outer space. In this regard, well-trained youths will become a reliable force for the advancement of space technology in Myanmar.

toward making space a habitat, emphasizing the innovative technologies, challenges, and collaborative efforts that make this vision a reality with sustainable human presence on the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

During the visit to Russia, the Head of State of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Director General of "Roscosmos" held discussions on matters related to enhancing space technology cooperation between Myanmar and the Russian Federation. Discussions covered the development of human resources in space technology, cooperation in the peaceful exploration and utilization of outer space, satellite launching projects that could bring benefits to Myanmar and its people, and the dispatch of scholarship students in space technology and related fields.

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Building Words, Building Meaning: A Learner's Guide to English Prefixes (ရှေ့တော်ပြေးစကားလုံးများ) and Suffixes (နောက်တော်ပါစကားလုံးများ)

UNLOCKING the English Language: The Power of Prefixes and Suffixes

In the journey of mastering English, one of the most empowering tools for learners is the ability to decode and construct words through prefixes and suffixes. These small but mighty components – added to the beginning or end of a root word – can dramatically alter meaning, tone, and grammatical function. For those who write, translate, or teach English, understanding these elements is not just academic; it's essential.

Prefixes like anti-, pre-, sub-, and inter- can shift a word's direction, time, or stance. Consider how democracy becomes anti-democracy, or how view transforms into preview. Each prefix adds nuance, often with political, social, or temporal implications – making them especially useful in journalistic writing. Suffixes, on the other hand, such as -ness, -tion, -able, and -ize, help shape a word's role in a sentence.

Each year, a theme is selected by the World Space Week Association Board of Directors in close coordination with the UN Office of Outer Space Affairs. The theme provides broad guidance to World Space Week participants on the content of their programmes. The theme is selected to increase the impact of World Space Week further on all of humanity by using a uniform theme globally.

For World Space Week 2025, the chosen theme is "Living in Space." This theme explores humanity's journey toward making space a habitat, emphasizing the innovative technologies, challenges, and collaborative efforts that make this vision a reality with sustainable human presence on the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

During the visit to Russia, the Head of State of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Director General of "Roscosmos" held discussions on matters related to enhancing space technology cooperation between Myanmar and the Russian Federation. Discussions covered the development of human resources in space technology, cooperation in the peaceful exploration and utilization of outer space, satellite launching projects that could bring benefits to Myanmar and its people, and the dispatch of scholarship students in space technology and related fields.

World Space Week will serve as a catalyst to accelerate Myanmar's efforts in studying space technology and applying it for the benefit of society, with the aim of improving the socioeconomic life of the people through the peaceful exploration of outer space. In this regard, well-trained youths will become a reliable force for the advancement of space technology in Myanmar.

English, this system may feel unfamiliar at first, but it offers a powerful shortcut to vocabulary expansion. Once you grasp the logic behind these affixes, you'll find yourself recognizing patterns, predicting meanings, and even crafting new words with confidence. In editorial contexts, where precision and brevity matter, this skill becomes invaluable.

This article explores the world of prefixes in depth, with suffixes to follow in the next section. Through examples, comparisons, and practical usage – especially in journalese English – you'll discover how these linguistic building blocks can elevate your writing and deepen your understanding of the language.

Prefixes: The Power of Word Beginnings in English

In English language learning, understanding prefixes – the small word parts added to the beginning of root words – can unlock a

whole new dimension. Interestingly, some base words themselves can function like prefixes when combined with other words. These are better classified as compounds rather than true prefix constructions. For example, no and where combine to form nowhere, while half and baked yield halfbaked. Similarly, under and done become underdone, and over with shoot gives overshoot. These compound words often carry idiomatic or figurative meanings, which are especially useful in editorial writing and commentary.

Historically, compound words formed with prefixes were often hyphenated – co-operate, re-enter, pre-existing. However, modern usage trends favour closed

forms like cooperate, reenter, and preexisting, reflecting a shift towards efficiency and streamlined style. This evolution is particularly evident in journalese, where space and clarity are paramount.

For learners and writers alike, mastering prefixes offers a shortcut to expanding vocabulary. It enables the generation of multiple related terms from a single root, thereby enhancing both comprehension and expression. Prefixes like a-, un-, pre-, inter-, and sub- are commonly used in journalistic English to convey time, position, contrast, or emphasis. For instance, preemptive strike, substandard conditions, and unprecedented growth are phrases frequently found in news reports and editorials.

The list of prefixes is extensive and versatile. Prefixes such as bi- (meaning two), semi- (half), extra- (outside), and meta- (change) appear in words like bi-weekly, semifinal, extraordinary, and metaphor. Each prefix adds a layer of meaning that helps readers grasp context quickly – a key trait of journalese writing, which values brevity and precision. In interestingly, some base words themselves can function like prefixes when combined with other words. These are better classified as compounds rather than true prefix constructions. For example, no and where combine to form nowhere, while half and baked yield halfbaked. Similarly, under and done become underdone, and over with shoot gives overshoot. These compound words often carry idiomatic or figurative meanings, which are especially useful in editorial writing and commentary.

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forms like cooperate, reenter, and preexisting, reflecting a shift towards efficiency and streamlined style. This evolution is particularly evident in journalese, where space and clarity are paramount.

For language learners aiming to write with journalistic flair, prefixes are more than grammatical tools; they're instruments of tone, precision, and persuasion. By studying how prefixes alter meaning and how they appear in real-world contexts, learners can elevate their writing from textbook English to newsroom-ready prose.

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Suffixes: The Art of Word Endings in English

Just as prefixes shape meaning from the front, suffixes transform words from the back, altering their grammatical role, tone, and nuance. In English, suffixes are essential tools for learners and writers alike, especially those navigating editorial or journalistic contexts. By attaching a suffix to a root word, one can turn verbs into nouns, adjectives into adverbs, or abstract ideas into concrete expressions. This flexibility is what makes suffixes so powerful in crafting precise, impactful language.

For example, the root colony can evolve into colonial, colonialism, colonialist, and colonize, each carrying a distinct meaning and tone. Similarly, controvert becomes controversy and controversial, shifting from action to concept to description. These transformations are not just grammatical; they're stylistic. In journalese English, suffixes help compress meaning and sharpen clarity. Headlines like "Controversial Policy Sparks Debate" or "Colonialist Legacy Reexamined" rely on suffixes to convey complex ideas succinctly.

Suffixes such as -able, -ible, -ous, and -ive turn verbs and nouns into adjectives that describe tendencies, qualities, or conditions. Words like visible, terrible, audacious, and effusive are common in news reporting and commentary, where tone and precision matter. Others like -ation,

-ment, and -ship form abstract nouns – foundation, government, leadership – frequently used in political analysis and institutional coverage.

In journalistic writing, suffixes also help express agency and action. The suffix -er denotes a doer – leader, follower, reporter – while -ize turns concepts into actions: modernize, criticize, prioritize. These are especially useful in headlines and leads, where verbs drive the narrative. For instance, "Government Prioritizes Education Reform" is more direct and dynamic than "Education Reform is a Priority".

Some suffixes signal formality or technicality, such as -ology (study of), -cracy (rule), and -phobia (fear of), which appear in analytical pieces or academic reporting. Others like -ish, -like, and -wise add shades of resemblance or manner – childish, god-like, lengthwise – often used in descriptive writing or human-interest stories.

Understanding suffixes also enables learners to decode complex words. Take reinsurance, for example. It combines the root sure (certainty), the prefix in- (into), and the suffix -ance (action), with re- (again) added to indicate repetition, resulting in "the act of insuring again". Similarly, malapropism blends mal- (wrong), apropos (appropriate), and -ism (ideology), forming a term that describes the humorous misuse of words. And then there's antidisestablishmentarianism, a famously long word that layers multiple affixes to express opposition to the withdrawal of state support for an established church.

Such words may seem intimidating at first, but once learners grasp the building blocks – prefixes, suffixes, and root words – they gain the ability to predict meanings, analyze structure, and use language with greater confidence. In editorial writing, where clarity and nuance are paramount, this skill becomes indispensable.

Ultimately, suffixes are not

By Mingalajii

just grammatical endings; they're gateways to expression. For Myanmar learners of English, mastering them means stepping into a richer, more precise world of communication, whether writing a headline, translating a speech, or crafting an opinion piece.

Concluding Section

Language is not just a tool for communication; it's a system of patterns, logic, and creativity. For learners of English, especially those coming from Burmese linguistic backgrounds, understanding prefixes and suffixes is like unlocking the blueprint of vocabulary. These affixes don't merely decorate words; they define them, redirect them, and sometimes

even reshape entire ideas.

From prodemocracy to anti-democracy, from colonialism to colonialist, and from reinsurance to malapropism, each word tells a story – not just of meaning, but of structure. Journalistic English thrives on such precision. Headlines, editorials, and reports often rely on affix-rich vocabulary to convey complex ideas in compact form. A phrase like "Unprecedented disapproval of post-election policies" packs multiple affixes into a single sentence, each contributing to tone, clarity, and impact.

By mastering these building blocks, learners gain more than vocabulary; they gain insight. They begin to see how words

evolve, how meanings shift, and how language adapts to context. Whether writing a news brief, translating a speech, or crafting an op-ed, the ability to manipulate prefixes and suffixes empowers writers to express themselves with nuance and authority.

In the end, learning English affixes is not just about memorizing lists – it's about recognizing patterns, predicting meaning, and participating in the living, breathing world of language. And for those who write under the pen name Mingalajii, it's about helping others find their voice – one word at a time.

(Adapted with reference to "Translator's Reference – A Collection of Four Volumes - ဘာသာပြန်ရည်ညွှန်း - လေးတွဲပေါင်းချုပ်" by Sate Kuu Cho Cho Publishing House)

မင်းအိမ်

Your Home

မကောင်းမင့်အိမ်၊ ကောင်းမင့်အိမ်တည့်
မင်းအိမ်ရှိ၊ အမိုးယိုသော်
မပြိုသင့်ပါ၊ မင်းတက်ဖာပေါ်
အကာအခင်း၊ ပျက်ယိုလွင်းသော်
မငြင်းစေချင်၊ မင်းဆက်ပြင်ပေါ်
အခွင်အနံ့၊ အခွံအစောင်း
မကောင်းမပြော ဟောင်းထွေထွေကို
အခြေနှင့်မျှ၊ ဉာဏ်ဖြင့်ဆ၍
လုံ့လသက်သွင်း၊ သစ်စေမင်း။

Whether good or evil, it's just your home.
When soaked, the leaking roof is with,
Without any nuisance, you only climb and mend it.
When the wall and floor are broken,
Without any rejection, you only continue repairing them.
Even though it is crooked and tilted
In the ruins and inconveniences of old age,
Under the circumstances, in your wisdom,
You make perseverance lively again.

ဇော်ဂျီ

Hu Wo (Cuckoo's Song)



NATIONAL

Fourth prosthetic fitting station opens in Yangon to serve over 600 people

ON 2 October, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the fourth prosthetic fitting centre was opened in Yangon, which will provide free prosthetic fitting to more than 600 people within six weeks.

The opening ceremony, organized by the Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS) and the U Nu + Daw Mya Yi Foundation (UNDMYF), was held on 2 October at the Pitaka Nikaya Monastery, and was attended by more than 100 guests including Indian Ambassador Abhay Thakur, Myanmar-India Friendship Association Chair U Win Myint, Director General Dr Min Thein from the Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Ministry, civil society



Documentary photos of the fourth prosthetic fitting station opening ceremony.

organizations, officials, and Indian diaspora.

Following the reciting of prayers by Tipitakadhara Sayadaw Bhaddanta Silakhanda Bhivamsa, Ambassador Shri Abhay Thakur, BMVSS Chair (Former Ambassador) Satish C. Mehta

and UNDMYF founder Daw Than Than Nu delivered speeches, and a BMVSS video clip was shown.

Prosthetic limbs were fitted to six people, the attendees were given a tour of the workshop, and a meeting with seven BMVSS special-

ists with more than 15 years of experience was held.

The prosthetic assembly station is funded by the Ministry of External Affairs of India under the 'India for Humanity' initiative and is operated by BMVSS. Established in 1975, BMVSS has helped millions of people in need in India and around the world. BMVSS and UNDMYF have already opened three prosthetic stations, benefiting nearly 1,500 people in Myanmar.

The prosthesis installation station also represents one of the most important humanitarian assistances within the framework of the comprehensive development cooperation between Myanmar and India. — MT/ZN



Painter U Lun Kywe and his artworks.

Renowned painter Dr U Lun Kywe passes away at 96

FAMOUS veteran painter Dr U Lun Kywe passed away on 2 October at the age of 96 due to old-age-related illness, according to a family member. "He passed away at 7 am this morning. It was due to old-age illness," a family member said. In accordance with his wish, the funeral was held the same day at Yayway Cemetery.

Painter Tin Tun expressed sorrow, saying, "U Lun Kywe passed away on 2 October 2025 at the age of 96. This is a tremendous loss for Myanmar's art world. His artistic philosophy is highly admirable, and I am sure his noble spirit will rest in peace."

Born on 24 October 1930 in Yangon, U Lun Kywe studied under prominent Myanmar painters such as U Thein Han, U Thet Win, U San Win and U Chit Maung. He graduated in painting from the State School of Fine Arts in 1954. He later taught at the State School of Fine Arts and became a direct pupil of U Thein Han, learning oil painting and Western art techniques. He also studied under painters U Thaung Han and U Ba Yin Lay. From 1960 to 1979, he taught at Yangon University's Painting Association and served as principal of the State School of Fine Arts. In 1964, he studied oriental painting for one year in China, and in 1971, he visited East Germany and other European countries to deepen his knowledge of Western painting.

His works became highly popular among international art dealers, and to this day, U Lun Kywe remains one of the most successful Myanmar painters in international art auctions. His paintings have been collected by major institutions such as the Singapore Art Museum and the National Art Gallery of Malaysia, as well as numerous collectors across the region. His legacy lies not only in his outstanding works but also in his kindness, wide circle of admirers, and the many generations of pupils he nurtured.

Writer Myay Hmone Lwin also expressed grief: "He was beloved by many, mentored countless younger artists, and tirelessly worked for the development of Myanmar painting. His passing is deeply saddening."

Most recently, on 24 September, a special art exhibition titled Living with the Arts 96 was held at Artist Life Art Gallery to commemorate his 95th birthday. At the time of his passing, Dr U Lun Kywe was 96 years old. — Htun Htun/KZL

Free tents provided for pilgrims at Taungpula Pagoda, PyinOoLwin

TENTS are being provided free of charge at Taungpula Pagoda, located in Watwun village-tract, PyinOoLwin Township, for pilgrims who wish to stay overnight, such as those who enjoy resting in nature, said U Kyaw Soe, a trustee member of the pagoda.

Currently, approximately 60 tents accommodating around 80 people have been provided for the Thadingyut period, when visitor numbers are typically high.

"This is dry season, so we have arranged free tents for pilgrims, as of Thadingyut

through the pilgrimage season. The number of visitors arriving is large in the peak season, and they want to sleep like resting in nature, so we have initiated this plan. For now, we have provided two-three-person tents for 50 people and around 30 single-person tents," he said.

The number of pilgrims is large on religious holidays and weekends, and in addition to Yangon and Mandalay, people from nearby towns visit the pagoda. At the pagoda, free meals - breakfast, lunch and dinner have been provid-



This image displays tents provided free for pilgrims at Taungpula.

ed for all visitors.

"You can enjoy the beautiful view of the town from the top of Taungpula hill. You can see pagodas and temples, and you will get a chance to enjoy the sea of clouds in the morning, depending on the weather conditions," U Kyaw

Soe added.

The number of visitors arriving at Taungpula also increased in the 2022-2023 tour season, and they have planned to provide further tents if the number of pilgrims rises this year, he said. — MT/ZS

Japanese jewellery companies invited to 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium

JAPANESE jewellery companies, organizations and entrepreneurs who wish to participate in the 60th Myanmar Gems Emporium may contact the embassy, the Myanmar Embassy to Japan announced.

The 60th edition of the Myanmar Gems Emporium is scheduled to open in the first week of November 2025 at the Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

Myanmar's pearls, gems and jades will be exhibited for

sale at the emporium, and interested Japanese partners may contact the embassy at 03 34419291 and ecosection.me.tokyo@gmail.com for further details, it stated on 1 October.

At the 59th Myanmar

Gems Emporium, held from 3 to 12 May 2024, 4,550 lots, including 400 lots of pearls, 160 pairs of gems, and A, B, and C classes of jade, were sold to domestic and international jewellery dealers through open auctions. — MT/ZN

Brazilian music legend Milton Nascimento has dementia: family

CELEBRATED Brazilian musician Milton Nascimento, 82, whose soaring voice has enchanted fans worldwide, has been diagnosed with dementia, his family said.

The Grammy-winning artist, a contemporary of other Brazilian icons such as Caetano Veloso, Gilberto Gil and Chico Buarque, experienced a “sudden worsening of his cognitive status” earlier this year, his son Augusto Nascimento said in an interview published Thursday by Piaui magazine.

After a series of tests, he was diagnosed with Lewy body dementia, the most common

form of the disease.

Nascimento is being taken care of at his home in Rio de Janeiro.

The singer retired from the stage when he turned 80, but was nominated for a Grammy this year in the category Best Jazz Vocal Album for his collaboration with American singer and bassist Esperanza Spalding.

Spalding took to Instagram to complain that the “living legend” had not been given a seat at her table “among the A-listers” on the ceremony floor, and held up a cutout of his photo. — AFP



Milton Nascimento, who has Lewy body dementia, is being cared for at his home in Rio. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Intl book fair kicks off in Saudi capital

THE Riyadh International Book Fair 2025 opened here on Thursday, bringing together over 2,000 local and international publishing houses from more than 25 countries, along with a range of cultural institutions.

Held under the theme “Riyadh Reads”, the 10-day event is organized by the Saudi Literature, Publishing and Translation Commission. The fair features more than 200 cultural activities, including seminars, lectures, poetry evenings, and workshops attended by prominent writers and intellectuals.

Abdullatif Al-Wasel, CEO of the commission, said the fair aligns with the kingdom’s strategy to enhance its cultural

leadership both regionally and globally. He emphasized the importance of leveraging culture to foster community awareness and drive economic growth in line with Saudi Vision 2030. This year, Uzbekistan is the fair’s guest of honour, presenting its literary heritage through a dedicated pavilion that features manuscripts and a diverse cultural programme celebrating Uzbek artists. More than 10 Chinese publishing houses are participating in this year’s fair with a dedicated China Pavilion under the theme “Reading China,” featuring more than 1,000 titles. The pavilion will host a variety of cultural exchange activities throughout the event. — Xinhua

Adam Sandler reacts to buzz around his first Oscar nomination for ‘Jay Kelly’



‘Jay Kelly’ is the first movie by director Baumbach since 2022’s White Noise and stars Sandler alongside George Clooney, Laura Dern and Billy Crudup. **PHOTO: ANI**

ACTOR Adam Sandler responded to buzz about a potential Oscar nomination for his role in ‘Jay Kelly’, at the movie’s New York City premiere, where he was joined by his wife, Jackie Sandler, and their daughters, Sadie, 19, and Sunny, 16, according to People.

“Well, that’s real cool and

real nice of everybody to say, and I’m just happy I got to be in it,” said Sandler, adding, “My man Noah Baumbach wrote it, kind of put it all together, got the performances he wanted out of everybody, and I’m proud to be in it.”

‘Jay Kelly’ is the first movie by director Baumbach since

The film “follows famous movie actor Jay Kelly (Clooney) and his devoted manager Ron (Sandler) as they embark on a whirlwind and unexpectedly profound journey through Europe,” per a synopsis.

2022’s White Noise and stars Sandler alongside George Clooney, Laura Dern and Billy Crudup.

“Everybody knows Jay Kelly, but Jay Kelly doesn’t know himself,” reads a tagline for the dramedy, shared when Netflix first unveiled its release date and an image of Clooney in the film in May, according to People.

The film “follows famous movie actor Jay Kelly (Clooney) and his devoted manager Ron (Sandler) as they embark on a whirlwind and unexpectedly profound journey through Europe,” per a synopsis. — ANI

Hamilton thanks ‘overwhelming’ response to dog Roscoe’s death

LEWIS Hamilton on Thursday thanked people around the tight-knit Formula One family and beyond for their messages of support following the death of his beloved dog, saying the response had been “quite overwhelming”.

Seven-time Formula One world champion Hamilton said it had been the “hardest decision” of his life to put his 12-year-old bulldog Roscoe to sleep on Sunday after he contracted pneumonia.

Thousands of messages of sympathy from fans, fellow drivers and Formula One teams were posted on social media after Roscoe, a familiar face around the paddock, died in Hamilton’s arms.

“It was quite overwhelming to be honest to see how many



Lewis Hamilton’s dog Roscoe pictured in 2020. **PHOTO: AFP**

people were touched,” Hamilton told reporters at the Marina Bay Circuit ahead of the Singapore Grand Prix on Sunday.

“He was the most important thing in my life, so it was a very

difficult experience.” The British Ferrari driver missed a Formula One tyre test in Italy last week to be with his sick pet, but was back with his team for this week’s Singapore race. — AFP

ECONOMY
WORLD



This file photo taken in May 2023 shows Festo's global production center in Jinan, east China's Shandong Province. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Since entering the Chinese market in 1985, Festo has established its largest global production centre in Jinan, capital of eastern Shandong Province.

IN an automated facility in Shanghai's Chongming District, empty trays glide along a conveyor belt, receiving a layer of soil, a scatter of seeds, and a fine mist of water before being neatly stacked by a robotic arm.

This high-speed, intelligent rice seedling production line, a joint project by German industrial automation company Festo Group and its Chinese partner Hangzhou Fengzhu Agricultural Technology Co

Ltd represents a new frontier where industrial technology is applied to the soil of Chinese agriculture.

"The combination of agriculture and industry creates a new quality productive force that will greatly push forward automation in Chinese farming," said Wu Jianping, general manager of Hangzhou Fengzhu.

By incorporating Festo's sensors, controllers and digital monitoring, the smart pro-

duction line has shortened the seedling process to just 48 hours indoors, boosting the efficiency of seedling supply by more than 10 times.

Since entering the Chinese market in 1985, Festo has established its largest global production centre in Jinan, capital of eastern Shandong Province. Today, the site has evolved into a comprehensive hub for manufacturing, research and development, and logistics. — Xinhua

Singapore's private sector
sees strongest growth in year
as PMI jumps to 56.4

BUSINESS conditions in Singapore's private sector recorded "the sharpest improvement" in a year in September, with the seasonally adjusted Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rising to 56.4 from 51.2 in August, according to a report released Friday by S&P Global.

A PMI reading above 50 signals expansion, while a reading below 50 indicates contraction. The latest figure marks the eighth consecutive month of growth, the report noted.

While widespread US tariffs slowed growth in August, demand rebounded strongly in September;

said Jingyi Pan, economics associate director at S&P Global Market Intelligence. Stronger new business not only fuelled higher activity, but also supported renewed growth in employment, purchasing, and inventory levels, Pan added. "Forward-looking indicators, including new orders, backlogs of work, and future output indices, further point to continued growth into the start of the fourth quarter, which bodes well for the end of the year. However, the sharp intensification of price pressures in September will have to be monitored for any impact on sales," Pan said. — Xinhua

Pakistan's central bank reserves
rise by US\$21 mln

PAKISTAN'S central bank foreign exchange reserves increased by US\$21 million, the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) said Thursday.

During the week ending on 26 September, the banks reserves rose to 14.40 billion dollars, the SBP said in a statement.

Net foreign reserves held by commercial banks were recorded at \$5.40 billion, the SBP added.

With the latest figures, the country's total liquid foreign reserves stood at \$19.80 billion as of 26 September, according to the central bank. — Xinhua

Kenya rallies Africa to create resilient tourism

KENYAN Deputy President Ki-thure Kindiki on Thursday called on African countries to diversify tourism products that are sustainable and resilient to external shocks, including geopolitical uncertainties and stiff competition from other destinations.

Speaking at the 15th edition of the Magical Kenya Travel Expo in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, Kindiki said Africa's tourism market has the potential for sustained growth if supported by an enabling policy and regulatory environment.



ry environment.

Africa has emerged as one of the strongest performing regions in global tourism recovery in 2025, Kindiki noted, adding that the continent must scale up innovations to strengthen the sector's resilience.

"We must do more to tap into this growth and drive performance. We must develop new tourism products and exploit untapped potential in our traditional attractions to spur the sector's growth," Kindiki said.

Kenya is hosting the three-day expo, running until Friday, which has attracted 6,500 delegates from 40 countries, including tourism ministers, city mayors, investors, travel enthusiasts, and promoters. — Xinhua

An exhibitor displays paintings with African characteristics at the 15th edition of the Magical Kenya Travel Expo in Nairobi, Kenya, 2 October 2025. **PHOTO: YANG GUANG/XINHUA**

Global oil demand to rise to 378 mln barrels per day by 2050: OPEC

GLOBAL demand for the primary energy resource of oil is projected to grow 23 per cent, rising from 308 million barrels of oil equivalent per day to 378 million barrels by 2050, according to a report by the Organization of the Pe-

troleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the Kazinform news agency reported Thursday.

Presenting OPEC's outlook on the global oil market at Kazakhstan Energy Week 2025 and the 16th KAZENERGY

Eurasian Forum in Astana, Kazakhstan's capital, Behrooz Baikalizadeh, head of OPEC's Petroleum Studies Department, said the rise in demand will be driven by an expected global population growth from 8.2 billion to 9.7

billion. "By 2050, more than 1.2 billion people will live in cities. Rising costs will also accelerate the economies of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development countries," he said. — Xinhua

First sales centre of China’s car brand Hongqi opens in Slovenian capital

CHINESE car brand Hongqi on Thursday opened its first sales centre in Slovenia, in the capital Ljubljana.

Retired car trader Bozidar Arnsek became the first buyer of a Hongqi HS3 model. “A short test drive of Hongqi convinced me to buy my first Chinese car ever,” he said, adding

that “it is very comfortable, well-equipped and surprisingly good”. Plan-net Avto, Slovenia’s largest retailer of Chinese cars, operates the new center. Its sales director Bojan Tavcar said Hongqi and other Chinese cars are generally 20 to 30 per cent cheaper than European cars, while offering

modern design and long-term warranties.

“The demand for Chinese cars in Slovenia is growing rapidly, with sales tripling this year compared to 2024,” Tavcar noted. He added that Plan-net Avto has long cooperated with Chinese state-owned companies. — Xinhua



Visitors try a Hongqi vehicle at the opening ceremony of its first sales centre in Ljubljana, Slovenia, 2 October 2025. PHOTO: MATEJ PUSNIK/XINHUA

Japan beverage giant Asahi confirms ransomware attack, fears data leakage

MAJOR Japanese beverage maker Asahi Group Holdings Ltd said Friday that it has confirmed a ransomware attack with signs of information leakage, amid a system failure with no timeline for recovery.

Most of the company’s order-taking and shipping operations have been halted since Monday, when the failure occurred, affecting products consigned to Asahi as well as its own product lines and raising fears of stock shortages among retailers.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi said at a regular press



Major Japanese beverage maker Asahi Group Holdings Ltd said Friday that it has confirmed a ransomware attack with signs of information leakage.

PHOTO: ASAHI GROUP

conference, “The relevant ministries and agencies are cooperating to gather information,” in a rare

comment on problems at a private firm by the top government spokesman. — Kyodo

Tesla sued by family of teen killed in Cybertruck crash: reports

THE family of a US college student sued Tesla after she died in a Cybertruck crash last year while allegedly trapped in the vehicle due to its door design, US media reports said.

The American EV

maker has seen tepid demand for the Cybertruck, a futuristic stainless steel vehicle championed by CEO Elon Musk despite a series of recalls since its 2023 release.

Krysta Tsukahara, 19, suffered minor injuries in

a crash in California in November, but later died of burns and smoke inhalation when she was unable to escape the Cybertruck, her parents said in a lawsuit filed on Thursday, the New York Times reported. — AFP

Massive fire erupts at Chevron refinery in Los Angeles

A massive fire broke out Thursday night at a Chevron refinery in El Segundo, Los Angeles County in the US state of California, local media reported.

Firefighters and officers responded after receiving multiple reports of an explosion. The refinery, located at 324 West El Segundo Boulevard, has its own

fire department, which is currently battling the blaze and has so far prevented the flames from spreading to other areas of the facility, said the reports. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SITC RIZHAO VOY.NO. (2520S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SITC RIZHAO VOY.NO. (2520S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **4-10-2025** 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 SITC CONTAINER LINE CO., LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V CLIPPER APOLLONIA VOY.NO. (051)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V CLIPPER APOLLONIA VOY.NO. (051)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **5-10-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **IBTT** 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: **2301928**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S BEN LINE AGENIES (S’PORE) PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ANDREA ENTERPRISE VOY.NO. (20251001)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ANDREA ENTERPRISE VOY.NO. (20251001)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **6-10-2025** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT-2** 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:

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GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS:
WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS



Sarah Mullally appointed
first woman to lead Church
of England

Sarah Mullally has been named the first woman Archbishop of Canterbury, the first female leader in the Church of England's 1,400-year history.

THE Bishop of London, Dame Sarah Mullally, has been named the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury, announced Lambeth Palace, the working and residential hub of the archbishop, on Friday. King Charles III has approved the nomination, making Mullally the first woman to hold the Church of England's most senior clerical office since its establishment in 597 AD. She

will be formally confirmed at St Paul's Cathedral in January and installed at Canterbury Cathedral in March 2026. Born in Woking in 1962, Mullally has led the Diocese of London since 2018, another historic first for a woman. Earlier in her career, she was awarded the title Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire for her contribution to nursing. — Xinhua

Thai PM highlights
sustainable development as
national imperative

THAILAND'S Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul on Friday highlighted sustainable development as a national imperative amid global uncertainties, outlining a vision that balances economic, social, and environmental stability. In a keynote address at the Sustainability Expo 2025, Anutin stressed that sustainability is no longer an option but the nation's "lifeline" for navigating a world grappling with economic volatility, trade competition, geopolitical conflict, and climate change. To be effective, he noted, sustainability must be approached in three key dimen-

sions, encompassing economic resilience, a sustainable environment, and quality of life and social well-being. Anutin emphasized Thailand's unique strategic advantages, citing its geographic position at the heart of the ASEAN region, connected by the East-West Economic Corridor, which positions it as a potential hub for trade and investment. He further pointed to the Southeast Asian country's cultural diversity and religious harmony as key strengths, alongside a resilient political and economic system that has weathered past crises. — Xinhua

Youth from 40 countries
gather in Krasnoyarsk for
Financial Security Olympiad

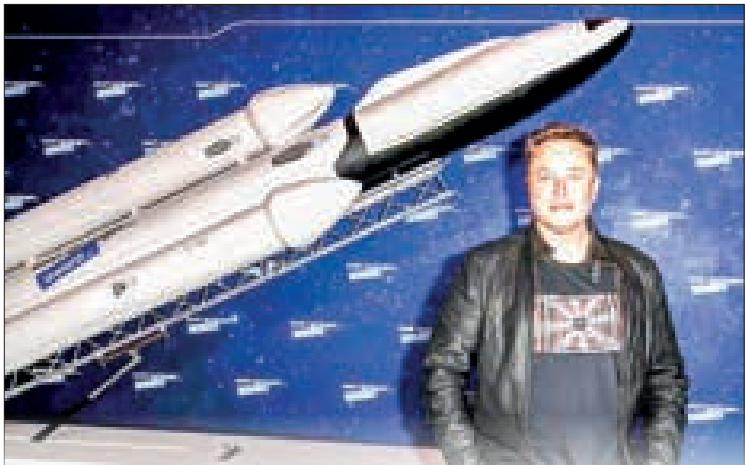


The Olympiad will last until 3 October when the closing ceremony and the awarding of the winners will take place. **PHOTO: BRIC TV**

THE final stage of the International Olympiad on Financial Security has officially opened at the Siberian Federal University, welcoming around 600 schoolchildren and students from 40 countries, including CIS, BRICS and SCO states, reports sibnovosti.ru, a partner of TV BRICS. The opening ceremony featured a panel discussion on international cooperation in financial security, marking the start of the intensive five-day programme. The Olympiad aims to enhance young people's information, financial and legal literacy. Students from Latin America, including Bolivia, Venezue-

la, Ecuador and Uruguay, are participating alongside finalists from the Middle East, the UAE, Oman, Bahrain and Jordan, and African countries such as Algeria, Egypt, Mauritania, Namibia and Ethiopia, as reported by TV BRICS. The participants were welcomed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, who praised the initiative for fostering young talent. "It is gratifying that the Olympiad has become part of the systemic, multi-faceted work of the state and society to improve access to modern knowledge and unlock the creative potential of the younger generation. Every year it expands its

geography and representation, serving as a key event of the International Movement on Financial Security," Putin said. The participants will not only face competition challenges but also attend masterclasses, round tables and lectures by leading experts. The cultural programme includes tours of the Siberian Federal University campus, a festival of Russian folk games and a phygital chess tournament. Foreign guests highly praised the level of organization of the event. A representative of the delegation from Kazakhstan, Islam Abdulahadov, shared his expectations of the Olympiad. — ANI



Elon Musk is a South African-born American entrepreneur who founded SpaceX in 2002 with the vision of reducing space launch costs and enabling human colonization of Mars. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

Elon Musk halfway to becoming
world's first trillionaire: report

Elon Musk has become the first person in history with a net worth of 500 billion US dollars.

BILLIONAIRE Elon Musk, the world's richest person, is nearly halfway to becoming the planet's first trillionaire, Forbes magazine reported Wednesday. The Tesla and SpaceX CEO became the first person to achieve a net worth of \$500 billion, briefly, as the shares in his electric vehicle company rebound from his clumsy stint in politics, amid other gains.

The 54-year-old's net worth hit \$500.1 billion Wednesday before dipping back to \$499.1 billion, the publication's "Real-Time Billionaires" tracker reported. Ranked after him are Oracle CEO Larry Ellison with a net worth of \$350.7 billion, followed by Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg with a net worth of \$245.8 billion on the Forbes list. — AFP

SPORTS

Antony felt 'lack of respect' during Man Utd exit

FORMER Manchester United winger Antony has said he felt a “lack of respect” from the club and complained of being treated with “rudeness” after he was frozen out of Ruben Amorim’s plans.

The Brazil international was forced to train away from the first-team squad and left off the club’s preseason tour after he was deemed surplus to requirements at Old Trafford.

The 25-year-old eventually rejoined Real Betis in the summer after a successful loan spell with the Spanish side during the second half of last season.

“Look, I’m not the kind of guy who gets involved in controversies, who names people, in fact, I won’t mention anyone’s name here,” Antony told ESPN Brasil on Friday.

“But I think there was a bit of a lack of respect there, even a bit of rudeness too, with no-one giving you a good morning, a good afternoon. Not even that. — AFP



Antony has scored 10 times in 30 games with Real Betis after an unhappy spell at Manchester United. **PHOTO: AFP**

Team Myanmar trains in Thailand for AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers



The Myanmar national team is in a training session in Thailand. **PHOTO: MFF**

THE Myanmar national football team began training in Bangkok, Thailand, on 2 October as part of preparations for the AFC Asian Cup 2027 third-round qualifiers.

According to the Myanmar Football Federation, the squad will train in Thailand for three days before heading

to Saudi Arabia, instead of travelling there directly, to avoid fatigue. Head coach U Myo Hlaing Win has selected 24 preliminary players for the qualifiers, with those playing in foreign clubs joining the squad upon arrival in Thailand.

The team first began training with players selected from local clubs on 29 September. On 1 October, they played a warm-up match against the MNL All Stars team, composed of foreign players in the Myanmar National League, and won with a 1-0 scoreline.

Among the preliminary squad are goalkeepers Zin Nyi Nyi Aung and San Set Naing (Yangon United), as well as forwards Than Paing (Trat, Thailand) and Win Naing Tun (Yangon City).

Myanmar have been drawn to face Syria in the group stage of the third-round qualifiers, with two matches scheduled: the away fixture on 9 October and the home fixture on 14 October. As Syria cannot host home games in their own country, its fixtures are being played in Saudi Arabia. — Ko Nyi Lay/KZL

FIFA unveils 2026 World Cup official match ball

FIFA on Thursday unveiled the official match ball for the 2026 World Cup, “Tri-onda,” marking another milestone on the road to the first edition jointly hosted by Canada, Mexico and the United States.

The name, derived from Spanish, loosely translates as “three waves” and refers to the unity of the three host nations. The design incorporates red, green and blue, with symbols of each country — Canada’s maple leaf, Mexico’s eagle and the United States’ star.

The ball uses a new four-panel construction with deeper seams and textured surfaces, changes FIFA says are intended to improve stability, grip and control.



The 2026 FIFA World Cup match ball named Tri-onda is pictured during its unveiling in New York. **PHOTO: AFP**

It also includes connected ball technology, with a motion sensor inside to track touches in real time. The data will be transmitted to the Video Assistant Referee system to help make decisions, including on offside rulings.

“This is a beauty,” FIFA President Gianni Infantino said at the launch. “I can’t wait to see this ball hitting the back of the net at the greatest World Cup ever”.

The 2026 World Cup will be the first to expand to 48 teams. It is scheduled to run from 11 June to 19 July across 16 cities in North America. — Xinhua



‘Suffering’ Djokovic battles past Cilic in Shanghai opener

NOVAK Djokovic said he had to “fire up all engines” as he overcame a stodgy first set to reach the third round of the Shanghai Masters on Friday, beating fellow veteran Marin Cilic 7-6 (7/2), 6-4.

The 38-year-old Serb is chasing a record-extending fifth title in Shanghai, where he was greeted by rapturous cheers as he entered a stadium packed with adoring Chinese fans.

The combined age of Djokovic and Cilic — 75 years and 139 days — was the oldest ever between two opponents in an ATP Masters 1000 main draw match.

“I did enjoy it, but I also suffered a lot on the court,” Djokovic

said after launching his title bid.

“It was a very close match. He was probably the better player for the first set,” he added, saying he needed to “fire up all engines”.

The first set was hard-fought, with 94th-ranked Cilic’s best chance to break the 24-time Grand Slam champion coming but going in the 11th game. — AFP

Serbia’s Novak Djokovic serves to Croatia’s Marin Cilic. **PHOTO: AFP**

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Krasnoyarsk for Financial Security Olympiad

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WORLD

Russia on track to developing new hypersonic weapons: Putin

Putin discussed Russia's expanding strategic deterrent, noting the deployment of hypersonic weapons like Kinzhal and Avangard, with ongoing development of additional systems.



The Avangard is a Russian hypersonic glide vehicle (HGV) designed to be launched atop an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM). Unlike a conventional ballistic warhead, the Avangard can perform high-speed, sharp evasive manoeuvres as it glides towards its target.

PHOTO: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE RUSSIA FEDERATION

SPEAKING at the Valdai Discussion Club on Thursday, the president touched on the expanding capabilities of Russia's strategic deterrent.

"We have fielded other hypersonic weapons - the Kinzhal and the Avangard, a weapon with an intercontinental range. We may acquire other systems as well.

We haven't forgotten anything from our plans. Work is ongoing, and there will be results," Putin said.

Russia is confident in its nuclear deterrent, and has more tactical systems than the US, Putin added. "The Americans have more submarines. But the number of warheads on these submarines is rough-

ly the same." "We know that there are people in the US who say 'we don't need any extension' [of the New START agreement]. If they don't need it, neither do we. Overall, we're doing fine. We're confident in our nuclear shield. We know what to do tomorrow and the day after that," Putin said. — SPUTNIK

Scientists in Australia create natural plastics for everyday packaging

AUSTRALIAN scientists have developed natural plastic films from food waste sugars that could replace petroleum-based packaging, offering compostable alternatives for food and agricultural uses.

The study led by Australia's Monash University (MON) highlights the potential of a new type of biodegradable plastic by converting food waste sugars into polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHA) biopolymers, said a MON statement released Friday.

"This research demonstrates how food waste can be transformed into sustainable, compostable ultrathin films with tunable properties," said Edward Attenborough from the MON Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering.

By selecting different bacterial strains and blending their polymers, the researchers produced films that behave like conventional plastics and can be molded into other shapes or solids, the statement said. — Xinhua

UN-backed climate banking alliance ceases operations

THE Net-Zero Banking Alliance, a UN-backed initiative seeking carbon neutral investments by banks, announced Friday its immediate shutdown — at a time of faltering climate commitments in the United States and Europe.

Launched in 2021 under the UN Environment Programme's Finance Initiative, the NZBA aimed to get banks to slash the carbon footprint of their loans and investments, and help drive the transition to a net-zero economy by 2050.

At its peak, the group counted nearly 150 members.

But the alliance had been losing members since late last year, after Donald Trump won the US presidential election



with his "drill, baby, drill" mantra promoting oil and gas production.

The NZBA had paused its activities in late August while waiting for the result of a vote by its members.

"Members of the Net-Zero Banking Alliance (NZBA) have voted to transition from a member-based alliance and to establish its guidance as a framework," an NZBA spokesperson said in a statement. — AFP

JP Morgan Chase was among six major US banks that quit the UN-backed banking alliance following Trump's election.

PHOTO: AFP/FILE