

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IX, No. 106, 4th Waxing of Wagaung 1384 ME

www.gnlm.com.mm

Sunday, 31 July 2022

Five-Point Road Map of the State Administration Council

1. The Union Election Commission will be reconstituted and its mandated tasks, including the scrutiny of voter lists, shall be implemented in accordance with the law.
2. Effective measures will be taken with added momentum to prevent and manage the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Actions will be taken to ensure the speedy recovery of businesses from the impact of COVID-19.
4. Emphasis will be placed on achieving enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the agreements set out in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement.
5. Upon accomplishing the provisions of the state of emergency, free and fair multiparty democratic elections will be held in line with the 2008 Constitution, and further work will be undertaken to hand over State duties to the winning party in accordance with democratic standards.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Announcement of Central Committee on Prevention, Control and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019

(COVID-19)

3rd Waxing of Wagaung 1384 ME
30 July 2022

AS it is necessary to continuously control infection of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), it is hereby announced that public requests, orders, notifications and directives (except for easing the restrictions) released by the Union-level organizations and Union ministries up to 31 July 2022 have been extended until 31 August 2022 for prevention, control and treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Myanmar's marine exports collect over \$181 mln from 1 April to 22 July

THE maritime product exports earn Myanmar over US\$181million between 1 April and 22 July this FY, according to the Fisheries Department.

The country exports fisheries products through normal trade and border trade routes and also carries out local production processes systematically to be free from pathogens keeping in line with regulations set by the trade partner countries.

It secures \$119.351 million via sea and air routes and \$62.545 million via land borders.

The Fisheries Department and the Myanmar Fisheries Federation work together to ensure local consumption and foreign exports.

The marine products are normally exported to Japan and EU countries, and fish, prawns and crabs to China, Thailand and neighbours via the Muse, Myawady, Kawthoung, Sittway, Myeik and Maungtau border



Myanmar secures \$119.351 million via sea and air routes and \$62.545 million via land borders. Fish workers are pictured sorting the fish at the port.

trade zones. The products received from the livestock breeding sector and onshore and offshore fishing operations are exported directly as raw materials and by packaging them at cold storage.—TWA/GNLM






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Announcement for opening reception centres to receive CDM staff, students and youths

THE State Administration Council has been striving for the all-round development of the country including economic, social, education and health sectors. In addition, security forces are performing their duties day and night so that the entire mass of national people in various regions across the Union should be able to lead their lives and earn their living in the peace of mind. The State Administration Council gives priority to achieving genuine and perpetual peace, building up the united strength of the national brethren.

In order to prevent the unnecessary loss of human resources, the State Administration Council has publicly invited the basic education staff who are absent from duty to resume their duties and those who take part in armed resistance under various names of groups,

including PDFs, to return to the legal fold if they wish to, and is systematically receiving the returnees.

It is found that, due to the persuasion, instigation and coercion of CRPH and NUG terrorist groups, some CDM staff, students and youths went to the strongholds of some ethnic armed organizations and received training in arms, ammunition and explosives.

It is known that some of those who have completed the training no longer want to be involved in terrorist attacks and so they fled to the regions within and without the country and are working there for their living. When they see terrorist attacks with their own eyes, they cannot accept such terrible acts at all. On the other hand, they have come to believe in the government's five-point roadmap and its endeavour for

endurable peace. Moreover, they want to live peacefully in their hometowns again with their parents and relatives. Nevertheless, they cannot do so because of the coercion and intimidation by CRPH and NUG terrorist groups and their subordinates, it is learnt.

Therefore, the government is taking measures to be able to open reception centres in border areas for those who would like to return homes to their respective regions. Moreover, those wishing to return home can contact Tatmadaw units and police stations. It is guaranteed that they will be able to lead their daily lives peacefully.

*Information Team
State Administration Council*

Upgrading inner-city roads completed in Mawlamyine

THE Mawlamyine Development Committee (MDC) conducts upgrade works on entry and existing roads, downtown roads, and Strand Road night market in Mawlamyine township.

"The two miles and seven furlongs Phetkhin Road from Hpa-an and Kyauksemaraw townships is the entryway to Mawlamyine and a major route for trade flows. The large and small vehicles pass through that road and we expand the nylon tar road to 36 feet from 24 feet to facilitate the trade flow and to ensure road safety," said MDC Executive Officer U Aung Htut.

The committee will upgrade the construction of a platform (drainage), free lane and landscape at Hintha roundabout, the entrance of Mawlamy-



The photo shows the slab landscaping on Strand Road in Mawlamyine.

ine during this FY.

He said, "The Taungwyne road is the main road to Maw-

lamyine University and pagodas at the foot of the Taung Nyo. We also expand the road to 36

feet from 24 feet for the safety of university students and residents,

The upgrade works on 4,353 feet long Taungwyne Road is completed and the remaining part from Nagawuntha Creek to the Zay Cho roundabout will be carried out in the 2023-2024FY.

The Strand road is also upgraded in addition to the downtown roads and is now completed 50 per cent.

The MDC official added, "We create Welcome Mawlamyine letters on slab area of Strand Road, in the old location of the night market, decorate granite at the floor, install gymnasium equipment, tennis floor paint, lights and replace new Clay tile." The Strand Road night market upgrading works were conducted on 7 June 2022 and are slated to be completed on 30 October. —Min Min/GNLM

YGEA's set gold price remains unchanged at K2,060,000 per tical despite over K2.2 mln in market



Gold jewellery is pictured in the gold outlet in Yangon.

ALTHOUGH the exchange rate is high and the gold price reaches over K2.2 million in the out-of-the-counter market, the Yangon Region Gold Entrepreneurs Association (YGEA) set the pure gold price at K2,060,000 per tical.

Therefore, the gold prices are about K200,000 different between YGEA's set price and the market price. The transaction is totally slack. In the market, it is K2,800 per dollar and the gold price is also rising at the same as the exchange rate. However, the manipulators set these prices and there is no transaction at these prices, said YGEA Chair U Myo Myint.

The gold prices released by

the YGEA are low and the prices are high outside Yangon and the illegal cross-border gold market is active again, he added.

According to daily price data released by YGEA, global gold price stands at US\$1,766 per ounce, while pure gold has been set at K2,060,000 per tical since 18 July.

During the end of September 2021, a dollar value hit an all-time high of over K3,000 and consequently, the pure gold reached a record high of K2.22 million per tical in history.

Under the guidance of the Central Committee on Ensuring Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods, the Monitoring and

Steering Committee on Gold and Currency Market was formed on 17 December 2021 as gold and currency market stability play a crucial role in trade facilitation. The objectives of the committee are inspecting and prosecuting market manipulation, checking if there is compliance with payment rules in the domestic market, and proceeding against those unscrupulous traders who intend to interfere with the free and fair operation of the market under the existing laws, by-laws and regulations in line with official directives, illegal foreign currency holding, illegal trade and taking legal actions against price manipulators. — NN/GNLM

Further invitation to remnant groups to hold talks

DEMOCRACY as well as federalism requires equal rights. Talks will continue with the ethnic armed organizations to restore peace.

Good results came out from the talks with EAOs. Efforts will continue to restore peace by holding better talks.

Some EAOs cannot participate in the talks for various reasons. In line with the firm implementation of two political visions, the government further invites remnant groups to hold talks.

(The excerpt from the speech delivered by Chairman of the State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in meeting with ministers of Yangon Region government on 9 June 2022.)

Knowledge-Sharing Programme on “The Knowledge and Experiences gained from the Civil Service Academy’s Management Courses for Executive-Level and Senior Level Officials” held

THE Knowledge-Sharing Programme No 18 on “Knowledge and Experiences gained from the Civil Service Academy’s Management Courses for Executive-Level and Senior-Level Officials” was held at 2 pm on 28 July at the Assembly Hall of the Office of the Auditor-General of the Union, Nay Pyi Taw.

At the ceremony, Union Auditor-General Dr Kan Zaw delivered an address, saying that every country establishes Civil Service Academies or Civil Service Training and conducts training for the capacity development of their government organizations; in our country, similarly, basic and advanced level management courses for each position and advanced level management courses for Executive-level and Senior-level Officials are being conducted for the purposes to comply with civil service personnel law, instructions, civil service rules and financial rules, to behave as a



The Knowledge-Sharing Programme No 18 is in progress both online and offline Union Auditor-General Dr Kan Zaw opens the event.

responsible citizen and to participate in an inclusive environment.

The management courses for executives and senior officials are conducted to be able to manage effectively with a broader perspective on political, economic, social, and management in

implementing the visions of the nation.

Therefore, he mentioned believing that today’s discussion about the knowledge and experience gained from the management courses for executives and senior officials will provide

knowledge for the attendees.

After that, Deputy Director-General Daw Khin Khin Thi shared the knowledge and experiences gained from the lectures and experiences of responsible persons from government organizations and experts from

internal and external sources.

And then, Daw Khin Than Kyi and Daw Khin Htwe Yi, Directors of the Kachin State and the Bago Region Auditor-General Offices, also shared knowledge and experiences gained from the Senior Officials’ management courses at the Civil Service Academy.

After that, the attendees raised questions and exchanged knowledge and discussion.

The ceremony was attended by the permanent secretary, the director-general (Audit Department), the deputy permanent secretary, the deputy directors-general (Admin/Audit), directors, deputy directors, assistant directors, staff officers, and senior auditors, totalling 404, not only from the Assembly Hall but also virtually from two training school rooms, the Myanmar Accountancy Council Office and Region/State Auditor-General Offices, in line with Covid-19 prevention rules. — GNLM

CBM holds workshop for Onsite inspection on AML/CFT, Feedback Meeting, WMD

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (Yangon branch) organized a workshop for weaknesses found in Onsite supervision on AML/CFT, Feedback Meeting and WMD yesterday.

The workshop was attended by CBM Deputy Governor Daw Than Than Swe, Directors-General of CBM, representatives of the Financial Intelligence Unit, Bureau of Special Investigation, Banks, mobile banking services and national strategy III for

AML/CFT.

During the event, Chairperson of the National Strategy III CBM Deputy Governor Daw Than Than Swe made an opening speech.

Then, they discussed the weaknesses found in Onsite and Offsite inspections on AML/CFT, proper amendments, facts to be aware of by the banks to ensure quality reports and weapons of mass destruction (WMD). — MNA



CBM Deputy Governor Daw Than Than Swe delivers the opening speech at the workshop.

40 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 30 July, total figure rises to 614,083

MYANMAR’S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **614,083** after **40** new cases were reported on 30 July 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **592,881** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll still stands at **19,434** without more casualties.—MNA

Kayin State Investment Committee coordination meeting (5/2022) held



Kayin State Investment Committee Chair Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo presides over the coordination meeting 5/2022 on 29 July.

A coordination meeting 5/2022 of the Kayin State Investment Committee was held at 2 pm on 29 July at the meeting hall of the Kayin State Government Office.

Kayin State Investment Committee Chair Chief Minister U Saw Myint Oo said that it is necessary to invite entrepreneurs to invest in order to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers in the region and replace them with natural fertilizers.

Due to the development of the new Hpa-An breeding zone, more than K8 billion have been invested by local breeders and some will invest more, the chief minister explained. He urged

officials to invite more investors to invest in the agriculture sector.

Then, Kayin State Investment Committee Secretary DICA Director U Naing Win Toe presented and clarified the field inspection on the status of the Public Wealth Company Limited's submission for commercial start-up, the appointment of new Kayin State Investment Committee membership, and the Top Form Myanmar Co Ltd.

It is reported that the committee members discussed the matters and the chief minister gave a closing speech.—Saw Myo Min Thein-IPRD/GNLM

Yangon mayor inspects water flow improvement tasks

ACCOMPANIED by the vice-mayor, the secretary, committee members and officials, Yangon City Development Committee-YCDC Chairman Yangon Mayor U Bo Htay made an inspection tour of water flow improvement works in Yangon yesterday.

First, the Yangon mayor and party went to the sluice gate of the Yepaukyi Creek on Thanthuma Road in South Okkalapa Township and inspected the tasks of pumping water into the Ngamoeyeik Creek and cleaning activities around the gate, and fulfilled the necessities.

The mayor and party made the inspection tour of cleaning activities in the Kyai-

kkasan Creek in South Okkalapa Township, pumping water from the Kunapinlein Creek's sluice gate by two flood control pumps that can pump 33 gallons of water per hour and cleaning activities in Tamway township.

Afterwards, the mayor inspected the repairing of the ground and fence of the Inner-Shukhintha staff housing in 10/South Ward of Thakayta Township, the construction of brick drainage retaining wall, cover slabs with manholes, road extension of the Engineering Department (Roads and Bridges) along the Shukhintha Road and cleaning activities on Shukhintha Road. —MNA



YCDC Chair Yangon Mayor U Bo Htay and party inspect cleaning work of the drainage canal in Yangon yesterday.

Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was reconstituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

The following telephone numbers, fax and email address can be reached to safely report information in connection with illegal trade.

Auto telephone number - 067 409 883
Mobile phone - 09 404339969
Fax - 067 409 886
Email address - antiillegaltradeinfo@gmail.com
Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee

Public Notification

THE Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee was reconstituted under the State Administration Council's Order No 366/2021 dated 10.12.2021, and action is being taken effectively against illegal trade under the law.

Regarding the "request for money from departmental organizations in conducting trade", the following numbers can be reached to safely report such information.

Auto telephone number - 067 409 881
Mobile phone - 09 699611116
Fax - 067 409 887
Email address - antiillegaltradeoffice@gmail.com
Illegal Trade Eradication Steering Committee

Air travellers to Myanmar need to show RDT test results within 48 hours

THE Ministry of Health announced that those entering Myanmar by international airlines and rescue flights must show an RT-PCR test within 48 hours starting 1 August.

Those who have an entry visa and an international flight ticket to enter Myanmar will need a certificate of completion of a full vaccination against the COVID-19 disease recognized by the Ministry of Health more than 14 days ago.

In the same way, the results of the RTD test and the RT-PCR test that there is no COVID-19 disease will be required within 48 hours.

Upon arrival at the airports in Myanmar, they will be checked by the airport health department



The Rapid Diagnostic Test-RDT is underway for the commercial flight passengers.

and immigration and will be tested for COVID-19 infection by the RTD method at the designated

area of the airport.

The Ministry of Health announced that those who are not

found to be infected after the examination will be able to continue their journeys, and those

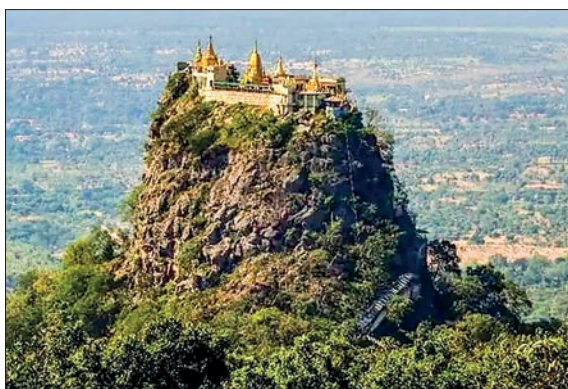
who are found to be infected will be sent to a designated hospital or treatment centre or hotel for treatment.

Similarly, those returning from the relief flights will be checked by the airport health department and immigration and will be transported to designated hotels or quarantine centres by designated vehicles.

They will have to stay in the specified hotel or quarantine centre for seven days and will be tested by RDT on the first day and RT-PCR on the fifth day.

The Ministry of Health announced that after the results of the examination, those who are found negative for COVID-19 will be able to continue their journey. — TWA/GNLM

Mount Popa area to be established as national geopark



An undated photo shows an aerial view of Mount Popa and its vicinity.

ACCORDING to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, efforts are being made to establish the Mount Popa region as a national-level geopark.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation announced that this is the preliminary measure towards being proposed as a UNESCO World Geopark.

It is known that among the many places with good potential for being designated as a world geopark in Myanmar, the Mount

Popa region is the most special one.

According to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, there are unique fossilized jaws in the Mount Popa area.

It is also reported that the Mount Popa National Geopark will be designated as a national geopark before being proposed as a world-class geopark.

UNESCO started the Global Geopark Programme in 2001, and 177 Global Geoparks have been designated in 46 countries. —TWA/GNLM

White sesame leads with high price as new sesame enters market

SESAME is entering the Mandalay commodity depot from Kyaukse, Myittha, Theadaw, and Wundwin in the last week of July with Japanese-origin white sesame being the most expensive.

The price of a three-basket (45-viss) bag of Japanese white sesame was between K225,000 and K250,000 on 29 July. Compared with the end of June at K205,000, the sesame price surged by K45,000.

Also, the price of 45-viss white sesame per bag is between K205,000 and K215,000. Black cumin (new) still costs between K225,000 and K240,000, while black cumin (old) costs around K180,000 to K200,000.

During the last week of June, 45 visses of brown sesame (new) are priced between K183,000 and K187,000, with prices ranging from K145,000 to K150,000. Within a month, the price increases by 37,000-38,000.

A 45-viss bag of yellow sesame costs K180,000 and is stable. The price of a three-basket (45-viss) Japanese white sesame is about K220,000; the new white sesame (Magway) is from 205,500 to K215,000 per bag; the black cumin (new) is K234,000 per 45-viss bag and the price for the old is about K195,000 per 45-viss bag at the Magway commodity depot.

It is K185,000 per 45-viss bag of brown sesame, K193,000 per 45-viss bag of red sesame and the price remains the same. The price comparison of the brown sesame is K59,500 per basket on 22 July and rises to K61,500 on 25 July. —TWA/GNLM



One section of the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.

Further speed traps coming to Yangon-Mandalay Expressway

THE new speed-measuring devices will be installed on the Yangon-Mandalay expressway, according to Nay Pyi Taw Highway Police Station.

There are 16 police stations between zero mile and 352 miles six furlongs of the Yangon-Mandalay expressway and 11 measuring devices have been installed to charge vehicles that exceed their speed limits.

Currently, seven more devices will be installed on the expressway.

The traffic police took action against 5,046 vehicles for excessive speeding between January and the second week of July 2022, according to data from the Highway Police Station.

Currently, the speed limit on the highway is 100 kilometres per hour for private vehicles, 90 kph for express buses and 60 kph for trucks. — TWA/GNLM

COVID-19 vaccine drive continues in various states, regions

DOCTORS and nurses from public hospitals, Tatmadaw medical teams, healthcare workers and volunteers are working hard to give COVID-19 vaccines in different states and regions as the vaccination programme is one of the most important activities in the prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19 disease.

COVID-19 vaccine is administered daily to target groups regardless of race or religion, including Buddhist monks and nuns, local people over the age of 40, students, religious leaders, prisoners, people with disabilities, ethnic armed groups, people with chronic diseases, people in



Students get jabbed against COVID-19 in Kyauktaw, Rakhine State.

IDP camps and over 12-year-old students, respectively.

Yesterday, doctors and medical teams from the Tatmadaw, relevant healthcare

workers in collaboration with volunteers gave COVID-19 vaccines to 4,925 people from twenty-six townships in Ayeyawady Region, 1,603 people from six townships in Rakhine State, and 6,049 from seven districts in Mandalay Region, respectively.

Similarly on that day, healthcare officials gave the vaccines to 668 students from twenty-six townships in Ayeyawady Region and 632 students from two townships in Rakhine State.

It is reported that officials from the respective Military Commands visited the site and coordinated the necessary work. — MNA

CRIME NEWS

Illicit consumer goods, industrial materials and vehicles confiscated

SUPERVISED by the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee, effective action is being taken to control illegal trade under the law.

Under the supervision of the Customs Department, an on-duty team performed inspections at the Container Checkpoint of the Myanmar Industrial Port, Yangon Region and seized clothes and consumer goods with an unregistered import licence (an estimated value of K87,943,820) on 28 July. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

Similarly, rice mill spare parts without official documents (approximately K1,470,500) were confiscated from an Express bus departed from Mawlamyine to

Yangon, while a combined team led by the head of the Customs Department made random checks near the Phayagyi Toll-gate, with the supervision of the Bago Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force. The team also seized the Yutong Express bus worth around K40 million, which transported the unauthorized goods. The arrest worth K41,470,500 was made and the action was charged under the Customs Procedures.

In addition, an inspection was made by the on-duty team at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) Joint Checkpoint, with the guidance of the Kayin State Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force on 29 July and impounded floor carpets (an es-

timated value of K2.1 million) that exceeded the import declaration-ID from a truck heading from Myawaddy to Yangon. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

In the same way, a truck heading from Myawaddy to Yangon was captured with various handbags (approximately K3,561,250) that surpassed the import declaration-ID at the Ma-yanchaung Permanent Checkpoint in Mon State, while the on-duty team conducted inspections under the management of the Customs Department. A Mitsubishi Fuso truck loading the seized handbags, worth around K20 million was also impounded by the team and an arrest worth K23,561,250 was made. The action is being charged under the Customs Procedures.

Supervised by the Sagaing Region Anti-Illicit Trade Task Force, an inspection team led by the Myanmar Police Force made inspections near the Tadahtake Checkpoint of Karboe Village in Kanbalu Township and seized a Canda 125 type motorcycle without a licence (approximately K0.3 million). The effective action was made under the Customs Law.

Thus, seven arrests worth approximately K155,375,570 were made on 28 and 29 July, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee.—MNA



Confiscated illegal goods in Bago Region.

Restricted chemicals worth K320 mln captured in Hsenwi township



Two arrestees are seen together with seized chemicals and a lorry.

K320 million worth of 35.95 tonnes of restricted chemicals – Ammonium Nitrate – were seized in Hsenwi township of Shan State (North), Myanmar Police Force stated.

A combined team consisting of members of the Anti-Drug Police Force examined a Nissan 22-wheel truck driven by Aung Ko Min accompanied by Hein Min Zaw heading from Muse to Lashio township at the Yepu

Permanent Checkpoint at 7 pm on 26 July.

They captured a total of 35.95 tonnes of restricted chemicals – Ammonium Nitrate – worth K320 million and the suspects admitted the seized chemicals to be carried from Shan State to Mandalay Region.

The suspects are prosecuted under the law and Police are carrying out investigations to arrest the rest, it is learnt. — MNA

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09 454 237 515

BEFORE 1990, there were stalls selling kitchen materials and fishing products in Latha and Lanmadaw townships in Yangon. There were commodity shops on 19th street, 20th street, Sint Oh Dan Street, tobacco shops on 14th street and Shwe Taung Tan Street, and fishery products on 9th and 10th streets. Road freight bus stations were also located in Lanmadaw Township.

There were chicken stalls by the side of the Hledan waterfront, a fish market and a vegetable market at the Kili (Wahdan) waterfront. As it was near the ports, it was convenient to trade goods, said those who worked in those places.

However, in the 1990s, according to the increasing urban living system, the authorities began to put in place measures to move the above-mentioned goods industries to suitable places so that there would be no traffic jams in Yangon.

Bayint Naung

In the late 1990s, the City Municipal implemented a Warehouse and Cargo-Bus Terminal to relocate kitchen goods and aquatic products, paste, fish, and dried businesses to the side of the Hline River in Mayangon Township. 40 feet wide and 60 feet long plots were made and given space to the businessmen who will move from downtown Yangon.

Now Bayint Naung has become wider than the original position due to some newly built housing projects. Cargo can be easily unloaded for sales exhibitions through the Bayint Naung port.



Thirty-year-old Bayint Naung Warehouse and Cargo-Bus Terminal



By TWA

Transport

In and out of the market compound, four main roads namely Ingyin, Yinma, Gangaw, and Yoegyichaung road have been upgraded to concrete roads. Some lanes have been paved as concrete roads.

Businesses

Onion, pepper, potatoes, oil, jaggery, sugar, tamarind, and wheat are mainly sold on Sein Pan Road, Nguwah road, Yaytama road, and Aung Thabyay Road. In the year 2000, Kha Yay Road had the most commercial bus stops, now there are commercial bus stops in every lane.

There are stalls of seafood products such as fish paste, dried fish, fish sauce, and dried shrimp on Gangaw Road and Gangaw lane.

Most of the rice fairs are on Padauk, Athoka, Khatta, and Yuzana lanes. There are auto spare parts shops that moved from Bayint Naung Auto Spare Parts Market on Naung Yoe road.

Most of the warehouses are open from 7 am to evening and the cargo bus terminals are open until late at night. However, the seafood fairs on Gangaw road display and sell their products in the parking lot in front of the fair from around 5 am to 9 am.

As there are money transfers from other areas, the Myanmar Economic Bank branch, and most of the private bank branches are seen to be opened in Bayint Naung. There are also rice and oil associations, commodity expressway terminals, NGOs, and a fire station near the parking lot for large trucks to park overnight.

Traffic jams and floods

In the decade 2010, there were a lot of traffic jams in the vicinity of Bayint Naung warehouse, so people associated with Bayint Naung often come after asking if the parking lot is closed/unclosed. In the same way, most of the businessmen in Bayint

Naung face floods every time it rains. Therefore, the floors of the apartments had to be raised from the original position in some of the apartments in some low-lying streets. Flood damage to some goods is experienced every year in some exhibition halls and bus terminals.

Rising building value

In 1993, the City Municipal sold a 40/60-foot plot of land to people who moved from Yangon for two hundred thousand kyats. According to the value of that period, a two-storey building (40/60 feet) was worth K1 million, and an RC building was said to be around K1.5 million.

The land lease term is 25 years, so in 2012, a 20/60 feet apartment was sold for more than K100 million, according to Hla Myint, a businessman who worked in the real estate business at that time.

In the year 2020, the price of this 20/60 feet apartment became around K200 million. The rent of an apartment was about K100,000 per 20/60 feet apartment in 2000, but now it is around K180,000.

Plan to reduce traffic jams

The traffic jams on Bayint Naung Road and related roads have affected public transportation in the relevant areas.

Therefore, the construction and use of the No 2 Bayint Naung Bridge and a double-decker road bridge at the intersection of Bayint Naung Road and Thamine Station Road.

In addition, it has been several years since the construction of an event hall near the Hline-thaya Dagon Aya Expressway Bus Terminal was completed. Even though some plots of land have been sold and some buildings have been built, they have not yet been opened and used. Hence, only the Bayint Naung market and the truck parking lot are being relied on.

Future Bayint Naung

The lease of the 25-year-old fairgrounds is being extended, according to a business owner who extended his warehouse. Roughly, there are around a few thousand business owners in the Bayint Naung market. It is one of Yangon's largest trading and freight business areas, with tens of thousands of people coming to shop every day.

There are hundreds of thousands of family members who depend on this region. Therefore, it is known that the owners of the Bayint Naung apartments are still worried about the extension of the lease.

Translated.

OPINION

ARTICLE BOOKRACK

Prevent infectious diseases in cattle on priority

AS MYANMAR is an agro-based country engaging in agriculture and livestock farming tasks across the nation, mostly in rural areas, local people need to take care of the health of draft cattle being used in farming tasks till today despite gradual improvement of the mechanized farming process.

Controlling animal diseases, especially the diseases and viruses attacking the draft cattle is of great importance in doing agri-based businesses. Hence, officials and veterinarians should raise animal health awareness among the livestock farm owners as well as local farmers who work together with draft cattle in the farmlands practically.

Departmental personnel and volunteers are giving vaccinations of preventing animal diseases to cattle in all townships. Hence, local farmers and farm owners should allow the vaccination process for their cattle.

A statistic issued in 2019 stated that there were 9.5 million draft cattle, 0.11 million dairy cows and 1.8 million buffalos in the nation. As the government allows the export of cattle alive to the international market, systematic management for such a business will be reliable for the nation in earning foreign exchange to raise the State fund. To do so, the preventive measures for the infection of cattle are crucial in the biosecurity of animals in the livestock sector.

Mostly, some animal diseases such as foot and mouth disease, hemorrhagic septicemia, anthrax and Blackleg

diseases are commonly infectious animal diseases in Myanmar. Hence, local authorities need to arrange vaccinations for cattle in cooperation with veterinarians before the season when infection of these diseases generally breaks out.

Even if the diseases break out, livestock farmers and businesspersons must have a wider range of knowledge about the impacts of infections among the cattle. So, they have to take emergency response to the infection of animal diseases in time. They have to receive vaccination shots for cattle depending on the types of vaccines.

Thanks to regular vaccination of cattle, it will help decline the death rate of cattle infection of diseases and operate farming tasks at full capacity without fail. Healthy cattle will be reliable for farming tasks as well as earning an income of foreign exchange from exportation. Moreover, livestock products from healthy beef cattle will help the consumer have higher energy and calorie for possessing a healthy life.

As such, it is necessary to emphasize the operating of the cattle farming business for the purpose of distributing pedigree species of cattle and help running the manual farming based on conventional ways.

Wakhaung, the month of casting lots festival

By Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dhaja,
Sithu Dr Khin Maung Nyunt

WAKHAUNG (August) is the 5th month of Myanmar lunar calendar. Myanmar is a tropical country with three seasons namely the hot season (gein hman), rainy season (wathan) and cold season (hei man). Wakhaung falls in the rainy season. The word 'Wakhaung' is a combination of two words 'Wa' and 'Khaung'. Wa means Buddhist and Khaung means middle or peak. So, Wakhaung implies the middle or the peak of the Buddhist lent which covers three months of the rainy season namely Waso (July), Wakhaung (August) and Tawthalin (September). In the stone inscriptions of the Bagan Period, another word for Wakhaung was used. It was "Nan Kala"

နံကာလ which means the time for ploughing or the planting season or the month for agricultural activities. There is a Myanmar folk rhyme which aptly describes this Season ဝါဆို ဝါခေါင် ရေတောင်တောင် (In Waso and Wakhaung there are billows of rainwater). As these two months are the peak of the rainy season the countryside is inundated with rainwater. The astrological name of Wakhaung is Simha သီဟံ (Leo) and its zodiacal sign is the lion. During this month in the daytime the Sun and the Hpou Sha stars and at night the Moon and the Tharawun stars rival in their radiance. Although all lilies and most trees and plants burst forth into bloom, Khatta or land lily (Crimum amoenum) is traditionally



marked as the flower of Wakhaung. Sayey Tan Pwe which may best be rendered in English as "Casting lots Festival" was the traditional festival held in Wakhaung in the days of yore. Sayey Tans are lots to decide to choose the recipient of food or gift or alms in a religious offering. The custom Whereupon the Lord Buddha

of casting lots in religious charity originated in the lifetime of the Lord Buddha. While the Lord Buddha was residing in the Weiluwn Vihara at the Capital of Yazagyoe, famine hit the city and there was a scarcity of food. Buddhist devotees could no longer provide 'hswan' (food) for all monks of the Vihara. Some wanted to select ten or twenty monks to offer food. Some preferred to cast lots so as to decide the recipient monks. Some thought of offering food to the monks only on the Sabbath days when they came to the Vihara for fasting and observing moral precepts. Others chose the day after the Sabbath day for offering food because they thought that was the day the monks were in real need of food. Being unable to reach a consensus of opinion the devotees referred the matter to the Lord Buddha.

- expounded seven different modes of offering food to the monks. They are as follows:
- (a) Sahgha-bhat which is the food offered to all monks
 - (b) Uddesa-bhat which is the food offered particularly to one or two monks
 - (c) Nimantana-bhat which is the food offered to the invited monks
 - (d) Salaka-bhat which is the food offered to the monks chosen by casting lots
 - (e) Pakkhika-bhat which is the food offered to the monks on the waxing and waning moon days
 - (f) Uposathika-bhat which is the food offered to the monks on the Sabbath day
 - (g) Patipadika-bhat which is the food offered to the monks on the day after the Sabbath day.
- The Lord Buddha then said

that he approved all of them. Since that time offering food to the monks by casting lots became a common practice among Buddhist devotees. With the permission and at the direction of the Lord Buddha, the monks chose one monk from among themselves and appointed him "Bhattuddesaka" i.e., the monk who was in charge of allotting food offered by the devotees. The monk thus chosen and appointed must have special qualifications such as good health, activeness, managerial skill, freedom from bias and prejudice, and being able to keep the correct list of allotted and unallotted monks. The first monk appointed in that charge during the lifetime of the Lord Buddha was Maha Thera Ashin Datba, the son of the Malla king. He discharged the duty of allotting Uddesa-bhat, Niman-tana-bhat and Salaka-bhat, with fairness and correctness.

The lots are either wooden sticks or bamboo slats or bamboo strips or pal leaves or pei leaves on which names and addresses of the donors of food are written.

SEE PAGE-10 >>



Book Title - Child and Brain Development (A handbook for parents and childcarers)

Author - Sanay Oo

Publishing House - Seikku Cho Cho

Publication Date - March 2022 (1st Edition)

Price - K1,300

Child and Brain Development (A handbook for parents and childcarers)

THIS week's pick is a book with the opening lines "Early childhood care and development appears to be a kite flying high in the sky. One can steer a kite movement with its string when the wind pushes it. If a string is released, the kite can go away"

This book entitled "Child and Brain Development (A handbook for parents and childcarers)" is written by

Sanay Oo and published by the Seikku Cho Cho Publishing House.

It contains 30 chapters including preamble, brain structure, brain cells connection, pre-birth communication, child's vision test, nurturing a baby, bonding with baby, observing child's health and feeling, teaching with music, building self-esteem in child,

parenting and supervision, teaching communication skills, playing with children, teaching empathy, teaching conversation skills and making friends, choosing books for children, teaching children learning skills, teaching children mathematics and music, teaching children physical activities, encouraging children to join sports, cultivating language,

culture and arts and the conclusion.

In the chapter on building self-esteem in a child, managing anger and stopping losing temper with a child plays a pivotal role in parenting. Lifting or shaking hard a child by the arms out of anger or frustration must be avoided as it can cause fatal brain injury and other risks. It can trigger shaken baby syndrome which leads to a traumatic brain injury.

Parents and people must be careful to avoid this, the author warned.

Additionally, some parents tend to emotionally neglect babies' needs. The children can lose trust in their parents and damage healthy social attachment, the author suggested.

This book is an excerpt from education experts in the US and child brain development institutions. It illustrates explicit descriptions of brain development stages. It is a must-read for parents as the book includes contents related to critical periods of children's brain development.



Book Title - Trauma (A Significant Memoir: Overcoming the Childhood Trauma)

Translator - Dr Aung (UM-2)

Publishing House - Thar Nge

Publication Date - August 2022 (1st Edition)

Price - K3,500

Trauma (A Significant Memoir: Overcoming the Childhood Trauma)

THERE'S a saying that "human sees, human does". We tend to subconsciously copy what we see as imitations at the heart of human beings. As it is getting easy access to the social media platform, provocative pictures and videos that have sexual content are spreading across the most popular social media platform. That might lead to possible sexual exploitation or grooming. Online sexual victimization might happen then. This week's pick is a book entitled "Trauma" which is a real-life experience of a child who was sexually assaulted.

Florida is known as the "Sunshine

State" due to its sunny weather. Amy Jackson, a young woman in the Sunshine State, bitterly suffered from continuous sexual abuse between 13 and 17 years old. There is no way out for her and nobody ever stands up for her or defends her.

The translator in his preamble noted that child abuse can be witnessed through action or failing to act. Amy said in her anger, I would not allow you to do such kind of abuse anymore after she was maltreated by Steve. Steve pushed her down to the floor and stamped her neck. She turned her neck in her shortness of breath. She tried to pray

to God yet her empty heart and soul cannot accept the existence of God. If I played possum, I prayed Steve would release me.

The author stated "there is no one on her side, even God and Law. Lawmakers should understand why the victim of sexual assault is so hard to speak up for. One misstep could be fatal for rape victims and sexual assault survivors at any time. Although I prayed to God that I would be protected by Law, God would not hear". Readers can feel heartfelt sympathy through a pathetic story of her misfortune.

ARTICLE/ENVIRON WORLD

Wakhaung, the month of casting lots festival

>> FROM PAGE-9

The lots are then put into the basket and the basket is shaken upside down many times so that the lots are thoroughly shuffled up. The monks queue up either according to their serial number if such numbers are given them or according to the seniority of their vasa (ordained age) to draw the lot. Then they go to the house as directed by their lots to partake of the food offered there. During the lifetime of the Lord Buddha offering food to the monks by casting lots could be made at any place, on any date and in any month. There was no rule fixing its place, date and month. But Myanmar kings chose Wakhaung as the month for performing this religious function because the monks observing lent vows and residing together in the same monastery might have difficulty getting sufficient food in Wakhaung. Originally casting lots was to provide food to the monks. But later, eight priestly utensils namely three pieces of the yellow robe, the girdle, the alms bowl, the adze, the water dipper, and the needle and other offertories are also donated by casting lots. Such articles are hung on a tree-shaped stand which is called Pa-

deithabin meaning the tree of plenty and variety, comparable to the mythical cornucopia.

In Myanmar, the earliest evidence of offering food to the monks by casting lots was found in the stone inscriptions of ancient Bagan. In lines 22 and 23 of



Saw Hla Wun pagoda inscriptions of AD 1268, 1290 and 1291, there was mention of Sayey Tan (casting lots). There is one oral history which tells how offering food by casting lots originated in Myanmar. During the reign of King Thihathu (AD 1298-1312) of the Pinya dynasty (AD 1298-1364) a big wooden monastery was built by the royal order, and the king decreed that 'he who hath the courage let him take possession of it'. At that time there was one head monk named Soo Twin Pyit

Sayadaw who was famous for his learning and knowledge. Hearing the royal decree, the monk took residence in the monastery. Later the monk advised the king that the best way to find the deserving occupant for the monastery was by casting lots. From that time

began the casting lots festival. Later, in the reign of King Thalun (AD 1629-1648) of the Nyaung Yan dynasty (AD 1599-1752) there appeared two religious translations namely Culavapali nisaya and Culava-Pali Athakatha nisaya by the most venerable monk Shwe Umin Sayadaw of Pakhan Gyi town. In them, he translated into Myanmar the two Pali words "Salaka" and 'Bhatta' as 'Sayey Tan' and "Hswan". Salaka means wooden or bamboo sticks on which letters were written and

Bhatta means food (hswan). Letters written on the sticks mention the names and addresses of the donors of food.

Myanmar literature of later historic periods contained references to the casting lots festival. Different forms of the poem such as loota, lay cho, eh-chin, tay htat, tha hpyan etc. on twelve seasons composed by eminent bards like U Yar, Lu U Min, Hop Thu Daw U Min, Mei Khwe, U Hpyey, U Ponnnya have mention of casting lots festival in Wakhaung. On page 229 of one Myanmar Chronicle named Konbaung Set Maha Yazawun Tawgyi Volume 11, the holding of the casting lots festival at the palace of King Bagyidaw (AD 1819-1837) was recorded as follows: -

"On the 8th waning day of the month of Wakhaung, village monks (Ga ma wa thi) and forest monks (Arin nja wa thi) were invited to the palace. Eight priestly utensils and other offertories were hung on the two hundred and sixty Padeithabins. His Majesty the King and the Chief Queen donated them to the monks and poured the libation water. Their Majesties then offered Salaka-bhat Sayey Tan hswan (food offered by casting lots) to the monks."

It is to be noted that unlike the Sayey Tan Pwe of the Lord Buddha's time, Myanmar Sayey Tan Pwe has the names of the recipient monks written on the lots, instead of the donors' names and addresses and it is the donors who draw the lots, not the monks. A list of names and addresses of the monks residing in the locality is made and these are written on the lots which are placed in the bamboo container called 'wa-kyi-tauk'. At the assembly of the Buddhist devotees, the names of the donors of food are called out according to their serial number to draw the lots. The following morning the donors either invite the monks of their lots to their houses to offer food or put food in a large bowl with a stand and cover (usually of lacquer) called 'hswan ok' and send it to the monks.

Just like in other Myanmar religious functions, a festival atmosphere is created by the gathering of lay devotees dressed in their finery, and dainty damsels carrying offertories on their heads, followed by groups of merry-making youths who joyously dance, sing and play folk music of 'do-bat', 'ozi', and 'byaw' which befit the occasion.

'Incredible' icy dip between two continents in Iceland

IN between North American and Eurasian tectonic plates, Iceland's Silfra fissure is one of the world's most famous dive sites, popular with tourists who venture into its icy waters.



The fissure and the entire surrounding valley lie on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, which runs through the island, making it one of the most active volcanic areas on Earth. PHOTO: AFP

Visibility underwater can exceed 100 metres (330 feet) and the spectacle of light and darkness is hypnotic.

"When we entered the water, it was..." says Icelandic tour-

ist Brynjolfur Bragason before pausing.

"Incredible," adds his wife Hildur Orradottir.

In the heart of Thingvellir National Park, on the edge of one of Iceland's largest lakes, corridors of submerged rocks form deep cavities in between the two continents, which move away from each other by about two centimetres every year.

The orange reflections are mixed with various shades of blue in the more than 60-metre-deep rift, located in the southwestern part of the Atlantic island.

The beige sand and the phosphorescent green of the algae add to the colours.

"It looks like hair," says Camille Lund, a French-American tourist.—AFP



The first wind farm will be operational by 2030, with a capacity of 1,000 megawatts (MW). Meanwhile, the second wind farm will have a capacity of more than 1,000 MW. PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/WINDEUROPE/XINHUA

France launches two offshore wind farms in Atlantic Ocean

FRANCE has launched two offshore wind farms in the Atlantic Ocean, the country's ministers for energy transition and ecological transition, and the secretary of state for the sea announced on Friday.

The wind farms will be located off Oleron Island in the Charente-Maritime department, and construction "will

take into account the results of ongoing or future environmental research" in the area, they said.

The first wind farm will be operational by 2030, with a capacity of 1,000 megawatts (MW). Meanwhile, the second wind farm will have a capacity of more than 1,000 MW.—Xinhua

HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

Spain, Brazil report first monkeypox-related deaths outside Africa

SPAIN and Brazil reported their first monkeypox-related deaths on Friday, marking what are thought to be the first fatalities linked to the current outbreak outside of Africa.

Spain is one of the world's worst-hit countries, with 4,298 people there infected with the virus, according to the health ministry's emergency and alert coordination centre.

"Of the 3,750 (monkeypox) patients with available information, 120 cases were hospitalized (3.2 per cent) and one case has died," the centre said in a report. An official would not give the specific cause of death for the fatality pending the outcome of an autopsy.

In Brazil a 41-year-old man

died of monkeypox, local authorities said on Friday.

The man, who local media said had serious immune system problems, died on Thursday in Belo Horizonte, the capital of the southeastern Minas Gerais state.

He "was receiving hospital treatment for other serious conditions", the state health ministry said in a statement.

"It is important to underline that he had serious co-morbidities, so as not to spread panic in the population. The death rate is very low" for monkeypox, said Minas Gerais health secretary Fabio Baccheretti, who added that the patient was undergoing cancer treatment.—AFP



Researchers at the Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics (IBGM) of the University of Valladolid (UVA) work on searching a vaccine against COVID-19, at a laboratory in Valladolid on 10 November 2020. PHOTO: CESAR MANSO/AFP/FILE

US tech titans stumble after pandemic boom

AMAZON and Apple were a relative bright spot in a week of otherwise lackluster earnings results for an industry reckoning with the end of heady pandemic-era growth.

A crowded period of quarterly financial releases from the world's biggest tech firms has been marred by misses and uncertainty — making it clear that the boom triggered by Covid-19 restrictions on getting about has tipped toward downturn.

As people are freed from pandemic lifestyles that had them relying on the internet

for shopping, playing, working and learning, inflation is pushing up prices and Covid-19 is causing temporary shutdowns of factories in China relied on by tech firms.

Recession fears, a strong dollar, shrinking advertising budgets and inflation — headwinds are coming from every direction at the moment.

"When you think about the number of challenges in the quarter, we feel really good about the growth that we put up," Apple chief executive Tim Cook said on an earnings call.—AFP

No new fever case reported in DPRK

NO new fever cases were reported in the past 24 hours through 0900 GMT on Friday in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported on Saturday.

It is the first time that zero fever cases have been reported nationwide since COVID-19 broke out in late April.

Citing information of the state emergency anti-epidemic headquarters, the KCNA said that since late April till Friday evening, 4,772,813 fever cases have been reported across the country with 4,772,535 recoveries and 74 deaths.

The anti-epidemic agency is still intensifying operation and command to stamp out the spread of the malignant epidemic, strengthen liaison, assistance and cooperation between sectors in the anti-epidemic campaign



A health official sprays disinfectant as part of preventative measures against Covid-19, in the Daesong Department Store in Pyongyang on 27 September 2021. PHOTO: KIM WON JIN / AFP

across the country, the report said.

On 12 May, the KCNA reported that the Omicron subvariant BA.2 was detected after samples

were collected from a group of patients in the capital Pyongyang on 8 May, marking the first time that COVID-19 cases had been confirmed in the country.—Xinhua

Deal reached for generic drug to prevent HIV infection

A deal has been reached to allow for distribution of a low-cost generic version of a long-term preventative treatment against HIV in low-income countries where most of the world's infections occur, Unitaid and the Medicines Patent Pool announced Thursday.

The deal will see ViiV Healthcare, a subsidiary of British pharmaceutical giant GSK, allow selected manufacturers to produce

generic versions of Cabotegravir LA, its long-acting pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) treatment for HIV.

The deal will provide access to the injectable version of cabotegravir, which has been shown to provide two months of protection against infection, in 90 countries where over 70 per cent of all new HIV infections occurred in 2020, said Unitaid.

"Access to an effective

long-acting HIV prevention option could significantly contribute to the goal of ending HIV transmission and ending the epidemic by 2030," said Unitaid spokesman Herve Verhoosel.

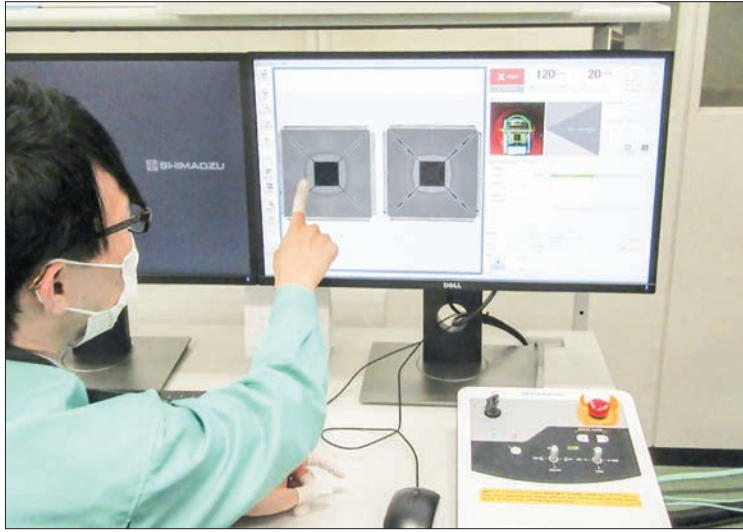
"Efforts to increase access to Cabotegravir LA for PrEP will be especially impactful for groups that experience particularly high rates of infection, such as men who have sex with men and sex workers," he added.—AFP



Turkish activists stage a demonstration on World Aids Day on 1 December 2010 at the Ataturk monument, Istanbul. PHOTO: AFP

ECONOMY WORLD

US, Japan vow to defend int'l economic order, eye chip development



An Oki Engineering Co. worker conducts an X-ray examination on a semiconductor in Tokyo on 18 August 2021. **PHOTO: REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE/ KYODO**

THE United States and Japan on Friday vowed to defend an open, rules-based international economic order amid challenges posed by China and Russia, while pursuing joint development of

next-generation semiconductors through a research hub Japan has decided to launch.

The announcements were made as the two countries' foreign and economy ministers met for their inaugural "two-plus-two" talks, as addressing economic vulnerabilities has become more vital for their national security with China increasing its clout in the Indo-Pacific and Russia's war against Ukraine sparking food and energy supply concerns.

In a joint statement released after the meeting, the two close security allies said they need to make their economies "more competitive and resilient", committing to "countering threats to economic security and to the

rules-based international economic order."

They also came up with an action plan focusing on efforts to strengthen supply chain resilience, counter economic coercion and opaque lending practices, and secure critical technologies and infrastructure.

"In an era in which foreign security policy and economic policy are inseparable, we have been able to open a new page in the Japan-US alliance," Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Koichi Hagiuda told reporters after attending the talks, which were co-hosted by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo in Washington.—Kyodo

NEWS IN BRIEF

World Bank refuses new funding for bankrupt Sri Lanka

THE World Bank said Friday it would not offer new funding to Sri Lanka unless the bankrupt island nation carried out "deep structural reforms" to stabilize its crashing economy.

Sri Lanka has suffered an unprecedented downturn with its 22 million people enduring months of food and fuel shortages, rolling blackouts and rampant inflation.

The South Asian nation defaulted on its \$51-billion foreign debt in April and huge protests earlier this month forced then president Gotabaya Rajapaksa to flee the country and resign.

The World Bank said it was concerned about the impact of the crisis on Sri Lanka's people but was not ready to give funds until the government had bedded down necessary reforms.—AFP

Germany's economic model shaken by energy crisis

STAGNANT German growth in the second quarter has led analysts across the board to predict a recession as the outlook becomes clouded by the threat of a halt to Russian gas supplies. But it is not only growth that is sputtering at zero per cent between April and June – Germany's entire economic model is being called into question by experts.

End to cheap energy

"The war in Ukraine puts an end to the German economic business model as we knew it – a model which was mainly based on cheap energy imports and industrial exports into a increasingly globalized world," said Carsten Brzeski, economist at ING bank, in response to the second-quarter growth data.

Less expensive to produce and transport, with prices pinned down in long-term contracts, Russian gas has for decades contributed to Germany's economic prosperity.—AFP

Ukraine's GDP to drop 33.4% in 2022: central bank

UKRAINE'S gross domestic product (GDP) will drop by 33.4 per cent this year amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the National Bank of Ukraine said on Friday.

The present military conflict, the loss of lives and the population outflow from the country are the main factors behind the decline, the bank said on Facebook.

In its baseline forecast, the bank said that Ukraine's nominal GDP will shrink from 5.46 trillion hryvnias (about 149.3 billion US dollars) in 2021 to 4.54 trillion hryvnias (124.1 billion dollars) in 2022.

In the third quarter of 2022,



A general view of the gas production and transporting station on a gas field near the Ukrainian city Poltava, some 330 km east of the capital Kyiv. **PHOTO: AFP PHOTO / SERGEI SUPINSKY/FILE**

Ukraine's economy is expected to drop 37.5 per cent year-on-

year after falling 15.1 per cent and 39.3 per cent in the first and second quarters respectively, the bank said.

The inflation rate in Ukraine is expected to reach 31 per cent at the end of 2022 compared with 10 per cent in the previous year, it said.

At the same time, the bank projected that the Ukrainian economy will return to growth in 2023, with GDP increasing by 5.5 per cent.

Ukraine's GDP rose 3.4 per cent in 2021 following a 4-per-cent contraction in 2020, the country's central bank reported in May. —Xinhua

Wall Street stocks rally again, shrugging off weak GDP report

WALL Street stocks rose on Thursday despite data showing the US economy contracted for a second straight quarter, as investors took it as a signal the Federal Reserve may slow interest rate hikes.

Stocks initially fell after the economic report, which showed US gross domestic product declined at an annual rate of 0.9 per cent in the second quarter, following an even bigger drop in the first three months of the year. But markets pivoted later in

the morning, betting that clear signs of economic weakness would prompt the Fed to ease off on steep increases in borrowing costs. The US central bank on Wednesday undertook its second straight 75 basis point increase, and signaled it is prepared to do more.

"The real catalyst ... is a belief that bad news (earnings disappointments and weak data) is good news (fewer rate hikes from the Fed)," Briefing.com said in an analysis.—AFP



Inflation and higher interest rates are already leading to a contraction in the US economy. **PHOTO: AFP**

China's software sector sees revenue growth in H1

CHINA'S software and information technology service sector sustained stable growth in the first half of this year, with revenue from software-related businesses up 10.9 per cent year on year, according to official data. The sector's revenue amounted to 4.63 trillion yuan (about 686.1 billion US dollars) in the first six months, data from the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology showed.—Xinhua

Malaysia's total trade exceeds US\$449 bln in 2021

MALAYSIA'S trade surpassed the 2-trillion-ringgit (449.16-billion-US dollar) mark last year, recovering from a decline in 2020 due to the COVID-19 containment measures, according to official data.

The trade rebounded 24.9 per cent year-on-year in 2021, as compared to the 3.3 per cent decrease in 2020, the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) said in a statement on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Malaysia's exports increased 26.1 per cent year-on-year to 1.2 trillion ringgit (269.49 billion US dollars) in 2021 thanks to the significant performances of both domestic exports and re-exports.—Xinhua

Energy price crisis requires European solution: Greek PM

THE current energy price crisis is a European problem that requires a European solution, said Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis on Friday when meeting with visiting German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock.

The two parties held talks on bilateral, regional and international issues

including energy and migration.

Mitsotakis also presented the initiatives undertaken by the Greek government in order to turn Greece into a gateway for the transfer of energy to the EU.

Regarding migration, Mitsotakis emphasized that Greek borders are

guarded in line with international law, and human rights are respected.

Meanwhile, Baerbock said it is crucial that the European Union should ensure that human rights are guaranteed at borders, acknowledging Greece's contribution in offering shelter to thousands of migrants.—Xinhua



LNG (Liquefied natural gas) tanker Rudolf Samoylovich, sailing under the flag of Bahamas, moors at the dock of the Montoir-de-Bretagne LNG Terminal near Saint-Nazaire, western France, on 10 March 2022.
PHOTO: LOIC VENANCE / AFP

Cambodia's banking industry enjoys robust growth in H1 of 2022

CAMBODIA'S banking industry enjoyed robust growth in both loans and deposits in the first half of 2022, according to the latest report of the National Bank of Cambodia (NBC) on Saturday.

Outstanding loans rose by 23.4 per cent year-on-year to 51.5 billion US dollars by June this year, while customers' deposits increased by 16 per cent to 42 billion dollars, the report

said. The loans had been provided to key sectors such as trade, housing, construction, agriculture, hotels and restaurants, and manufacturing, among

others, it said, adding that Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) at the banks and the microfinance institutions were at controllable rates of 2.6 per cent and 2.3 per cent, respectively.

The report said the current assets in the Southeast Asian nation's banking system rose to 75.2 billion dollars by June 2022, an increase of 17.2 per cent from June 2021.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SEACON DSAKA V.EAL12

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SEACON DSAKA V.EAL12** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-7-2022** 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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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: **2301191/2301178**

Shipping Agency Department
Myanma Port Authority

Agent For:

M/S EVERETT ASIA LINE PTE LTD

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT English Digest

For Grade-10 and Grade-11

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ကြော်ငြာများ ထည့်သွင်းလိုခြင်း ၊ သတင်းစာများအား
- လက်လီ/လက်ကား မှာယူလိုပါက
- အမှတ်(၁၅၀)၊ ငါးထပ်ကြီးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်။
ဖုန်းနံပါတ် - ၀၁ ၈၆၀၄၅၂ ၊ ၀၉ ၉၈၃၉၂၄၉၉၁ သို့ ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်း စုံစမ်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V ALVAN VOY.NO. (SCY1133)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V ALVAN VOY. NO. (SCY1133)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-7-2022** 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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 LAND AND SEA INTERMODAL LOGISTICS SDN BHD LINE

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (229W/230E)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V AS SOPHIA VOY.NO. (229W/230E)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-7-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MITT/MIP** 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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 SEALAND MAERSK ASIA PTE LTD

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR SOLO VOY.NO. (967S)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V SINAR SOLO VOY.NO. (967S)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **31-7-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **MIP** 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 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

US House passes bill to ban assault weapons

THE US House of Representatives passed a bill on Friday to ban assault weapons with a narrow 217-213 vote.

The legislation would prohibit the sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of semiautomatic assault weapons and large-capacity ammunition feeding devices.

But it would allow the possession of any semiautomatic assault weapon lawfully possessed on the date of enactment and the sale or transfer of any semiautomatic assault weapon lawfully possessed on the date of enactment following a background check, among other things.

“There are more guns than

people in this country — more mass shootings than days in the year,” Congressman David Cicilline, a major sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. “This is a uniquely American problem.”

However, the bill has little chance of progressing in the Senate due to clear opposition from the Republicans.

Gun violence has taken more than 25,500 lives across the United States so far this year, according to the latest data from Gun Violence Archive.

Assault weapons and high-capacity magazines have been frequently used in the violence that plagues the United States.—Xinhua



Protestors take part in a rally against gun violence and calling for Federal Background Checks on 18 August 2019 in New York City. **PHOTO: JOHANNES EISELE / AFP/FILE**

RUSSIA - UKRAINE CONFLICT

Russia, Ukraine trade blame over strike on POW jail

MOSCOW and Kyiv on Friday accused each other of bombing a jail holding Ukrainian prisoners of war in Russian-held territory, with Russia saying 40 prisoners and eight prison staff were killed.

Russia's defence ministry said the Ukrainian strikes were carried out with US-supplied long-range missiles, in an “egregious provocation” designed to stop soldiers surrendering.

It said that among the dead were Ukrainian forces that had laid down their arms after repelling Moscow's assault on the sprawling Azovstal steel works in Mariupol. The claims came as President Volodymyr Zelensky visited a port in southern Ukraine to oversee a ship being

loaded with grain for export under a UN-backed plan aimed at ending a food crisis. Ukraine's presidency said exports could start in the “coming days” under the plan aimed at getting millions of tonnes of Ukrainian grain stranded by Russia's naval blockade to world markets.

‘Petrifying war crime’

Following the strike on the prison, Russian state-television showed what appeared to be destroyed barracks and tangled metal beds but no casualties could be seen. Ukraine's military denied carrying out the attack saying its forces “did not launch missile and artillery strikes in the area of Olenivka settlement.”—AFP



A soldier stand guard next to a wall of a prison in Olenivka, in an area controlled by Russian-backed separatist forces, eastern Ukraine, Friday, 29 July 2022. Russia and Ukraine accused each other Friday of shelling a prison in a separatist region of eastern Ukraine, an attack that reportedly killed dozens of Ukrainian military prisoners who were captured after the fall of a southern port city of Mariupol in May. **PHOTO: STR/AFP**

Ukrainian parliament adopts draft law on special status for Polish citizens



The Polish minority in Ukraine officially numbers about 144,130 (according to the 2001 census), of whom 21,094 (14.6%) speak Polish as their first language. The history of Polish settlement in current territory of Ukraine dates back to 1030–31. Refugees from Ukraine enter Poland at the Medyka border crossing. **PHOTO: UNHCR/VALERIO MUSCELLA/XINHUA**

THE Ukrainian parliament on Thursday adopted a draft law to grant special status to Polish citizens in Ukraine, a parlia-

ment member said.

The presidential proposal on granting special status to Polish citizens in Ukraine was

supported by 283 lawmakers in the 450-seat assembly, Yaroslav Zheleznyak wrote on Telegram.

The new legislation allows Polish citizens to legally stay in Ukraine for 18 months after the adoption of the law, Zheleznyak said. The law grants Polish citizens equal rights as Ukrainians in employment, economic activities, as well as in getting education and medical assistance in Ukraine.

On 11 July, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky submitted to the parliament the draft law on establishing legal and social guarantees for Polish citizens in Ukraine, “as a sign of gratitude to the Polish people for their solidarity and support for Ukraine.”—Xinhua

US, Russia top diplomats hold ‘frank’ first talks since war

THE top diplomats of the United States and Russia spoke Friday for the first time since the Ukraine war, with Secretary of State Antony Blinken describing a “frank” exchange as he pushed to free two Americans.

Blinken initiated the call with Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, whom he had shunned as early as a few weeks ago, as

he pressed Russia to accept an offer to free prisoners.

“We had a frank and direct conversation. I pressed the Kremlin to accept the substantial proposal that we put forth on the release of Paul Whelan and Brittney Griner,” Blinken told reporters.

President Joe Biden has faced growing public pressure

to find a way home for Griner, a basketball star jailed for transport of cannabis oil, and Whelan, a former Marine jailed on espionage charges he denies.

Blinken declined to characterize Lavrov's reaction, saying, “I can't give you an assessment of whether I think things are any more or less likely.”—AFP

Pope headed to Arctic for last leg of penitential Canada trip

POPE Francis on Friday was to fly to Nunavut, the territory that covers most of the Canadian Arctic, on his final stop in a landmark tour apologizing for the abuse of Indigenous children in Catholic-run schools.

The 85-year-old pontiff was set to make a speech first in Quebec City before travelling to the vast northern territory's capital, Iqaluit, which means "the place of many fish." There, he will first meet with survivors of the residential school system — which saw Indigenous children separated from their families, language and culture in a bid to stamp out their identity — before appearing

at a public event hosted by the Inuit. "It's not going to solve anything, but an apology to the world, it means a lot to us. It does," Iqaluit stay-at-home mother Elisapee Nooshoota, 36, told AFP in the community of just over 7,000 people on Thursday.

From the late 1800s to the 1990s, Canada's government sent about 150,000 children into 139 residential schools run by the Catholic Church. Many were physically and sexually abused, and thousands are believed to have died of disease, malnutrition or neglect. The pope kicked off his trip to Canada on Monday with an apology for the abuse. — AFP



The town of Iqaluit, in the vast territory of Nunavut, Canada, on 28 July 2022, ahead of a visit by Pope Francis. PHOTO: AFP



A few dozen relatives of victims and survivors of the 9/11 attacks, which killed 3,000 people, gathered near Donald Trump's golf course in Bedminster, New Jersey, ahead of the LIV Golf tournament. PHOTO: AFP

Near Trump course, 9/11 families slam 'hurtful' Saudi golf event

FOR Brett Eagleson, this week's Saudi-backed golf event at Trump National is an affront: it's happening just miles from where hijackers murdered his father on 9/11.

"It's extremely disrespectful, it's hurtful, it's painful," Eagleson, who was 15 when his dad died in the rubble of the World Trade Centre on 11 September 2001, told AFP.

The 36-year-old heads 9/11 Justice, a group that accuses

Saudi Arabia of complicity in the atrocity -- allegations the Saudi government has denied. Ex-president Donald Trump's course in Bedminster, New Jersey, less than 50 miles (80 kilometres) from Ground Zero, is hosting LIV Golf's third event this weekend.

Eagleson was among a few dozen relatives of victims and survivors of the Al-Qaeda attacks, which killed 3,000 people, who gathered near the course Friday

ahead of the three-day tournament's start.

Fifteen of the 19 hijackers involved in the coordinated attacks on New York and Washington were Saudi nationals. An FBI memo released last year hinted at official Saudi involvement.

Trump himself claimed in 2016 while he was running for president that Saudi Arabia was responsible, without providing any evidence. — AFP

US sentences Canadian who narrated IS videos to life in prison

A Canadian jihadist said to be a key player in the Islamic State group's propaganda production and who narrated multiple violent videos was sentenced Friday to life in prison, the US Department of Justice said.

Mohammed Khalifa, who was born in Saudi Arabia, pleaded guilty in December to conspiring to provide material support to IS resulting in death. According to the Department of Justice (DOJ) indictment, he left Canada in 2013 to join the IS group in Syria, where he quickly took on a leading role in the self-proclaimed "caliphate" that straddled that country and Iraq. Khalifa, now 39, quickly began serving in "prominent roles" within the IS group and by 2014 had become a key



Iraqi government forces celebrate while holding an Islamic State (IS) group flag after they claimed they have gained complete control of the Diyala province, northeast of Baghdad, on 26 January 2015 near the town of Muqdadiah. Iraqi forces have "liberated" Diyala province from the Islamic State jihadist group, retaking all populated areas of the eastern region. PHOTO: AFP/YOUNIS AL-BAYATI/FILE

member of a propaganda cell, his mastery of both English and the DOJ said, due in particular to Arabic. — AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

11 dead, 4 injured as train ploughs into minibus in Bangladesh

AT least 11 people were killed when a train ploughed into a tourist minibus on Friday at a rail crossing in southeast Bangladesh. At least three people were critically injured in the accident at Bangladesh's Chattogram district, some 242 km southeast of capital Dhaka, at about 1:45 pm local time, Kabir Hossain, officer-in-Charge of local Mirsharai police station, told Xinhua. One of the passengers miraculously remains unscathed after being hit by the train, he added. — Xinhua

Woman, children freed in Brazil after 17-year kidnap ordeal

A Brazilian woman and her two adult children, all suffering from dehydration and malnutrition, were freed by police following 17 years of captivity by her husband, authorities said on Friday. Police had been alerted to the case in a poor neighborhood in the west of Rio de Janeiro by an anonymous tip-off. "The two youngsters, who are the children of the woman and the suspect, were tied up, soiled and starved," Rio's military police, who arrested the father, said in a statement. — AFP



The Myanmar U-16 team pose for a group photo at Yangon International Airport before departing for Indonesia on 30 July. PHOTO: MFF

Team Myanmar leave for Indonesia to participate in ASEAN U-16 tournament

THE Myanmar national U-16 team left for Yogyakarta, Indonesia yesterday to participate in the ASEAN U-16 tournament.

The Myanmar national U-16 team consists of eight administrators and coaches and 28 players.

Team Myanmar is included in Group C with Australia, Malaysia, and Cambodia.

Myanmar team will take on Australia at 2:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 2 August, the Malaysia team at 6:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 5 August, and the Cambodia team at 2:30 pm Myanmar Standard Time on 8 August.

Goalkeeper Sai Thiha Naing, Saleing Maung, Myint Myat Yan Naung, Defenders Lin Htet Oo, Nay Lin Htet, Thura Zaw, Hla Tun (Mandalay Academy), Thet Naing Oo, Han Htet Oo, Myat Bhone Khant,

Aung Kaung Khant, Nay Lin Tun, Midfielders Kaung Khant Zaw, Kaung Htet, Brang Doon Li, Nay Min Htet, Han Tun Zaw, Khun Cho Htoo, Chit Myat Noe Oo, and Aung Zaw Myo, Strikers Wai Hlyan Shine, Pyae Sone Aung, Aung Kaung Khant, Sai Zayyar Kyaw, Naing Lar, Shine Wunna Kyaw, Htoo Wai Yan, and Saw Myo Zaw participate in the team line-up. — GNLM

Kiplangat delivers Uganda's first ever Commonwealth Games marathon title

VICTOR Kiplangat produced an impressive performance to give Uganda their first-ever Commonwealth Games marathon gold in Birmingham on Saturday.

The 22-year-old timed 2hr 10min 55sec, coming home with a broad grin on his face more than a minute and a half

clear of Tanzania's 2017 world bronze medallist Alphonse Felix Simbu. A delighted Michael Githae of Kenya wiggled his finger with a big smile at the spectators in the finishing straight as he took the bronze, more than two minutes behind the winner.

Long-time pacesetter Luke Adams of Australia made a valiant effort at trying to give his country their third successive win in the event but had to settle for fourth.

The medallists, draped in their respective national flags, delighted the crowd gathered at the finish in central Birmingham by going over and chatting to them. The women's race was in its early stages with 41-year-

old defending champion Helalia Johannes of Namibia confident she can win again.

Johannes is not the oldest runner in the small but select field as Australia's Sinead Diver is 45, the oldest competitor in the athletics at the Games.—AFP

Uganda's Victor Kiplangat celebrates winning marathon gold at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham PHOTO: AFP



Republic of the Union of Myanmar State Administration Council Nine Objectives

1. Political affairs

- (a) To build a Union based on democracy and federalism, through a disciplined and genuine multiparty democratic system that is fair and just.
- (b) To emphasize the achievement of enduring peace for the entire nation in line with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA).
- (c) To continue implementing the principle of peaceful co-existence among countries through an independent, active and non-aligned foreign policy.

2. Economic affairs

- (a) To enhance production based on agriculture and livestock through modern techniques and strengthen all-round development in other sectors of the economy.
- (b) To develop a stable market economy and promote international investment in order to enhance the economic development of the entire National people.
- (c) To promote and support local businesses to create employment opportunities and increase domestic production.

3. Social affairs

- (a) To ensure a strong and dynamic Union spirit, the genuine spirit of patriotism.
- (b) To respect and promote the customs and traditions of all National peoples and preserve and safeguard their cultural heritage and national characteristics.
- (c) To enhance the health, fitness and education quality of the entire nation.

Alcaraz eases into seventh semi-final of 2022

DEFENDING champion Carlos Alcaraz reached his seventh semi-final of the year on Friday with a straight-sets win over Facundo Bagnis at the Umag clay-court tournament. The 19-year-old Spaniard raced away with the first eight games of the match before sealing a 6-0, 6-4 win over his 120th-ranked opponent from Argentina. Having started the week at a career-high of five in the world, Alcaraz will replace Stefanos Tsitsipas at number four should he defeat Italian qualifier Giulio Zeppieri in Saturday's semi-finals.

"It means a lot to be able to



Seventh semi-final of 2022 for Carlos Alcaraz. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

reach the number four ranking, to have a chance to do it," Alcaraz said after Friday's match.

"It's amazing for me. I think I'm playing really well. I feel really comfortable playing here, a lot of confidence right now." Zeppieri defeated Spain's Bernabe

Zapata Miralles 7-5, 6-4 to make the last four. Meanwhile, second seed and world number 10 Jannik Sinner reached his first semi-final of 2022 by seeing off Roberto Carballes Baena 6-4, 7-6 (7/5). "I've won many matches, but I think I've had some unfortunate moments this year," said Italy's Sinner after his win over 86th-ranked Carballes Baena of Spain.—AFP