

The Global **NEW LIGHT** of MYANMAR

14 Historic Landmarks Crowned Ancient Heritage



The pagoda and adjoining building newly designated as ancient heritage.

Fourteen century-old buildings across Bago, Sagaing, Kayin, and northern Shan have been officially designated as ancient heritage, the Ministry of Culture, Hotels and Tourism announced. In Kayin State, five locations preserved in colonial-era architectural styles – Sasana Jotika

Brick Monastery, Kawkaik Monastery, Myaingkalay Monastery, Thanh dai Monastery, and Kyaikpa daing Monastery in Hpa-an Township – have been designated as ancient buildings. Similarly, in Sagaing Region, five heritage sites preserving original Nyaungyan and Inwa-era

craftsmanship – Kaungmudaw Stupa, Tilokaguru Temple, Kyaiklat gyoung Pagoda, Lawka Hmankin Temple, and Ariyawuntha Yokesone Monastery – have been declared ancient buildings. Furthermore, in Bago Region’s Toungoo Township, colonial-era structures including the

two-storey brick monastery inside the Pyay Monastery Compound, the two-storey brick monastery in Bawhninsu Village, and the Myolay Fort, along with the Hsipaw Haw Palace in Hsipaw Township, Shan State (North), have also been designated as ancient buildings. — TWA/ZN

Myanmar generates US\$270M from fishery exports in H1

MYANMAR exported more than 300 items of fishery products to over 40 countries in the first half of the 2026-2027 financial year (April-September), bagging over US\$270 million, according to the Department of Fisheries. “Myanmar conveyed over 160,000 tonnes of fishery products to more than 40 countries during the April-September period, generating more than US\$270 million in export revenue,” said an official from the Department of



This photo shows a variety of fish sold in the wholesale market.

Fisheries in Nay Pyi Taw. Myanmar primarily exports fishery products to Japan, countries in the

Middle East, European Union member countries, Malaysia, Taiwan Province of China, and Australia. Myanmar Fisheries Federation and the Department of Fisheries are working closely to boost exports. The department and exporters are coordinating to meet the specific requirements of each buyer country, particularly for markets like China that enforce strict COVID-free certification for fishery products. — ASH/KK

Thadingyut Fairs Set at Dagon Centre, Times City, Inya Road

THADINGYUT THEMED market fairs will be organized at Dagon Centre, Times City and Inya Road. The pre-Thadingyut market fair is set from 17 to 23 October at the indoor promotion area of Dagon Centre 1 and 2, and entertainment programmes, including performance shows with Thadingyut songs, are included. The special market fair called “the lighting night” and organized by the Street Event Organizer will take place from 23 to 27 October at Times

City Yangon outdoor area. At the event, more than 140 booths will be featured, and visitors can explore a wide array of products, including food, fashion and consumer products in a single place. In addition, lighting decorations, photo spots, magic shows, oil lamp dance and live music and entertainment programmes will be provided for visitors. “Thadingyut Inya Night” will be celebrated at the Golden Inya Island on Inya Road, and bookings for vendor booths are invited. — TWA/ZS



This image features a promotional poster for the Thadingyut market fair at Dagon Centre.

ARTICLE

From School Sports to International Success: Strengthening Myanmar Through Sports

NATIONAL PAGE 5

NCA 11th Anniversary Peace & Development Workshop concludes in Nay Pyi Taw

NATIONAL

Objectives of 27th Traditional Myanmar Cultural Performing Arts Competition 2026

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

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification 98/2026

5th Waxing of Thadingyut, 1388 ME
16 October 2026

THE Union Election Commission hereby issues the following rules in exercise of the powers conferred on it under Section 26 of the Political Parties Registration Law.

- These rules shall be called the Fifth Amendment to the Political Parties Registration Rules.
- Sub-rules (c) and (d) of Rule 24 of the Political Parties Registration Rules shall be substituted with the following:
“(c) If the list of members of the party’s Central Executive Committee is changed in accordance with the party’s constitution and rules, the changes shall be submitted to the Commission within seven days.
(d) A person who meets the qualifications for election as a member of a Hluttaw, except for the educational qualification requirement, shall be appointed and assigned duties only as a patron of the party or as a member of the party’s Central Executive Committee.”

Sd/Than Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

Gems Emporium’s Day 9 sells 733 jade lots

YESTERDAY, the ninth day of the 61st Myanmar Gems Emporium 2026 continued at the Maniradana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw, attracting large numbers of local and foreign gem merchants.

Since the morning, local gem merchants had inspected jade lots from No 1016 to 2355 displayed under Group C, and a total of 733 lots were sold out.

In the evening, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Hsan



Gem traders gather to evaluate gemstones at yesterday’s event.

Oo, patron of the Central Committee for the Myanma Gems Emporium, inspected the observation and submission of tender forms for Group C jade lots

by the local merchants. On the tenth day, Group C jade lots numbered 2356 to 3073 will be offered through a tender system, and the results

will be announced on 17 October.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation systematically conducts natural resource management activities by maintaining a balance between the sustainable use of Myanmar’s valuable natural resources, limiting the extraction of land resources, increasing the production of water resources, and conserving and protecting the natural environment. — MNA/KTZH

Weather Myanmar Daily Weather Report

Issued at 7 pm Friday 16 October 2026

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Central Bay of Bengal and a few clouds to partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF 17 OCTOBER 2026: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Magway and Upper Sagaing Regions and Kachin and Rakhine States, scattered in Yangon, Mandalay, Bago and Lower Sagaing, Ayeyawady Regions and Kayah, and Chin, northern Shan States and fairly widespread in the remaining Regions and States. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

THE CONDITION OF CUMULONIMBUS CLOUD: The cumulonimbus clouds are developing in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and (southern and eastern) Shan States. In areas along the cumulonimbus clouds movement, the weather phenomena such as strong winds accompanied

by rain, thunder, lightning and hails may occur and therefore it is recommended to be aware in advance of these phenomena.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in the Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about 4-6 feet off and along the Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR THE SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered rain or thundershowers in Yangon, Bago, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions and Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 OCTOBER 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 OCTOBER 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 OCTOBER 2026: Isolated rain or thundershowers. The degree of certainty is 80 per cent.

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR WEEKEND: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw and scattered rain or thundershowers in Yangon and Mandalay Regions. — DMH

68 heat shelters open nationwide, with plans for expansion

THE Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement has opened 68 heat shelters nationwide and plans to expand the network.

The shelters have been jointly established under the supervision of regional and state governments since

the 2018-2019 financial year.

In the 2025-2026 financial year, four heat shelters were opened in Magway Region. In early April 2026, some towns in the region were listed among the hottest cities in the world, prompting further efforts to open ad-

ditional shelters.

The shelters provide drinking water and soft drinks, healthcare services, awareness talks on natural disaster preparedness and protection against heat, and informational pamphlets. — ASH/KZL



This image shows a heat shelter operating in Myanmar.

NATIONAL

HLUTTAW

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sees affirmation of Union ministers, discussion over bills

AT the sixth-day meeting of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Aung Lin Dwe announced the proposal sent by the President on the reassignment of Union Minister U Tun Aung from the Ministry of Defence to the Ministry of Digital Development and Communications.

Already-appointed Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Yar Pyae and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Ko Ko Lwin took affirmations in the presence of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.

The Speaker announced that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw recorded the Seventh Amendment to the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law and the Fourth Amendment to the Political Parties Registration Rules.

Lawmakers approved the continued validity of the President's law enforcement ordinance after the Speaker announced no ob-



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

jections were raised during deliberations. The measure, issued by the Office of the President, will remain in force for an additional 90 days.

Moreover, lawmakers discussed findings of the Joint Public Accounts Committee on the 2025-26 financial year national planning annual report and its remark report 1/2026.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives also dis-

cussed findings of the Joint Public Accounts Committee on the 2025-26 FY budget annual report and its remark report 2/2026.

The Speaker also announced that the clarifications and discussions over the reports by the relevant member of a Union-level organization and the process of seeking the Hluttaw's decision on the matter were scheduled to be carried out at the next session of the

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Concerning the Union Supplementary Appropriation Bill for the 2026-2027 FY, Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw Than Than Lin stated that the Revised Estimates (RE), including the supplementary appropriations to be additionally approved for the 2026-2027 FY, have also been submitted for comparison and analysis against the original Budget

Estimates (BE). Among the requests for supplementary appropriations, priority has been given to expenditures on government revenue items, including commercial tax, income tax and contributions to the State; expenditures to promote the agricultural and livestock sectors to strengthen the national economy and foster socioeconomic development; expenditures on transport, electricity and energy to develop the country's infrastructure; expenditures on education and health to develop human resources; expenditures to develop MSMEs to increase production and create more employment opportunities; and expenditures for reconstruction and rehabilitation of damage caused by natural disasters.

In addition, expenditures genuinely required for salaries, pensions, raw material purchases and production costs, as well as expenditures necessitated by the receipt of addition-

al foreign aid and foreign loans, and principal and interest repayments on foreign loans, have been scrutinized and approved. As supplementary appropriations have prioritized expenditures to strengthen the national economy, increase production, promote socioeconomic development, improve transport and communications, ensure access to electricity and water, develop the education and health sectors, and rehabilitate damage caused by natural disasters, additional expenditure has become necessary, increasing the budget deficit. She sought the approval for the bill.

The Speaker announced that further proceedings on the bill would be carried out in accordance with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law and Rules.

The seventh-day meeting of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will be announced in advance. — News Team/TTA

Myanmar, Thailand Launch First Joint Water Quality Meeting

THE first coordination meeting of Myanmar's Joint Working Group on Water Quality Management in Boundary and Transboundary Rivers between Myanmar and Thailand was held yesterday afternoon at the meeting hall of the Environmental Conservation Department to implement the Terms of Reference (TOR) signed by the permanent secretaries of the relevant ministries of the two countries on 6 August 2026.

At the meeting, Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Dr Thaung Naing Oo said the TOR would remain



Deputy Minister Dr Thaung Naing Oo presides over the first coordination meeting of Myanmar's Joint Working Group on Water Quality Management in Boundary and Transboundary Rivers between Myanmar and Thailand.

effective for three years from the date of signing and stressed the need for coordination among relevant departments to ensure its effective implementation. JWG meetings would be held at least twice a year, normally every six months, alternately in Myanmar

and Thailand.

He also highlighted the need to carry out joint water quality monitoring, identify sources of water pollution, share data, establish early warning systems, and promote co-operation in public health and technical matters. He called for the preparation

of a three-year master plan and annual work plans, along with the necessary manpower, equipment, technology and financial resources.

The JWG members coordinated the discussion, and the deputy minister concluded the meeting. — MNA/KTZH

Myanmar Workers Send Home Over US\$5.6B in 2025

THE Ministry of Labour stated that remittances from Myanmar workers abroad to families exceeded US\$5.6 billion in 2025.

The Central Bank of Myanmar provides two ways for the wages of Myanmar nationals to reach their families through official channels. Currently, 16 AD-licensed banks with currency have been allowed to connect with international money transfer organizations to conduct foreign remittance services, and 18 companies have been granted licences to pro-

vide foreign remittance services.

These banks can provide remittance services from abroad, including the United States, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Japan, the United Kingdom, Thailand, Hong Kong SAR, and Cambodia. In addition, remittance services can be provided by connecting with international money transfer services such as Western Union, IME, MoneyGram, Lightnet, Transfer To Mobile Financial Service Ltd and Merchantrade Asia, according to the Ministry of Labour. — ASH/MKKS

NATIONAL

Winners awarded at Tatmadaw Football Tournament and Sports Competitions 2026

C O M M A N D -
ER-IN-CHIEF of Defence Services General Ye Win Oo presented prizes to the winners at the 63rd Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) Football Tournament and the 2026 Tatmadaw Sports Competitions at Zeyathiri Tatmadaw Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

In the final match, the team representing the Camp Commandant's Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) and that of Yangon Command poured out their vigorous efforts to put pressure on each other. In the injury time of the first half, Yangon Command scored an opening goal into the net of the Camp Commandant's Office team. In the 54th minute of the second half, the Yangon Command team took the match with one more goal. After the match, Yangon Command celebrated victory with a 2-0 win over the Camp Commandant's Office team.

At the prize-presentation ceremony, the parade commander led the sports teams along with a flag barrier, marching into the stadium.

Quartermaster-General Lt-Gen Zaw Myo Tin awarded best players in relevant positions, the fair play award-winning team and the best player of the tournament, while Chairman of the Tatmadaw Sports and Physical Ed-



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief General Ye Win Oo presents cash awards of the first prize at yesterday's event.

ucation Committee Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Zaw Hein gave the third prize in the football tourney to the Nay Pyi Taw Command team. Lt-Gen Pyae Sone Lin from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) presented individual medals and cash awards to the second prize-winning Camp Commandant's Office team.

Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Tun Win presented individual medals and cash awards to the first prize-winning Yangon Command team, whereas Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Htein Win handed a championship shield (third prize) and cash awards to the Central Command team with 33 gold, 31 silver and 46 bronze medals in the 2026 Defence Services Commander-in-Chief's Trophy Tatmadaw (Army,

Navy and Air) Sports Competitions.

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Kyaw Swa Lin presented a championship shield (second prize) and cash awards to the Yangon Command team, which secured 37 golds, 50 silvers and 63 bronzes in the sports competition.

General Ye Win Oo awarded a championship shield (first prize) and cash awards to the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Navy) team, which swept 57 gold, 50 silver and 47 bronze medals in the sports competition.

After the ceremony, the flag bearer, 17 sports teams and the military band led by the parade commander left the stadium. General Ye Win Oo and his wife Daw Nilar, together with attendees,

waved to the sports teams.

Meanwhile, fireworks were launched in commemoration of the successful completion of the Tatmadaw Football Tournament and the sports competitions.

The ceremony was also attended by Union ministers and their wives, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief and their wives, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, officers, other ranks and families from offices and departments of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air), senior officer trainees from the National Defence College, Tatmadaw members and families from regiments and units under Nay Pyi Taw Command, trainees from the Tatmadaw Football Academy, guests and athletes. — 100/TTA

First Myanmar-Russia Navy-to-Navy Talks held

A delegation from the Russian Navy, led by Rear-Admiral Andrey Nikolaevich, arrived in Yangon by air on the morning of 12 October to attend the First Myanmar-Russia Navy-to-Navy Talks. The delegation met with a delegation from the Myanmar Navy at Ayeyawady Naval Regional Command Headquarters for the talks.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed naval cooperation between the two countries, including training, information exchange, and the repair and maintenance of naval vessels.

A signing ceremony for the agreements reached during the talks was held at Ayeyawady Naval Regional Command Headquarters on the morning of 14 October. The two sides exchanged commemorative insignia and posed for a group photograph.

The Russian Navy delegation that attended the First Myanmar-Russia Navy-to-Navy Talks departed Yangon by air yesterday morning. Senior officers and officials from the Myanmar Navy saw off the delegation at Yangon International Airport, according to reports. — 100/KZL



The first Myanmar-Russia Navy-to-Navy Talks are underway at the Ayeyawady Naval Base Headquarters.

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NATIONAL

NCA 11th Anniversary Peace & Development Workshop concludes in Nay Pyi Taw

A two-day workshop marking the 11th anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), titled “From Peace and Social Harmony Towards Development”, concluded at the Horizon Lake View Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. The event brought together 160 participants, including Union Minister for Defence and National Solidarity and Peacemaking Negotiation Committee (NSPNC) Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing, retired military officers, lawmakers, representatives from political parties and NCA-signatory ethnic armed organizations, academics, and media.



The final day of the workshop marking the 11th anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

On the second day, attendees divided into two thematic panels to address political and economic issues. The political sector

panel, chaired by Lt-Gen Aye Win (Retd) and led by speakers Dr M Kawng La and Dr Thuta Aung, explored practical cooperation for peace, stability, and social harmony in conflict-affected areas. Simultaneously, the economic sector panel, chaired by Maj-Gen Soe Naing Oo (Retd) with lead speakers

Dr Zaw Oo and Dr Nyo Nyo Thin, focused on linking peace with regional economic development, sustainable livelihoods, and the effective delivery of humanitarian aid.

During the afternoon closing ceremony, NSPNC Secretary Lt-Gen Min Naing summarized the key recommendations from the two-day event. These included combining top-down and bottom-up approaches under a “Multiple Entry, One Process” framework, utilizing multi-level dialogue and community-led mediation, and integrating humanitarian aid with long-term livelihood stability and regional

economic development.

Following words of appreciation from ethnic political party representatives and Kayin leader Saw Mutu Sae Poe, NSPNC Chairman Lt-Gen Yar Pyae delivered the closing address. He emphasized the shared goal of building a union based on democracy and federalism through a unified peace process. He also highlighted the need for the legal management of natural resources, warned that illicit trade undermines peace, and urged the media to play a constructive role in promoting national stability and development. — MNA/ST

36 top Myanmar students tour Thailand after 2026 exam success



A group documentary photo session of the visiting outstanding students to Thailand.

A total of 36 outstanding students who achieved the highest marks nationwide in their respective subject combinations in the 2026 Matriculation Examination and Industrial, Agricultural and Livestock matriculation examination, accompanied by their supervising teacherheads and teachers, departed Yangon International Airport on Thursday morning for a tour of Thailand under a government-sponsored

programme. Upon arrival in Bangkok, the students visited the Myanmar Embassy, where Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Zaw Soe briefed them on the tour and presented commemorative gifts. In the afternoon, they visited Kasetsart University, where officials introduced the university and its academic programmes. The students asked questions and learned about

its international undergraduate programmes. In the evening, they enjoyed views of Bangkok at Baiyoke Tower. Yesterday morning, the students visited the Temple of the Emerald Buddha, where they observed traditional architecture and mural paintings. They also explored marine life at Siam Ocean World, including sharks, sea turtles, jellyfish and other aquatic species. They then visited Madame Tussauds Museum to learn about wax figures of renowned scientists, historical figures, world leaders, athletes and celebrities from the film and music industries, and the process of making wax figures. The outstanding students departed for Vietnam yesterday evening to continue their tour. — MNA/KTZH

Kyauktaga’s completed Macadam road paving inspected

OFFICIALS from the Kyauktaga Township Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, conducted a field inspection yesterday to check the completion status of the internal village road paving work using a macadam in Ayinsu Village, funded by the Village Development Plan (VDP) grant and

local community contributions. During the field inspection, U Yan Naing Nyunt, Head of the Nyaunglebin District Department of Rural Development, Daw Poe Ei Phyu Ko, Head of the Kyauktaga Township Department of Rural Development, and project staff, together with members of the Village Development Committee, inspected the completed macadam road paving work in Ayinsu Village. The Township Head provided necessary instructions to complement the remaining post-project needs.

The road paving project in Ayinsu Village, measuring 1,127 feet in length, eight feet in width, and six inches in thickness, was implemented starting from the first week of this month by the villagers themselves under the close supervision of staff from the Department of Rural Development. The total budget for the project was K20.35 million, consisting of K15 million from the VDP grant and K5.35 million contributed by local communities. The project has now reportedly been 100 per cent completed. — Nilar



Officials inspect the completed village road in Kyauktaga Township.

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NATIONAL

Cash and certificate awarded for voluntary handover of antiquities in Pyay

A ceremony to present cash rewards and certificates of honour for the voluntary handover of antiquities was held on 15 October in the auditorium of the School of Archaeological Technology (Pyay), under the Department of Archaeology and National Museum.

At the ceremony, the Deputy Director in charge of the Sri Ksetra Division explained that ancient artefacts serve as crucial evidence for understanding the nation's history and culture, making their preservation essential. He noted that the destruction or illegal sale of antiquities would result in legal action under the Protection and Preservation of Antiquities Law and Rules issued by the State. He emphasized that when citizens responsibly surrender gold items and other ancient artefacts to the State, the government provides appropriate cash rewards based on both their current market value and additional bonuses.

He further explained



This photo shows the Deputy Director in charge of the Sri Ksetra Division presenting the cash reward and certificate of honour to a representative of Venerable U Dhamma Piya Siddhi, who responsibly handed over a Pyu-era gold ring.

the process used to calculate these rewards. When antiquities obtained through discoveries or held in private collections are handed over to the State, gold items are examined by a team of experts and sent to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation for purity testing. Their base value is then calculated according to their weight, purity, and prevailing market price on the day of valuation. For artefacts dating from the Pyu period, an additional 80 per cent is awarded for historical-period

value, while a further 40 per cent to 80 per cent is added for craftsmanship, along with a supplementary bonus. For artefacts dating from the Bagan period, an additional 70 per cent is awarded for historical-period value, while a further 40 per cent to 70 per cent is added for craftsmanship. Rare and unique antiquities may also qualify for an additional bonus equivalent to 40 per cent to 80 per cent of their market value. Consequently, the total cash reward for ancient artefacts can amount to between two and a half

and more than three and a half times their current market value.

He also stressed that public awareness and community participation are essential to preserving the nation's cultural heritage. He expressed deep respect and admiration for citizens who demonstrate a strong sense of national responsibility by voluntarily surrendering antiquities for the benefit of the State rather than seeking commercial gain. He encouraged members of the public to contact the relevant departments to report or hand over any ancient artefacts discovered in their local areas.

At the ceremony, Venerable U Dhamma Piya Siddhi, abbot of the Shwe Nan Oo Monastery in Hmawza Village-tract, received a cash reward of K9,555,606, along with a certificate of honour, for handing over to the department a 22-karat gold ring weighing 10.5 grammes and bearing the Pyu-era Baddapitha (auspicious throne) symbol. — Htun Htun/TH

Yaksawk holds township-level VDP project review meeting

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held a township-level stakeholder review meeting on the Village Development Project (VDP) at the meeting hall of the Yaksawk Township Department of Rural Development in Shan State (South) yesterday, aiming to improve project effectiveness and facilitate the exchange of implementation experiences.

Shan State Hluttaw Representative U Aung Kyaw Nyunt and Taunggyi District Department of Rural Development Head U Nyunt Win delivered opening remarks, after which Yaksawk Township Department of Rural Development Head U Ye Min Aung explained the objectives of

the review meeting and the topics to be discussed.

Committee members from villages implementing the VDP in Yaksawk Township participated in group discussions, sharing strengths, weaknesses and challenges encountered during project execution. Members of the township-level project implementation team coordinated necessary measures to address the issues raised.

The meeting was attended by Hluttaw representatives, district- and township-level project implementation team members, departmental officials and committee members from VDP villages, who agreed to utilize the meeting's outcomes to further enhance the success of future village development activities. — Karan (Rural)



A township-level stakeholder review meeting is underway in Yaksawk Township, Shan State (South).

Putao's MSY Village Project inspected



Officials oversee an agricultural project in Putao Township.

YESTERDAY, the Putao Township Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, Putao District, Kachin State, conducted a field inspection of the

successful development of income-increasing businesses in Mudong Village with the help of the Mya Sein Yaung (MSY) Village Project fund, aiming to enable rural residents to operate

small-scale businesses and to obtain low-interest financial resources.

During the field inspection, Putao District Rural Development Department Head Daw Khin May Nyunt, Putao Township Head U Zaw Lin and the staff in charge of township planning met members of the MSY Village Project and discussed the agriculture, which was carried out with the MSY Village Project Fund of K60.2 million.

After checking the completeness of the forms of account to be filled out according to the success of the livestock

activities and the conditions of the breeding, District Head Daw Khin May Nyunt coordinated the necessary actions.

In the village, 73 agricultural workers received K49.8 million, four livestock workers received K2.9 million, and eight traders were paid K7.5 million in total. U Zaw Lin, township Head of the Putao Rural Development Department, said that the 85 members of the association have been lent K600.2 million of operating funds at a low interest rate, and the MSY project has been accomplished. — Aung Ye Kyaw

Tachilek monitors air quality, 1-15 Oct

THE Tachilek District Environmental Conservation Department reported that the ambient air quality of Tachilek Township was measured and analyzed from 1 to 15 October 2026.

The Tachilek District Environmental Conservation Department regularly measures and analyzes Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM2.5) using a Portable Beta Attenuation Mass Monitor (BAM 1022) at the Assistant Director's Office of the Department of Environmental Conservation, Maekhaung Ward in

Tachilek Township.

The Air Quality Index (AQI) was released based on the parameters measured from 1 to 15 October.

The air quality indicators measured were air temperature, wind speed, wind direction, humidity, precipitation, and vehicle use. The ambient air quality results measured may vary depending on the dust dispersion caused by hot and dry weather, the emission of fumes from factories, and the surrounding environment. — TWA/MKKS

NATIONAL

Training qualified, skilled personnel to accelerate transition to mechanized agriculture

THE Mechanization Training Centre in Meiktila produces qualified and skilled trainees to support the development of the agricultural sector and accelerate the country's transition to mechanized agriculture, according to the centre.

In the 2026-2027 financial year, it plans to conduct a total of 10 training courses, including five specialized courses in agricultural machinery operation and maintenance, one Agricultural Machinery Skills Certificate Course (Batch 5), and four in-house capacity-building courses. So far, two specialized agricultural machinery operation and maintenance courses and one in-house capacity-building course have been conducted. Currently, a specialized agricultural machinery operation and maintenance course and the Agricultural Machinery Skills Certificate Course (Batch 5) are underway.

The centre also provides a two-week staff capacity-building course, an eight-week specialized agricultural machinery operation and maintenance course, a one-year agricultural machinery skills certificate course, and other training programmes in collaboration with various organizations each year.

From 1964-1965 to 2025-2026, it conducted 502 training courses and trained a total of 41,575 people, including departmental staff, farmers, and trainees from companies and other organizations. Between the 2021-2022 and 2025-2026 financial years, it conducted 18 training courses and trained 825 people. Of these, 81 per cent secured employment in the agricultural sector.

"During the transition from traditional



Trainers demonstrate seedling transplanting with a mechanical transplanter.

agriculture to mechanized farming, producing skilled workers who are in high demand is a source of pride for the Department of Agricultural Mechanization. We are continuously working to train and produce qualified trainees who can contribute to the development of the agricultural sector," said U Tun Htein Lin, principal of the Mechanization Training Centre in Meiktila.

The Mechanization Training Centre provides training to devel-

op skilled, disciplined and qualified agricultural machinery workers, improve their technical expertise and employment opportunities, and accelerate the country's transition to mechanized agriculture.

Those interested in attending the courses can contact the Department of Agricultural Mechanization through its agricultural mechanization stations and regional, state, district and township offices across the country. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/KTZH

Loilem hands over VDP project funds, holds review meeting

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, held a fund handover ceremony for two villages implementing the Village Development Project (VDP) during the 2026-2027 financial year, along with a township-level review meeting at the meeting hall of the Loilem Township Department of Rural Development in Shan State (South), yesterday.

Loilem District Department of Rural Development Head U Kyaw Thant Zin and Loilem Township Management and Administration Committee Chairman U Ye Aung Aung delivered opening remarks, after which Loilem Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Tin Min Htike explained the objectives of the fund handover ceremony and review meeting.

The township management and administration committee chairman and a State Hluttaw representative then handed over K15 million each to village development committees from Einkhit and Khaungnwe villages, totalling K30 million.

In addition, committee members from villages that implemented VDP projects during previous financial years held group discussions, sharing strengths, weaknesses and challenges encountered during project execution, while members of the township-level project implementation team coordinated necessary support for the issues raised. — Maung Khaing (Rural)



An MSY fund disbursement ceremony in progress yesterday in Loilem Township.

Pantanaw's VDP laterite road project inspected

THE Department of Rural Development, under the Ministry of Cooperatives and Rural Development, inspected the 100-per cent completion of a village laterite road project implemented under the Village Development Project (VDP) in Thaegon Village, Pantanaw Township, Ayeyawady Region, yesterday.

Pantanaw Township Department of Rural Development Head Daw Aye Aye Hlaing and engineering staff, together with members of the village development committee, inspected the



Officials oversee the completed road project in Pantanaw Township, Ayeyawady Region.

completed laterite road measuring 1,207 feet long, eight feet wide and eight inches thick. She met village elders and residents, urging them to form a village road committee and systematically maintain the road for its long-term durability, while coordi-

nating necessary support based on village requirements.

The laterite road was constructed starting in the second week of September this year using K15 million in VDP support funds and K3 million contributed by local communities, totalling K18 million, with technical assistance and close supervision from DRD staff. The completion of the project ensures year-round convenience and improved transportation, helping elevate the socioeconomic standards of local villagers. — Cho Than Nyunt (Rural)

Public Awareness Campaign Set for World Osteoporosis Day

THE Myanmar Society of Endocrinology of Metabolism (MSEM) and the Myanmar Orthopaedic Society will jointly organize an educational talk about World Osteoporosis Day on 18 October.

It will take place at the University of Nursing in Lanmadaw Township from 8 am to 11 pm.

Professor Dr Tet Tun Chit and Professor Dr Shwe Kyaw Oo will give speeches on two different themes: Preventing Osteoporosis and Osteoporosis Beyond Surgery. A Q&A session will be provided for attendees. — TWA/ZS

An educational talk on World Osteoporosis Day.



Beef up food production for all

More than 2.1 billion people worldwide are experiencing various forms of food insecurity. Africa and Asia, in particular, are among the regions facing the most severe food crises due to high population density and the impacts of climate change.

At present, although sufficient food is being produced worldwide, the problem of ensuring that millions of people have adequate access to healthy and nutritious food remains to be addressed. Approximately 645 million people worldwide, or about 7.8 per cent of the global population, continue to face food insecurity and hunger directly, while around 266 million people are experiencing food crises due to conflict, climate change and rising food prices.

Approximately 25.8 per cent of the world's population, or more than 2.1 billion people, are unable to consume adequate nutritious

food on a regular basis and are having to reduce the quality and quantity of the food they eat. Hence, all countries need to supply food as humanitarian aid to the countries in need.

In Myanmar, aquatic products are a major source of nutrition and protein for the people. Products from Myanmar's agricultural sector have also secured a place in international markets. Under the leadership of the State Government, efforts are being made to ensure the success of agriculture and livestock breeding. Therefore, concerted efforts must be made to increase exports of agricultural and livestock products to generate higher incomes, ensure food security not only in Myanmar but also in the region and neighbouring countries, and promote national economic growth.

supply of safe meat, milk and eggs for consumers.

In Myanmar, aquatic products are a major source of nutrition and protein for the people. Products from Myanmar's agricultural sector have also secured a place in international markets. Under the leadership of the State Government, efforts are being made to ensure the success of agriculture and livestock breeding. Therefore, concerted efforts must be made to increase exports of agricultural and livestock products to generate higher incomes, ensure food security not only in Myanmar but also in the region and neighbouring countries, and promote national economic growth.

World Food Day 2026, which is observed in many countries across the world with the theme "Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow", aims to harness science, technology, traditional knowledge, and inclusive approaches to transform agri-food systems, end hunger, and protect the planet.

“HEALTH is wealth” is a well-known saying that reminds us of the value of good health in our daily lives. Sports play an important role in building healthy individuals, strong communities and a prosperous nation. Through sports, young people can improve their physical fitness, develop discipline and learn to work towards common goals.

Sports also teach important life skills, including teamwork, leadership, responsibility and respect for others. Through training and competitions, students learn to follow rules, accept challenges and improve through practice. These values support their education and help them become responsible citizens who can contribute to the future of Myanmar.

School Sports as the Foundation

Schools are important places to introduce children to sports and help them discover their talents. Physical education supports students' health while helping them develop confidence, concentration and positive habits. Regular physical activities also provide opportunities for students to learn beyond the classroom.

Suitable sports facilities, appropriate equipment and effective physical education programmes can help students develop their abilities. Teachers and coaches guide them in learning basic skills,

improving their performance and choosing sports that match their interests and strengths.

School sports competitions provide valuable experience and help identify talented students. Competitions can progress from school to township, district, region, state, and national levels. This pathway allows promising athletes to demonstrate their abilities and prepare for higher levels of competition.

Preparing Young Athletes for Higher Competition

A clear pathway from school sports to national and international competitions can help young athletes pursue their goals. At each stage, students need suitable training, qualified coaches and opportunities to compete with others of similar ability. They should also receive guidance to balance their education with their sporting commitments.

Modern sports training can further improve athletic performance. Regular practice should be supported by good nutrition, sufficient rest, injury prevention and attention to physical and mental well-being. Sports science and suitable performance assessments can help coaches understand each athlete's strengths and plan training more effectively.

Continuous professional development for coaches is equally important. Training courses,

From School Sports to International Success: Strengthening Myanmar Through Sports

Empowering Young People, Promoting National Pride and Building a Healthier Society

By Dr Zaw (Sli)

knowledge-sharing programmes and exchanges with other countries can introduce new techniques and effective methods. These approaches can help Myanmar prepare young athletes for higher levels of competition.

Learning from the ASEAN Schools Games

The ASEAN Schools Games offer Myanmar's student athletes an important opportunity to compete with their peers from Southeast Asian countries. These events help participants gain international experience, learn different sporting techniques and

build friendships across national boundaries.

Participation also helps athletes and coaches understand regional competition standards and identify areas for improvement. Through careful preparation and regular review, Myanmar can strengthen its performance and encourage students to participate in a wider range of sports.

A long-term training pathway can connect school competitions with national programmes and regional events. Early identification of talent, consistent coaching and suitable competition experience can help athletes progress step by

step. The goal is to enable more Myanmar students to represent their country confidently and perform to the best of their abilities.

Beyond medals and records, the ASEAN Schools Games promote friendship, mutual respect and cultural understanding among young people. These experiences can strengthen regional ties and encourage students to appreciate both their own achievements and those of others.

A Stronger Sporting System for Myanmar

The development of school sports depends on effective plan-



ning by education and sports authorities, together with the active involvement of schools, coaches and families. Clear responsibilities can help ensure that students receive appropriate opportunities and guidance throughout their sporting journey.

Schools can encourage participation, while sports organisations can provide advanced training for promising athletes. Families can motivate children to remain active and recognise the value of discipline, fair play and perseverance. Regular reviews of training programmes and compe-

fec- tive practices and guide future improvements.

Learning from successful sports programmes in other countries can provide useful ideas for Myanmar. These ideas can be adapted to local conditions and the needs of young athletes, with attention to coaching quality, training methods and access to sporting opportunities.

Building Myanmar's Future Through Sport

The journey from a school sports ground to an international

competition begins with the opportunities available to young people today. With suitable facilities, effective teaching, quality coaching and regular competition, students can discover their potential and work towards higher achievements.

Myanmar can continue to strengthen its sporting future by encouraging participation at school level and supporting talented athletes as they progress to national, ASEAN, Asian and other international competitions. Their achievements can bring pride to their schools and communities while presenting a positive image of the country.

The value of sports extends beyond competition results. A strong sporting culture can promote public health, develop responsible young people, encourage national unity and strengthen friendly relations with other countries. These benefits make sports an important part of education and national progress.

By giving young people the opportunity to learn, train and compete, Myanmar can build a lasting foundation for sporting success. With discipline, determination and teamwork, student athletes can move confidently towards regional and international achievements, helping create a healthier society and a brighter future for the nation.

GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY - 15 OCTOBER 2026

Introduction

A child reaches for lunch after playing outside. A parent prepares food after using the toilet. A vendor handles money and then serves a customer. These ordinary moments can become opportunities for germs to move between people, food and surfaces. Washing hands with soap interrupts that journey. It is a simple action with consequences for families, schools and entire communities.

Global Handwashing Day, observed on 15 October, reminds us that personal hygiene is a foundation of public health. Its value extends beyond a yearly ceremony or demonstration. The real goal is to make effective handwashing possible and habitual wherever people live, learn and work.

Knowledge matters, but people also need convenient facilities, reliable water and affordable soap.

Global Burden of Preventable Diseases

Diarrhoeal disease remains a major threat to children. WHO's March 2024 fact sheet reports nearly 1.7 billion childhood diarrhoeal episodes worldwide each year and about 444,000 annual deaths among children under five. These published estimates underline the scale of a continuing global challenge and the importance of protecting children through prevention. Contaminated water, food and poor hygiene contribute to transmission.

Respiratory infections, including pneumonia, also cause substantial illness and can be life-threatening, particularly in young children and vulnerable adults. Handwashing can reduce

Clean Hands, Secure Future: Safeguarding Public Health Through Hygiene

Emphasizing handwashing as a cost-effective shield against preventable diseases in communities.

By Dr Aung Tun

some transmission through contaminated hands, but it cannot block every route of infection. Vaccination, adequate nutrition, ventilation, safe water, sanitation and timely medical care remain essential partners in prevention.

WHO and UNICEF's 2025

community hand hygiene guidance highlights evidence that hand hygiene interventions can reduce diarrhoea by about 30 per cent and acute respiratory infections by about 17 per cent. These are population-level estimates from research, not a guarantee

that each household will achieve identical results. Nevertheless, they show why handwashing deserves sustained investment.

The protection depends on access as well as behaviour: WHO reported that 1.7 billion people lacked basic hand hygiene services at home in 2024. Asking people to wash their hands is therefore insufficient unless the conditions

for doing so are available.

Myanmar's Situation in 2016 and 2025

Myanmar's Global School-based Student Health Survey, or GSHS, in 2016 and School-based Adolescent Health Survey, or SAHS, in 2025 provide evidence among students aged 13-17. The latter's full report became avail-

able in 2026.

The results show a mixed picture. Students reporting that they never or rarely washed their hands before eating during the previous 30 days increased from 6.8 per cent in 2016 to 11.9 per cent in 2025.

SEE PAGE 10



ARTICLE/NATIONAL

4 arrested with equipment for online scams and gambling in Lashio

THE Government of Myanmar places strong emphasis on preventing and combatting online scams and online gambling, which pose serious threats to the socioeconomic well-being of the people. It is carrying out preventive measures, investigations, arrests and legal proceedings against offenders as a matter of national responsibility.

In this regard, following a tip-off that online scam and gambling activities were being conducted in Ward 12, Area 19, Lashio, northern Shan State, a joint team comprising security personnel and departmental officials searched and inspected the area last night.

During the inspection, the team identified and arrested four Myanmar nationals, comprising three men and one woman, who were conducting online scam and gambling activities at a house on Shweli Street No 7 in the ward.

The team also seized six mobile phones of various types, three laptops, a 12-volt battery, a solar panel, a Wi-Fi device, other related equipment and K205,000 in cash.

The four arrested individuals, together with the seized equipment and cash, will face legal action under Section 33(a) of the Electronic Transactions Law. The case has been registered at Lashio Myoma Police Station.

Efforts to eradicate online scam and gambling activities at their roots are reportedly continuing without interruption, with particular emphasis on preventing such activities from becoming established and eliminating them. — 100/KZL



Four online scammers detained in Lashio, Shan State (North).

Clean Hands, Secure Future: ...

FROM PAGE 9

This rise of 5.1 percentage points suggests that an important daily prevention habit needs renewed attention.

Meanwhile, the proportion who never or rarely washed their hands after using the toilet or latrine fell from 8.6 to 3.2 per cent, an improvement of 5.4 percentage points. This improvement deserves recognition. However, never or rarely using soap when washing hands increased from 5.9 to 7.5 per cent. Water alone is not an adequate substitute for washing with soap.

School conditions also deserve attention. Students reporting no clean drinking-water source at school increased from 7.2 to 9.7 per cent. The 2025 report additionally describes gaps in access to places for handwashing. Drinking-water access and handwashing facilities are different indicators; neither should be assumed to measure the other.

These comparisons are warning signals, not proof of why behaviour changed. The surveys sampled different students, and self-reported answers can be affected by recall and social expectations. The 2025 study excluded private schools and public high schools in Chin State; adolescents outside school were also outside its target population. Its findings therefore require care when discussing all Myanmar adolescents. Even with these limits, the practical message is clear: reinforce handwashing before eating while sustaining progress after toilet use.

Economic, Social and Educational Impacts

An episode of preventable illness can create expenses for consultations, medicines and transport. A parent may lose work while caring for a child, and an older relative may need assistance. For households with limited resources, even a short illness can disrupt the family budget. Handwashing is relatively inexpensive, although reliable services still require financing.

Schools also bear consequences. A child recovering from diarrhoea or a respiratory infection may miss lessons, struggle to catch up or lose opportunities to participate. Teachers and classmates can be affected when infections circulate. Hygiene promotion offers a practical way to help protect attendance, but the Myanmar surveys do not establish how many absences were caused specifically by inadequate handwashing.

The broader development benefit is an inference from prevention: fewer avoidable infections can mean more time for learning, work and caregiving. Protecting health supports the skills and productivity on which national human resources depend. Although hygiene alone cannot solve every educational difficulty, preventing illness helps create conditions in which children can learn more consistently.

Investment should also promote fairness. Children should not be blamed for failing to wash when a school has no soap or its water supply has stopped. Families, institutions and public services share responsibility for making a healthy choice a feasible one.

Community Action and Sustainability

Water, sanitation and hygiene, collectively known as WASH, provide the setting in which handwashing becomes routine. Facilities should be near toilets and eating areas, accessible to younger children and people with disabilities, and supplied with soap and water. Safe drainage, regular cleaning and prompt repairs help keep them usable.

Schools can begin with a simple daily check: is water available, is soap present, and can students use the station safely? A named staff member, a modest maintenance budget and student participation can turn an occasional campaign into a reliable service. Parent-teacher groups and local organizations can help identify shortages and support solutions suited to local conditions.

Teaching should emphasize critical moments: before preparing food; before eating or feeding others; after using the toilet or handling faeces; after coughing, sneezing or blowing the nose; and when hands are visibly dirty. Use plain soap and water; rub all hand surfaces thoroughly, rinse and dry hygienically. Demonstrations should include fingertips, thumbs and spaces between fingers.

When hands are not visibly dirty, an alcohol-based hand rub containing at least 60 per cent alcohol can be an alternative. It does not remove the need for dependable handwashing facilities. Products should be used safely, and young children supervised.

Communities can extend these practices to markets, workplaces, religious gathering places and shared public spaces. Messages should be respectful, understandable and linked to facilities people can actually use. Teachers, parents and vendors can model the behaviour rather than relying only on posters.

Sustainability means planning beyond inauguration day. Budgets must cover soap replenishment, water storage where needed, cleaning and repair. Monitoring should measure whether facilities work and are used, not simply how many were installed. Community feedback can reveal inconvenient locations, queues or shortages that discourage regular practice.

Conclusion

Clean hands are a practical investment in healthier families and a more secure future. Myanmar's adolescent surveys show both progress and gaps, offering direction for action rather than grounds for complacency or blame. Effective programmes should connect knowledge, daily habits and functioning WASH services.

On Global Handwashing Day 2026, let us make a commitment that lasts beyond 15 October. Teach children to wash with soap, support households and schools with usable facilities, and keep those facilities supplied. When handwashing becomes a lifelong habit supported by the community, future generations gain a stronger foundation for health, learning and productive lives.

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Palm oil reference price shows uptick

THE palm oil wholesale reference price set for the Yangon market slightly increased to K7,369 per viss this week ending 22 October, up from K7,333 last week, according to the Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution.

The Supervisory Committee on Edible Oil Import and Distribution under the Ministry of Commerce has been closely observing the FOB prices in Malaysia and Indonesia, adding transport costs, tariffs and banking services

to decide the wholesale market reference rate for edible oil weekly.

Despite the reference price, the market price is still high. To control overcharging, the Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce has informed consumers of lodging complaints for overcharging through the call centre hotline. The department urges consumers not to buy palm oil at high prices.

The Committee notified that any person who is involved in price

gouging and oil storage to attempt market manipulation will face legal action under the Essential Goods and Services Law.

The department is working together with the Myanmar Oil Dealers' Association and the cooking oil importing companies to offer affordable rates of imported palm oil for consumers.

Complaints about overcharging can be lodged over hotline 1535 of the call centre of the Consumers Affairs Department, or sent to the Facebook page of the department and the region and state departments concerned.

The domestic consumption of palm oil is estimated at one million tonnes per year. The local palm oil production is just about 400,000 tonnes. About 700,000 tonnes of palm oil are annually imported through Malaysia and Indonesia to meet domestic demand. — NN/KK



Workers arrange cooking oil jerrycans for distribution and sale.

Myanmar Avocado and Fruit Festival 2026 set for 24-26 Oct

MYANMAR Avocado and Fruit Festival 2026 will take place, according to the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association (MFVP).

The festival is set for 24 to 26 October at Yangon's Myay Padetha Island (Pearl Island).

"Thadingyut is an occasion to have a warm and happy reunion with families and loved ones. So, don't think about the things that make you tired or worried for a while and come to enjoy Thadingyut Festival with people you love," said an event organizer.



At the event, farmers' stalls, avocado food products and cosmetics, chefs' specialities and avocado menus, avocado booths, fruit stalls and other products will be displayed. It is a fun festival which

will also feature ethnic traditional dances by PaO, Danu and Shan, as well as games. More than 70 booths are included, and businesses and sponsor companies are being invited. — TWA/ZS

Trading Amount and Forex Rate in the Market on 16 October 2026

	US\$	Chinese yuan	Thai baht	Indian rupee
Exchange rates	3,650.00~3,671.00	555.30~558.70	125.30~125.70	43.60
Trading amount in the market	12, 079,048.03	4,865,665.05	10, 060,860.45	-

Agreement signed for 2 joint research projects on edible oil consumption

THE Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association (MEODA) and Yezin Agricultural University (YAU) signed an agreement covering two joint research projects during the opening ceremony of a skills training course to support research into Myanmar's edible oil consumption, the Yangon Region government said.

The course will examine per capita oil consumption and usage rates at restaurants and small and

medium-sized food businesses. An opening ceremony was held on 15 October at the UMFCCI Mingala Hall on Min Ye Kyaw Swa Street in Yangon's Lanmadaw Township.

Yangon Region Minister U Soe Oo for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation said in his opening remarks that reliable consumption data is needed to draft an edible oil strategy, citing its importance to public welfare and

health. He said the government is supporting higher domestic oilseed production and palm oil imports, and urged trainees to apply the course material to collect accurate data.

UMFCCI President U Aye Win, Yezin Agricultural University Rector Dr Daw Theingi Myint and MEODA Chairman U Maung Maung Zaw also gave remarks respectively. A total of 220 trainees are attending the course.

Present at the ceremony were Yangon Region Minister Dr Myo Thaw for Electricity, Energy, Industry and Transport, and Yangon Region Minister U Soe Oo for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, along with the president of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the rector of YAU, the chairman of MEODA, officials and invitees. — NN/KK

MDDT seeks bids to upgrade Tachilek airport

THE Department of Civil Aviation has invited bids under a Swiss Challenge Method to upgrade Tachilek Airport in eastern Shan State.

Bid documents go on sale from 20 October at the Tender Acceptance and Scrutiny Committee at the Department of Civil Aviation head office on Airport Road in Mingaladon Township, Yangon, and the tender submission deadline is 4 pm on 20 November.

The tender committee stated that local ethnic entrepreneurs will be given priority.

Individuals can enquire for further details through 09 5062839 or 09 5302063 during office hours. — NN/KK

Daily newspapers available online

FOR those who would like to read the Myanma Alinn, the Kyemon and the Global New Light of Myanmar, published daily by the Ministry of Information, please visit www.moi.gov.mm/mal, www.moi.gov.mm/km, www.moi.gov.mm/nlm and www.gnlm.com.mm/e-paper.

ECONOMY

WORLD/AD

India's exports to US rise 11%, imports jump 26% amid ongoing trade talks

Exports to the US increased from US\$45.73 billion in the corresponding period last year.

INDIA'S merchandise exports to the United States rose 11.1 per cent to US\$50.81 billion during April-September 2026, despite tariff-related disruptions, while imports from the US increased by 26 per cent, according to data presented by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Thursday.

Exports to the US increased from US\$45.73 billion in the corresponding period last year, while imports rose to US\$32.33 billion from US\$25.66 billion. The figures show that bilateral trade continued to expand despite tariff uncertainties, although India's merchandise trade surplus with the US narrowed to US\$18.48 billion from US\$20.07 billion a year earlier.

The US remained India's largest merchandise export destination during the first half of



The United States is one of the largest and most critical destination markets for India's Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) shipments. PHOTO: ANI

the current financial year.

Meanwhile, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said negotiations for the proposed India-US trade agreement were progressing in the right direction, with both countries

working towards concluding the deal at the earliest.

"The negotiations are in the right direction. Probably, we are in a very good zone. We anticipate closing the deal and signing it at the earliest possible time,"

Agrawal said during a press briefing.

He explained that the agreement would depend on the finalisation of the broader tariff framework in the United States, where a parallel process is underway under Section 301. — ANI

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cambodia reports 23% jump in bicycle, e-bike exports

CAMBODIA saw a significant 23 per cent rise in the export of bicycles and electric bicycles during the first nine months of 2026, driven by expanding international orders and deeper integration into regional supply chains.

Data provided by the Ministry of Commerce on Thursday showed that the South-East Asian nation exported bicycles and electric bicycles worth US\$552 million from January to September. This marks a substantial increase from the \$448 million recorded during the same period last year.

Ministry of Commerce's Secretary of State and Spokesperson Penn Sovicheat said that the shipments were primarily destined for major Western markets, including the United States, European countries, Canada, and Australia.

"Bicycles and electric bicycles have grown into one of Cambodia's major manufactured exports, joining garments, footwear, travel goods, and car tires," he told Xinhua. Thong Mengdavid, deputy director at the China-ASEAN Studies Centre of the Cambodia University of Technology and Science, attributed the surge to the country's robust manufacturing momentum and a rising global demand for eco-friendly transit. — Xinhua

Russia's coal output to edge down in 2026

THE Russian Energy Ministry expects a slight decline in nationwide coal production in 2026 to 430 million tonnes from 434 million in 2025, Russian Deputy Energy Minister Dmitry Islamov said.

"I said that our main task is to maintain production volume. I also mentioned in my report that we are keeping production at the 2025 level — 434 million tonnes in 2025 and 430 million tonnes in 2026. This is our estimate: maintaining the level, with a slight decline," Islamov told reporters on the sidelines of the Russian Energy Week forum.

Coal production in Russia had dipped 1.7 per cent over the first eight months of 2026, reaching 279 million tonnes, the deputy energy minister added. — SPUTNIK

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V PORT ANGELES VOY.NO. (104)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V PORT ANGELES VOY.NO. (104)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-10-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **WILMAR** 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 UNI SPRING LOGISTICS HOLDINGS PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V MCL 9 VOY.NO. (34N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V MCL 9 VOY. NO. (34N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-10-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **YIGTL** 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 MAWLAMYINE CENTURY LOGISTICS COMPANY LIMITED

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V LH MARVISTA VOY.NO. (SW2610)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V LH MARVISTA VOY.NO. (SW2610)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-10-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT** where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Phone No: 2301928

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:
M/S WILHELMSSEN PORT SERVICES (S) PTE LTD

Japan’s Yamato Transport confirms 5.31M customer records leaked

MAJOR Japanese parcel delivery company Yamato Transport Co said Friday about 5.31 million customer data records, including names and addresses, had been leaked due to unauthorized access to its payment service system. The service allows customers to pay for goods purchased online at convenience stores or other locations after receiving them. The data did not include credit card information or passwords. The breach involved around 50,000 data records containing information such as the names and phone numbers of package recipients. In addition, about 4,100 data records containing the names of companies and stores that sell products online were also leaked. Yamato Transport confirmed the unauthorized access on 28 September and suspended the service. It resumed operations on 9 October. — Kyodo



The logo of major Japanese parcel delivery company Yamato Transport Co in Tokyo. **PHOTO: KYODO**

EU summit focuses on competitiveness, energy prices

EUROPEAN Union (EU) leaders gathered in Brussels on Thursday for a two-day summit which focused on economic competitiveness, high energy prices and the bloc’s next long-term budget, with the first day ending amid differences in views and the cancellation of a scheduled press conference. — Xinhua

Saudi offers alternative travel routes for investment conference

SAUDI Arabia plans to move ahead with a major investment conference in Riyadh despite Houthi attacks on the kingdom, offering on-site and virtual attendance as well as alternative air and land travel routes, diplomatic sources told AFP. Riyadh usually hosts a packed calendar of events, but it has recently seen escalating military tensions with the Iran-backed Yemeni group, which has intensified attacks on the kingdom’s airports and oil facilities. Saudi Arabia’s Future Investment Initiative (FII) Institute hosts an annual forum dubbed “Davos in the desert”, which usually draws foreign leaders and business titans, and this year it is scheduled to be held in Riyadh from 26 to 29 October. Diplomatic sources said that

to prevent cancellation, organisers reached out to embassies and foreign companies to explore “hybrid” participation options, allowing officials and business executives to attend either in person or virtually. They have even discussed arrangements for participants to fly by private jet to Dhahran airport in eastern Saudi Arabia before travelling by road to Riyadh. — AFP

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V YU JIA VOY.NO. (106846)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V YU JIA VOY. NO. (106846)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-10-2026** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **TMIT** 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 CHUN AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO., LTD

TENDER INVITATION

- China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (Myanmar Limited) hereby invites eligible and experienced sub-contractors to submit bids for the Testing and Inspection Subcontract for Precast Square Piles for ASK Development Project.
- Description and Scope of Work – Testing and inspection of precast square piles (approximate total length: 87,597 meters). The precast pile testing and inspection works include:
 - Horizontal static push tests, uplift tests, high-strain dynamic tests, and low-strain dynamic tests on 4 test piles (250×250 mm) and 8 test piles (350×350 mm).
 - High-strain testing on 1% and low-strain testing on 10% of the project’s piles, which include 1,801 nos. of (250×250 mm) piles and 2,308 nos. of (350×350 mm) piles.
 - Magnetic particle testing on 20% of the pile joints, covering 141 nos. of (250×250 mm) pile joints and 5,852 nos. of (350×350 mm) pile joints.
 - Each pile head is expected to have 4 weld seams inspected, with inspection lengths of 40.32 m and 1,684.8 m respectively.
- Bid Submission Deadline: October 30, 2026
- Bid Submission Method: Please submit the documents via the following email address.
- Contact information for more details:
 - Email: yuhuiguan53@gmail.com
 - Phone: +95 (9) 696810283

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY (32/2026-2027)

Open Tenders are invited for service of the following operation in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr. No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	MOGE-OS-002 (2026-2027)	24" Offshore Domestic Gas Pipeline Freespan Rectification Services	MMK

Tender Closing Date and Time: 13th November, 2026 (13:00 Hrs)

Tender Documents shall be available during Office Hours commencing from 16th October, 2026 at the Finance Department (HQ), Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, Office No. (44), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Tender Documents shall be submitted in person to the Yadana Hall, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Office No. (6), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar before tender closing date and time.

Ministry of Electricity and Energy
Phone: +95-67-3411331

TENDER NOTICE

- China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (Myanmar Limited) is inviting tenders for Modular House Procurement of the ASK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.
- Scope of Work:

No.	Item Name	Specifications	Unite	Quantity
1	Modular House (Single-Layer)	3.6m*5.4m*50mm	Unit	103
2	Modular House (Single-Layer)	3.6m*5.4m*70mm	Unit	114
3	Security Room	2m*2.9m*50mm	Unit	3
4	Security Room	2m*2.9m*70mm	Unit	7

- Bid submission deadline: 24 October, 2026.
- Tender Submission Address: BP-2, Building, Shwe Zabu River View Condo, Kyee Myindaig Kanner Road, Alone Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
- Contact Information
 - Email: caowei1676@gmail.com
 - Phone: 09672093455

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GLOBAL VIEWPOINTS:

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

President Droupadi Murmu pays tribute to Dr APJ Abdul Kalam on birth anniversary

Dr Kalam received several prestigious honours during his lifetime.

President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday paid floral tributes to former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam on his birth anniversary in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. The President is visiting the city to attend the National SARAS Mela.

Born on 15 October 1931 in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu, Dr Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam was one of India's most distinguished scientists and played a significant role in the country's space and defence programmes. He served as the 11th President of India from 25 July 2002 to 25 July 2007.

Dr Kalam graduated in aeronautical engineering from the Madras Institute of Technology. As Project Director, he made a significant contribution to the development of India's first indigenous Satellite Launch Vehicle, SLV-III,



President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday paid floral tributes to former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam on his birth anniversary in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.

PHOTO: DD NEWS

which successfully placed the Rohini satellite into near-Earth orbit in July 1980. He also contributed to the evolution of the Indian Space Research Organisation's launch vehicle programme, particularly the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle configuration.

After working with ISRO for around two decades, Dr Kalam joined the

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), where he led the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme. He played a key role in the development and operationalization of the Agni and Prithvi missile systems, strengthening India's indigenous defence capabilities.

From July 1992 to De-

cember 1999, he served as Scientific Adviser to the Defence Minister and Secretary of the Department of Defence Research and Development. During this period, he contributed to the development of strategic missile systems and the Pokhran-II nuclear tests in collaboration with the Department of Atomic Energy. He also supported efforts to promote self-reliance in defence technologies, including projects such as the Light Combat Aircraft.

Dr Kalam received several prestigious honours during his lifetime, including the Padma Bhushan in 1981, the Padma Vibhushan in 1990 and the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award, in 1997. He was also conferred honorary doctorates by 30 universities and institutions.

Echoing the President's sentiments, several prominent national leaders also took to various platforms to honour the 'Missile Man' and recall his lasting impact on the country. — DD NEWS/ANI

Cuba expands renewable energy use amid US fuel blockade: FM

CUBAN Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez said Thursday that renewable energy now accounts for more than one-fifth of the country's electricity generation as it seeks to reduce the impact of US fuel restrictions.

In a post on X, Rodriguez said the Cuban government and Communist Party were responding to the US energy blockade,

which "aims to punish all Cubans", with "greater sovereignty and measures" to ease the impact of US sanctions.

Cuba now has 144 solar parks with a combined installed capacity of 1,418 megawatts, while renewable sources account for 21.4 per cent of national electricity generation, he said. — Xinhua

IMF warns AI boom could trigger equity market correction



As Amazon invests billions of dollars in Anthropic, the AI startup commits to spending heavily on the tech titan's AWS cloud computing technology. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

THE artificial intelligence (AI) boom is fuelling the expectation of economic growth in the short-run, but uneven adoption and expectations running ahead of actual productivity gains could lead to "near-term disappointment", and a sharp equity market correction with losses spreading globally, according to International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The IMF, in a blog post, noted that the ongoing AI boom is largely driven by massive investments in infrastructure, particularly data centres, led by major technology companies known as hyperscalers.

Despite having profitable core businesses, these companies are increasingly relying on debt markets to fund their expansion. Also, their share of investment-grade bond issuance has surged more than tenfold over the past two years, rising from less than 1 per cent to 10 per cent and continuing to grow. The IMF also highlighted the highly concentrated and interconnected nature of the AI industry, where hyperscalers invest in advanced AI model developers, which in turn purchase data centre capacity from the same companies. — ANI

Russia to respond to Ukraine's attacks on oil refineries, logistics, energy facilities

RUSSIA will respond to Ukraine's attacks on its oil refineries, logistics and energy facilities, there was no need for Ukraine to start them in the first place, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday.

"Yesterday they tried

to strike some oil refineries. Now they've hit a few places there. Nothing particularly significant, but they keep going. It is the same with e-commerce platforms - they have taken the first step, we have started responding now, and they are already



Sputnik reports that Ukrainian drone strikes have continued to target critical Russian energy infrastructure, including major oil refineries. People queue to refuel their cars at a Lukoil petrol station in Moscow, Russia. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ AFP/FILE**

weeping about energy, including military installa-

tions, data centres, and so on. — SPUTNIK

SPORTS

Medvedev beats Paul to face Jodar in Shanghai Masters semis



Russia's Daniil Medvedev won the Shanghai Masters seven years ago. **PHOTO: AFP**

DANIIL Medvedev overcame a wobble to beat a fighting Tommy Paul on Friday and reach the semifinals of the Shanghai Masters, setting up a showdown with rising star Rafael Jodar.

At age 20, the Spaniard is the youngest player to

reach the Shanghai semifinals since the tournament's inaugural edition in 2009.

Medvedev, the 2019 Shanghai champion, overcame inconsistent serving to beat Paul 6-3, 1-6, 6-3.

The 30-year-old saved seven break points to hold back the American in a marathon sixth game, giving little away as he broke to take the first set when Paul fired long.

But the 18th-ranked Paul returned inspired in the second set, displaying fantastic defence as Medvedev drove him around the court.

He was rewarded when Medvedev double-faulted twice in a must-win game to tumble into a decider. — AFP

Man City seeks home comfort while Arsenal, Man Utd and Liverpool play away

MANCHESTER City will seek home comfort in the Premier League this weekend, while Manchester United makes the short trip to play Leeds United knowing it must respond after a difficult week in which Michael Carrick won't be the only coach under scrutiny.

Saturday's lunchtime kick-off sees Everton host Chelsea. Chelsea will aim to build on last week's impressive home win over Bournemouth, in which Jordan Henderson provided stability in midfield, while Everton must eliminate the costly errors that hurt them away to Hull City.

Manchester City faced a hostile reception at Anfield last weekend after revelations the club was guilty of 114 breaches of Premier League rules. Enzo Maresca's side nonetheless showed great character in a 3-0 victory at Liverpool, although they were beaten 4-2 in a thrilling Champions League tie at home to Paris Saint-Germain on Wednesday. — Xinhua



Chelsea defender Reece James has undergone minor knee surgery. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

3 Myanmar women's clubs sign foreign players for second half

YADANABON, Shan United and Ayeyawady sign foreign players for second half of Myanmar Women's League.

Myanmar women's football clubs Yadanabon, Shan United and Ayeyawady have signed foreign players for the second half of the Myanmar Women's League, which is scheduled to begin on 19 October.

Yadanabon have parted ways with all three Philippine players they fielded in the first half of the season and re-signed former Kenya international forward Maruni and



Former Kenya international Maruni, signed by the Yadanabon Women's team. **PHOTO: YDNBFC**

Japanese defender Take-da. Maruni has experience playing for club teams in China and India.

Shan United have parted ways with Sakiwa,

one of the three foreign players they used in the first half, and strengthened their squad by signing Philippine midfielder and winger Yanzie Ya Laung and

Japanese forward Ogawa. Ogawa previously played for Myanmar women's club Ayeyawady on loan.

Reigning champions Ayeyawady, meanwhile, have parted ways with some of their foreign players and signed two Japanese players for the second half. They have also strengthened their squad with Japanese midfielder Hanako Fuji as their third foreign signing. In addition to competing in the domestic league, Ayeyawady will also play in the group stage of the AFC Women's Champions League. — Shine Htet Zaw/KZL

Arteta praises 'incredible will' of struggling Gyokeres



Arsenal forward Viktor Gyokeres has not scored for the club this season. **PHOTO: AFP/FILE**

ARSENAL boss Mikel Arteta on Friday praised struggling Viktor Gyokeres for his "incredible will and determination" as the striker hunts his first goal

of the season for the Premier League champions. The 28-year-old forward has been a fringe player in the early stages of the current campaign

and is yet to score in any competition despite netting freely for Sweden.

Arteta has preferred Germany international Kai Havertz up front, meaning Gyokeres has not started a single Premier League game so far this term.

The Spanish manager was asked ahead of Sunday's match at Nottingham Forest whether Gyokeres was struggling with his confidence.

"That's a very personal question," replied Arteta. "I think what he transmits is an incredible

will and determination and work-rate to improve and help the team, that's it.

"That's Viktor every single day, regardless of his position, whether he scores a goal or not, and that's why he's always an option to play."

Arteta said Gyokeres, who scored 21 goals in his debut season for the club in 2025/26, had been unlucky not to have opened his account this season.

"We are trying to help him as much as possible. He has some very good moments," he added. — AFP

Chelsea captain James faces lay-off after knee surgery

CHELSEA captain Reece James will be out of action for several weeks after undergoing successful knee surgery, manager Xabi Alonso said on Friday.

The England international, 26, missed last week's 5-1 win over Bournemouth after suffering an

injury in training.

The club said in a statement that "assessments confirmed surgery would be the required course of action", adding the defender had "begun his road to recovery".

"We are all disappointed, and especially for him,"

Alonso told reporters on the eve of Chelsea's match at Everton.

"He wanted to have a good start after the international break, but in the last training session he picked up an injury. We wanted to be cautious and wait for the result of the tests.

"Now, the surgery has been successful and we will keep supporting him. He will be close to the team as he is a great influence even when he is not available. We wish him a great recovery and while we don't set timelines, he will be out for several weeks." — AFP



WORLD

Cambodia fully restores centuries-old West Mebon Temple

ARCHAEOLOGISTS have successfully restored the centuries-old West Mebon Temple within Cambodia's UNESCO-listed Angkor Archaeological Park, according to an APSARA National Authority (ANA) news release on Friday.

Situated on an island in the middle of the West Baray — the Angkor area's largest reservoir — the temple is surrounded by vast expanses of water, creating a distinctive and captivating landscape.

While the ANA prepares the site for its official

opening in November by cleaning the area, organizing the surroundings, and enhancing the environment, eager tourists have already begun visiting the temple to take photographs and admire its remarkable architecture.

Through a joint effort between the ANA and the French government, the temple underwent extensive restoration to recover its former appearance after suffering significant structural damage and stone loss over the centuries. — Xinhua

Toyota plans all software-defined cars by 2030

TOYOTA Motor Corp will make all its cars software-defined vehicles by 2030, allowing new features to be added or existing features to be upgraded via software updates, company sources said Friday.

Such software services are expected to give manufacturers new sources of revenue beyond vehicle and parts sales by charging fees for software

updates and upgrades throughout the product lifecycle.

The automaker outlined the plan at a recent investor briefing, the sources said. Toyota sold over 11 million vehicles in the business year ended March. The company already has a software platform for its cars called Arene, developed by a subsidiary. — Kyodo

Elon Musk unveils Tesla's 'flying' car

TESLA CEO Elon Musk unveiled what he described as a "flying" car, equipped with thrusters, during a livestreamed event at his SpaceX rocket company's facility on Thursday.

Technical and regulatory challenges have so far prevented the much-hyped flying car sector from getting off the ground.

Musk revealed his new

Roadster sports car during a launch event at a SpaceX test facility in Texas.

During the demo, which was livestreamed on Tesla's X account, the car launched from a steep steel ramp and performed a full barrel roll in mid-air before landing on its wheels.

"Flying cars are real," Musk said during the event. — AFP

India's agriculture sector can benefit from Canadian fertilizers

The Indian government has approved the sale of a 60.7 per cent stake in IDBI Bank to Canada's Fairfax Financial Holdings.

India's agricultural sector could benefit from Canadian fertilizers and potash to improve crop yields and farming efficiency, said Maninder Sidhu, Canadian Minister of International Trade, adding Fairfax wants to invest more in India.

Addressing a press conference on Canada-India Commercial Agreements, Sidhu said, the Fairfax-IDBI deal "is the largest deal between our two countries in the financial sector and that sends a clear signal to the supply chains that Canada is ready to do more." India on Tuesday approved the sale of a 60.7 per cent stake in IDBI Bank to Fairfax Financial Holdings. Further adding that Fairfax has invested heavily in



The Canadian minister said India's agricultural sector could benefit from Canadian fertilisers and potash to improve crop yields and farming efficiency. PHOTO: ANI

Bangalore International Airport, he said, the company "wants to do more in this country".

Highlighting opportunities for bilateral trade, the Canadian minister

said India's agricultural sector could benefit from Canadian fertilizers and potash to improve crop yields and farming efficiency. "A lot of farmers here in India can use

Canadian fertilizer and potash to help grow more yields, to help be more efficient in farming...and here in the state, we're seeing a lot of demand for aerospace," he said. — ANI

China to adjust train numbering system, add X-series for higher-speed trains

CHINA will adjust its national train numbering system and introduce a new "X" series for future trains with maximum operating speeds above 350 kilometres per hour, China State Railway Group Co, Ltd (China Railway) announced on Friday.

The change will be implemented in two batches in late November and late December. China Railway said train services will continue to operate according to the current timetable after the adjustment.

China's newest high-speed train, the Fuxing CR450 electric multiple unit (EMU), which has a maximum test speed

of 450 km/h and an operating speed of 400 km/h, has passed all type tests by March 2026, said Zhao Hongwei, chief research-

er at the China Academy of Railway Sciences Corporation Limited (CARS). It is currently the world's fastest high-speed train by operating speed.

The CR450 achieves this speed while consuming about as much electricity as existing high-speed trains. Zhao noted that at 400 km/h, the CR450 uses less than 22 kWh per kilometre, while data from CARS show that 350 km/h high-speed trains use 19.5 to 23.5 kWh per kilometre. — Xinhua



An aerial drone photo taken on 25 September 2026 shows a bullet train of Harbin-Yichun high-speed railway running on trial operation through Yichun City, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province. PHOTO: XINHUA