

# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## 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.

## It is necessary to create a lifestyle in conformity with the knowledge and skills of people in individuals: Senior General



State Administration Council Chairman addresses the SAC meeting 7/2022 in Nay Pyi Taw on 16 August 2022.

THINGS have come to such a pass as terrorist attacks, not political means, were resorted to in solving vote rigging, it would be difficult to achieve peace and stability if attempts are being made to

solve the political problems not by political means but by terror and armed resistance, we are determined to solve the political problems through political means, if terrorist attacks are continued to be carried out, we

will do following our policy of anti-terrorism, and, for our part, we are exercising considerable restraint in accordance with the law without making any intentional attacks, said Chairman of the State Administration Council

Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the State Administration Council meeting (7/2022) held at the meeting room of the office of the SAC chairman yesterday afternoon.

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## Govt forms steering committee to purchase fuel oil from Russia

THE State Administration Council released Notification No 127/2022 saying the Steering Committee for Purchasing Fuel Oil from Russia was organized.

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## Those wishing to enter the legal fold can contact respective townships' Red Cross Society, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Social Welfare Office and social welfare organizations authorized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in addition to reception centres in border areas, Tatmadaw units and police stations

THE Information Team of the State Administration Council has released the statement inviting CDM staff, students and youths, who are in border areas and ethnic armed groups, they can contact the nearest reception centres in border areas, Tatmadaw units and police stations if they want to enter the legal fold and the government will guarantee their lives following the rules and regulations.

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. Meanwhile, 3,156 education workers, who were absent from their duties, another 1,009 people, who want to withdraw the cases that were opened against them, and 231 PDF members have contacted and returned to the legal fold. Then, they were given back to their parents systematically and the numbers of people who enter the legal fold and those who wish to are rising. Therefore, the government is making efforts to accept more numbers of those people.

The government opens reception centres in bor-

der areas for those who would like to return to the legal fold. Moreover, those wishing to return home can contact respective townships' Red Cross Society, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation, Social Welfare Office and social welfare organizations authorized by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. It is guaranteed that they will be able to lead their daily lives peacefully.

*Information Team  
State Administration Council*

## Objectives of 23<sup>rd</sup> Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions 2022

- To uplift national prestige and integrity and to preserve the cultural heritage and national characteristics
- To discover, preserve and uplift the traditional cultural heritage of performing arts of ethnic nationals and national cultural characteristics
- To preserve traditional cultural performing arts in order to further revitalize adoration of the State and hand it down to new generation youths
- To contribute much to the restoration of perpetual peace

## Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Myanmar arrives in Nay Pyi Taw



SPECIAL Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Myanmar, Ms Noeleen Heyzer, arrived in Myanmar on the morning of 16 August 2022 and the senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs welcomed her at the Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw International Airports respectively.—MNA

## Situations that require mandatory wearing of face masks announced

- The Ministry of Health has been urging people to wear face masks to prevent the spread of the disease since the beginning of the outbreak of COVID-19.
- As part of the personal protection rules for the COVID-19 disease that the public has to follow in their daily lives, they are informed that it is necessary to wear a face mask in the following situations: -
  - being close to one person in a room;
  - being with people in crowded places such as travelling in vehicles used by the public, railways, ships, planes; hospitals/health centres used by the public; offices, schools, markets, shopping centres, and nursing homes;
  - Having any suspected symptoms of COVID-19 such as illness, cough, sneezing, stuffy nose, sore throat, physical discomfort, body pain, sudden loss of smell and taste.

*Ministry of Health  
25-7-2022*

## Daily newspapers available online

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

*News and Periodicals Enterprise*

## 49 new cases of COVID-19 reported on 16 August, total figure rises to 614,456

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to **614,456** after **49** new cases were reported on 16 August 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, **593,118** have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll reached **19,436** after **one** died.—MNA

## Our government is working towards the welfare of the people and the future of the Union

“TODAY, the Tatmadaw is taking on national responsibility and is acting in accordance with the Constitution. This happened because officials of the previous government, political representatives and election officials violated the constitution and existing laws. Our country’s founding democratic system has withered. These issues should not happen again. Action must be taken to prevent abuse of democracy, the establishment of a dictatorship in the name of democracy, and the establishment of personal influence over the institution. Action must be taken to prevent major vote fraud in the elections. For this, we need to build the foundations now. The basics need to be strong. In order to do these things, our government is working towards the welfare of the people and the future of the Union.

*(The excerpt from the speech made by Chairman of State Administration Council Prime Minister Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the meeting (2/2022) of the National Defence and Security Council of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on 31 July 2022.)*

## It is necessary to create a lifestyle in conformity with the knowledge ...

### FROM PAGE-1

The meeting was attended by SAC Vice-Chairman Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Senior General Soe Win and SAC members.

The Prime Minister said that during the one-and-a-half-year period that we have been taking the duties of the State, we have had to solve all kinds of hardships – political, economic and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### State economic promotion funds disbursed

There was a coordination meeting with chief ministers of regions and states and chairpersons of self-administered zones for the people to realize the undertakings of the government. At that meeting, the Prime Minister said that regions, states and self-administered zones have their own rights to self-governing and that there would be a positive result if requirements for amending the Constitution based on their endeavours and experiences can be known. After the coordination meeting, the

regions, states and self-administered zones can yield substantial returns with the passage of time and so he believes that disbursement of the State economic promotion funds would be a shot in the arm for the national economy.

### Increased production and exports required for economic development

The Prime Minister went on to say that the economy of a nation is related to its political situation and therefore it is necessary to strengthen the national economy, that increased yield of agricultural produce is a must for increased productivity, and that it is important to manufacture value-added products and it will benefit not only the manufacturers but also the nation.

Regarding the import of goods, the Prime Minister said that measures are being taken to be able to produce the required amount of import-substitute goods, that some domestically produced goods do not meet the required standards and so it is



In respect of political vision, two points are to realize the multiparty democratic system. I do not deny it as it is selected by the people. We have to march to the Union authorized by democratic administration and federal power. So, I told chief ministers that you had federal authority. So, you exercise it. Now, they do so. Some Unions say so but not central. They do so themselves. These comprise many visions.

The government set a political aim to exercise a multiparty democratic system and build a Union based on democracy and federalism. To do so, efforts are being made to implement the peace process and political landscape. It is necessary to create a lifestyle in conformity with the knowledge and skills of people in individuals. And, it is necessary to strive for improvement of education and the economy so as to be a better lifestyle.

Two national visions related to socio-economy are to ensure the prosperity of the nation and ensure the sufficiency of food. As these visions were adopted with essence, the State Administration Council must implement them without fail.

With regard to the building of the Union based on democracy and federalism, the Senior General said: “In respect of political vision, two points are to realize the multiparty democratic system. I do not deny it as it is selected by the people. We have to march to the Union authorized by democratic administration and federal power. So, I told chief ministers that you had federal authority. So, you exercise it. Now, they do so. Some Unions say so but not central. They do so themselves. These comprise many visions. I prefer something. So, I encourage them to do so. If you have some difficulties, tell me. I say so. So,

we have to march to the Union authorized by democratic administration and federal power. There are two political visions. In doing so, peace is of importance. So, we are trying to restore peace. Those who understand politics come to us for holding peace talks. But those who do not understand such trends are still living on the sideline. Now, we have talked with 10 organizations. Recently, we held talks with SSPP. We have achieved success. When I asked them about accepting the construction of the Union authorized with democratic administration and federal power, they all agreed to it. I will meet them again this month. I will hold discussions with all 10 organizations in the group. In September, I will meet with them again. After it, I will try to sign agreements. I can’t say how long it will take. As we have held the basic agreement, I think we don’t have any reason not to achieve success. But I cannot think some EAOs cannot understand it. If they actually aspire to ethnic issues and Union issues and if we do everything based on these two issues, it will have success without fail. We desire such visions and we would like to do so. So, they may come to us for holding talks. At that time, I told them what is possible or impossible. We have to exchange views on wishes. So, we have to negotiate with each other to have

a win-win result. It is an answer.”

### Measures related to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic

Some 10-20 patients with positive results are seen starting from the second week of August. It is necessary to carry out prevention, treatment and control of the pandemic, while systematic preparations must be made for restricting the infection of possible diseases triggered by Covid-19.

Council members discussed the enactment of a law to take severe action against national traitors and those who committed the high treason cases, restriction for mobilizing the act based on religions, plans to cease the terror attacks and ways to control currency value at home.

The Vice-Senior General discussed the supplementary points to be inserted into the law on archives for historic persons.

In his concluding remarks, the Senior General said the country has sufficient fuel till the end of August. More oil tankers will arrive here soon. Fuel purchased from Russia will arrive in Myanmar after August. Fuel tankers will arrive here one after another. Prices of fuel are based on market manipulation of merchants. The Senior General stressed the need to improve the State politics and economy within six months through collaborative efforts. — MNA



... regions, states and self-administered zones have their own rights to self-governing and that there would be a positive result if requirements for amending the Constitution based on their endeavours and experiences can be known.

State economic promotion funds were disbursed to regions, states and self-administered zones.

The Prime Minister continued that we should encourage the cultivation of rice and beans and pulses that directly contributes to the national economy as there are export markets for them. The funds of emerald green projects handed out to

necessary to upgrade technology and that concerted efforts must be made to increase production and trade to revitalize the national economy.

### SAC’s implementation of political and national missions

If the country can solve social and political issues, it will be stable and will implement the political system as expected.

# Children skip education due to social economic consequence



MoSWRR's meeting of the Committee on the Elimination and Rehabilitation of Forced Child Labour in the Worst Forms is in progress yesterday.

THE problem of child labour is happening not only in our country but also in many countries around the world, said the deputy minister of the Ministry of

Social Welfare, Relief and Re-settlement.

Due to the economic and social effects of the outbreak of COVID-19, children are far away

from education. It is found that children have become workers, he added.

The deputy minister said at the Committee on the Elim-

ination and Rehabilitation of Forced Child Labour in the Worst Forms" meeting of Myanmar's National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour held at the ministry's assembly hall yesterday afternoon.

The first five-year plan (2019-2023) of the national plan to eliminate child labour in Myanmar, which is currently being implemented, will soon end, and it is necessary to speed up the work, he said.

Next, the deputy minister continued that the Department of Social Welfare is carrying out school-based child protection activities and community-based child protection activities.

The deputy minister said at the meeting that they are coordinating with organizations to

establish a social incident management system to handle the children affairs.

After that, the members of the committee discussed the activities and the deputy minister gave the closing speech.

A country with child labour has a high unemployment rate and high proportion of low-skilled workforce.

It will only end up with low wage jobs and so on.

All these facts can have an impact on the people's organization such as delaying the country's economic growth and development.

According to the ILO's survey, there are 151,622 child labourers worldwide, and 72,525 children are in hazardous work. — Htun Htun/GNLM

## State Administration Council's Information Team to hold 19<sup>th</sup> Press Conference

THE Information Team of the State Administration Council will hold the 19<sup>th</sup> press conference at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw at 1 pm on 17 August. Local and foreign media personnel are invited to the press conference. — MNA

## MRTV to broadcast 19<sup>th</sup> Press Conference of SAC Information Team live

THE Information Team of the State Administration Council will hold the 19<sup>th</sup> press conference at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw at 1 pm on 17 August.

The conference will be broadcast live on MRTV-HD, MRTV News Channel, MWD, MWD Variety, MITV, MOI Website, MOI YouTube, MRTV Website and aired live on Radio Myanmar, Thazin FM, Mandalay FM, Pyinsawady FM, Shwe FM, Padamyar FM, FM Bagan, Cherry FM and Star FM. — MNA

## New White Elephant looks healthy, happy with his mother mammal



A baby white elephant is gracefully seen together with his mother elephant.

A 33-year-old female elephant called Zar Nan Hla kept by the Myanma Timber Enterprise in Taungup Township of Rakhine State gave birth to one white male elephant at 6:30 am on 23 July 2022. The baby elephant is two feet and five inches in height, three feet and one inch in girth, two feet in back length and has one foot and six inches long tail

with its birth weight of about 180 pounds.

The newly born white elephant has pearl-coloured eyes, a plantain branch-shaped back, white hair, a distinctive tail, auspicious plot signs on the skin, reddish-brown or pinkish skin, five claws on the front legs and big ears. Therefore, these features conform with seven out of

eight characteristics.

Now, the white baby elephant is 25 days old and two feet and six inches in height, three feet and two inches in girth and weighs about 200 pounds. He stays healthy and happy with his mother elephant, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. — MNA

## Inflation drives street food prices up

LOW-INCOME people are relying on roadside shops rather than large restaurants. As the prices of key ingredients such as rice and kitchen crops are skyrocketing, the roadside shops are forced to raise the food prices, said Ma Nwe Win, a customer of roadside shops.

Large restaurants normally charge more as the rent is high. Therefore, small shops attract a large number of customers. Food prices of the roadside shops are pretty high as well, said a driver Ko Maung Kyaw.

Myanmar's popular breakfast dish (Motehingar) is priced at K1,000 without fritter. At

present, the price has risen to K1,200-1,400 per dish at some restaurants and tea shops, Ko Maung Kyaw said. However, it was priced at only K700 at roadside shops, which rose from K600 recorded last month.

Along with the price rise of egg, edible oil and rice, the price of one serving with rice and fried egg was K1,000 at the roadside shops, indicating an increase of K200 against last month's rate, said Ma Pyone, a store assistant. The curry price has increased from K1,300 to K1,500-1,600 at present. Moreover, the prices of breakfast dishes (noodle salad, coconut noodles, fried rice) are

up by K100-200 this month, said Daw Nge, a customer.

The price of Myanmar's traditional delicacy Beinmoat (Myanmar pancake) is up by K150 this month, said Ma Hla Hla, a street food vendor in Lanmadaw Township. Likewise, the prices of Paratha and Youtiao increased by K100-200.

Snack prices of roadside shops and tea shops are up by K100-500 as the prices of the coffee mix, condensed milk and ingredients went up. One serving with rice and chicken curry costs K3,500, indicating an increase of K500, said Ko Aye Myint, a worker at Bayintnaung Commodity



Street food vendors are seen on the roadside near the Sule Pagoda.

Wholesale Centre.

Skyrocketing commodities prices affected the roadside shops as well. People tend to reduce food and general costs

amid low income and inflation. We are struggling with the hikes in bus fares and rising food and rent, said Ma Thida. — TWA/GNLM



The photo shows the Thilawa Port Terminal where fuel oil is unloaded.

## Govt forms steering committee to purchase fuel oil from Russia

### FROM PAGE-1

The committee will import the oil from Russia as per the State policies and economic policies depending on the country's need, store and distribute the imported quality fuel at reasonable prices, and cooperate with the governmental departments and private organizations in purchasing, importing and transport processes.

It will also submit the needed foreign currency to the government monthly, supervise the arrival of fuel tankers in time and inspect the quality and quantity of oil together with the relevant organizations, it said. Moreover, it will conduct

necessary actions to distribute the fuel oil to Tatmadaw and ministries and supervise the import companies whether they follow the rules and regulations of the Supervisory Committee on Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil under the Ministry of Commerce.

It will also manage for further needs of the country in addition to fuel oil and petrochemicals produced in Russia in line with the directives of the State Administration Council, it added.

Lt-Gen Nyo Saw will serve as Chairman of the 10-member steering committee. — TWA/GNLM

## Weekly kitchen goods market update

PRICES of commodities such as rice, edible oil, onion, garlic, potato, chickpea, black gram and pigeon pea climbed in the Bayintnaung Wholesale Centre in the week ended 16 August 2022. Chilli pepper and sugar prices fell last week. Sugar price slipped from K2,240 to K2,200 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes).

### Onion

Onion wholesale prices were up by K350 per viss in the week ended 16 August. On 10 August, the prices stood at K1,550-2,150 per viss of onions from Seikphyu Township and K1,700-2,300 per viss of onions from Monywa Township. The prices jumped to K1,900-2,650 per viss depending on varieties and sizes on 16 August.

### Garlic

Garlic prices rose by K300-K600 per viss last week. On 10 August, garlic produced in Aungban of Shan State fetched K2,200-3,700 per viss

in wholesale markets, while the Kyukok garlic variety was priced at K3,400 per viss. On 16 August, Aungban's garlic price increased to K2,400-4,000 per viss, whereas the prices of Kyukok garlic variety peaked at K4,000-4,100 per viss.

### Potato

Potato prices are also moving onwards. Aungban potatoes were worth K1,200-2,300 per viss depending on quality, while potatoes from other areas of Shan State were valued at K2,350 per viss.

### Chilli pepper

On 9 August, the chilli pepper price hit a high of K19,000 per viss. Thereafter, the price showed a small decrease. The prices of chilli pepper moved in the range of K16,500 and K19,000 per viss depending on different varieties (Mohtaung, long red chilli (Panye) and green chilli). On 16 August, the prices slightly declined to K15,000-17,500 per viss.

### Palm oil

The wholesale reference price of palm oil in the Yangon Region is set at K4,140 per viss between 15 and 21 August. The price is up by K615 compared to the rate recorded in previous weeks.

The palm oil wholesale prices steadily went up from K8,600 to K9,700 per viss on 16 August. The palm oil price was estimated at K102,000 per jerry can on 16 August, which surged from K91,000 on 13 August.

### Chickpea, black gram and pigeon pea

Chickpea prices rose from K3,500-3,600 per viss to K3,900-4,100 per viss on 16 August in wholesale markets. Similarly, pulses price stood at K1,853,200 per tonne of black gram (Fair Average Quality/RC), K2,163,200 per tonne of black gram (Special Quality/RC) and K1,970,000 per tonne of pigeon pea (red gram) RC.

### Rice

Soaring prices of high-grade rice stopped yet low-grade rice prices slightly increased. On 16 August, wholesale rice prices per bag were K80,000-90,000 for Pawsan from the Shwebo area, K61,000-65,000 for Pawsan from Myaungmya and Pathein areas, K59,000-63,000 for Pawsan from Pyapon area, K44,000-50,000 for Pawkywe variety, K40,000-45,000 for short matured rice (90 days) and K36,000-39,000 for rice grown under multiple cropping. — TWA/GNLM



A shop is pictured selling kitchen goods.

# CRIME NEWS

## Illegal timbers, flowering trees, minerals, construction materials, consumer goods, unregistered motorbikes and vehicles confiscated

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

Under the instructions of the Ayeyawady Region Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force, a combined team led by the Forest Department made inspections on 14 August.

Officials nabbed a total of 0.3186 tonne of illegal sawn ironwood worth K190,800 near the Pathein-Ngwehsaung Road in Pathein township. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

In addition, combined inspection teams conducted inspections under the management of the Kachin State Anti-Illegal Trade Task Force.

They confiscated a total of 0.9336 tonne of illegal teak door parts worth K616,176 from an unregistered Super Custom car (approximately K3.2 mil-



Confiscated illegal cycles in Kayin State.



lion) near the Mohnyin-Hopin Road in Mohnyin township and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

Similarly, an on-duty team captured a total of two metric tons of Tin/Tungsten lead without official documents at the old Shwethanlwin Tollgate of Belin township. The action was taken

under the Myanmar Mines Law.

On 15 August, a combined team seized Chinese flowering trees worth K1.5 million without official documents of taxes and duties at the 21/5 Milepost on the Mandalay-PyinOoLwin Road.

An unregistered Kenbo 110 motorbike (approximately K350,000) and an unregistered

JLM 125 motorbike (approximately K270,000) were confiscated in Kanbalu township. The action was taken under the Export and Import Law.

Afterwards, a total of 4.5180 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K158,130 was captured in Pyinmana township and the action was taken under the Forest Law.

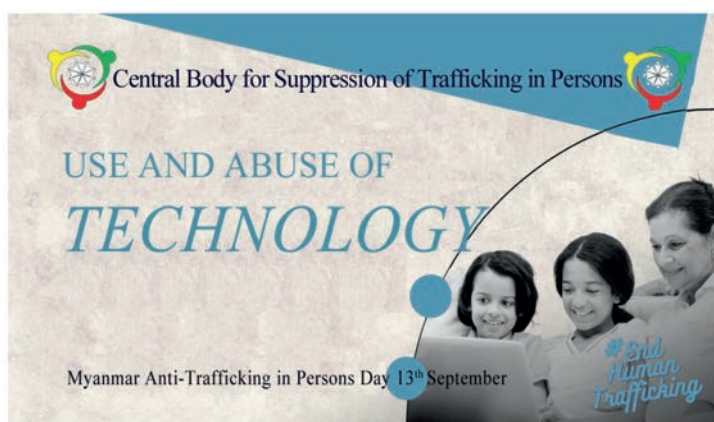
On 16 August, an on-duty team conducted inspections at the Kawkareik (Tadakyoe) Combined Checkpoint and nabbed construction materials worth K4.6 million and 20 baby bicycles worth K2.1 million without declaring an Import Declaration (ID) from a vehicle heading from Myawady to Yangon. The action was taken under the Customs Procedures.

In addition, a combined team led by the Bago Region Forest Department impounded a total of 5.8468 tonnes of illegal timbers worth K3,093,246 in the Bago, Toungoo and Pyay districts. The action was taken under the Forest Law.

Therefore, 13 arrests estimated at K26,078,352 were made on three consecutive days from 14 to 16 August, according to the Anti-Illegal Trade Steering Committee. — MNA

### 2022 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Days' Objectives

- \* To mobilize the participation of all citizens in combating human trafficking as a national duty;
- \* To have the public instilled with awareness about and knowledge of trafficking in persons;
- \* To protect and care trafficked victims with empathy; and
- \* To strengthen cooperation and coordination among all counter trafficking stakeholders government agencies, civil society organizations, UN agencies, international organizations and general public.



## Drugs confiscated in some townships

THE combined team consisting of the Police Force searched a motorcycle driven by Daychay on the Hpa-an-Hlaingbwe Road near Maebaung village in Hpa-an township at 9:45 am on 13 August. The team seized 10,000 stimulant tablets from him. Similarly, the combined team consisting of the Anti-Drug Police Force searched two motorcycles driven by Aung Phyto (aka) Thar Nge and Aung Pyae Sone (aka) Tayokekyi at Mahlwetaung combined checkpoint at Aalesa Khan village, Lokthine village-tract, Kaleinaung in Yebyu township at 6:30 pm on the same day. The team nabbed 3,900 stimulant pills from Aung Phyto (aka) Thar Nge. Furthermore, the combined team consisting of the Anti-Drug Police Force searched a Toyota Alphard vehicle driven by Sai Swe Swar at



An arrestee is seen along with seized Ice and a car.

the Tarkaw bridge combined checkpoint, situated in Tarkaw village, Tarkaw village-tract in Kunhing township at 5:30 pm on 14 August. The team impounded 20 kilogrammes

of Ice from him.

They are prosecuted under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, the Myanmar Police Force stated. — MNA

## 76.9644 tonnes of illicit timbers impounded in Nay Pyi Taw, regions/states

THE Forest Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation is using several

ways and means comprising the community monitoring and reporting system (CMRS) to block illegal timber and for-

est products trading.

The data between 8 and 14 August from respective forest departments stated that

the department confiscated a total of 76.9644 tonnes of illegal timbers – 52.4816 tonnes of teak, 15.944 tonnes of hard-

wood and 8.5388 tonnes of others, along with 40 suspects and 42 vehicles. — MNA

# LOCAL BUSINESS

## Corn price rises above K900 per viss, 2 weeks remaining under Form-D exemption

CORN prices bounced back after one month of decline. Only two weeks are remaining to export the corn to Thailand under zero tariff (with Form-D).

Corn price stayed under K900 per viss (a viss equals 1.6 kilogrammes) between the third week of July and 15 August. On 16 August, the price increased to K900-920 per viss again.

However, the current market price has not reached a record high of over K1,100 per viss in early June, corn traders said.

The price rise is attributed to the Kyat depreciation against the US dollar in the local forex market. The Central Bank of Myanmar raised the reference exchange rate from K1,850 to K2,100 on 5 August.

The directive released on 30 June stated that transactions for the exports of agricultural produce including corn, rice, bean and oil crops are to be made in



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dollars instead of Yuan-Kyat/Baht-Kyat cross-currency settlement in border transactions.

The foreign currency earnings have to be converted to the local currency according to the reference rate of the CBM.

As a result of this, there is a

large gap between the regulated rate and the unauthorized rate, while a US dollar is worth around K2,900 in the grey market. This action affected exports of agricultural produce, so export has fallen, traders stressed.

Thailand gives green light

to corn imports under zero tariff (with Form-D), between 1 February and 31 August. However, Thailand imposed a maximum tax rate of 73 per cent on corn imports to protect the rights of their growers if the corn is imported during the corn season

of Thailand.

Therefore, about two weeks are remaining for corn exports under Form D exemption.

Myanmar conveyed 1.7 million tonnes of corn to Thailand in the 2020-2021 financial year. In the 2021-2022 corn season, the country targets to export 1.5 million tonnes of corn, according to the association.

Myanmar exported 2.3 million tonnes of corn to foreign trade partners in the 2020-2021 corn season. The majority of them were sent to Thailand and corn was also delivered to China, India and Viet Nam, the association's data indicated.

At present, corn is cultivated in Shan, Kachin, Kayah and Kayin states and Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway regions. Myanmar has three corn seasons — winter, summer and monsoon. The country produces 2.5-3 million tonnes of corn every year. — NN/GNLM

## Consumers can complain about limited sales, sales suspension: statement



At present, fuel prices are spiking. On 16 August 2022, oil prices stood at K2,365 per litre for Octane 92, K2,445 for Octane 95, K2,780 for premium diesel and K2,700 for diesel.

ENERGY consumers can lodge a complaint about limited sales and suspension of fuel sales at petrol stations as an adequate amount of fuel for this month has been distributed, according to a statement released by the Central Committee on Ensuring Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods.

The central committee is governing the distribution

sector effectively not to have a shortage of oil in the domestic market and ensure price stability for energy consumers through the Supervisory Committee on Oil Import, Storage and Distribution of Fuel Oil.

However, some petrol stations are allegedly suspending fuel sales and setting limited sales, sparking consumers' concerns and raising fuel prices.

They are taking advantage of the consumers' concerns for their benefit, according to the Central Committee on Ensuring Smooth Flow of Trade and Goods.

The committee has assured adequate fuel supply until this month. It is also working together with the Myanmar Petroleum Trade Association to ensure a steady fuel supply for the energy consumers to mitigate concerns.

Therefore, the consumers can complain about the halt in fuel sales and limited sales through the contact numbers of the respective regions and states if they find those stations that violate the rules, the committee stated.

At present, fuel prices are spiking. On 16 August 2022, oil prices stood at K2,365 per litre for Octane 92, K2,445 for Octane 95, K2,780 for premium diesel and K2,700 for diesel. — NN/GNLM

### 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*

# OPINION

## Keep the fatherly spirit in mind to beautify the secular world

DISPERSING compassion over all the entire people is a fatherly spirit of the government. Most Buddhist people roughly know the advantage of dispersing compassion overall because they have knowledge about the teachings of the Lord Buddha. Indeed, dispersing compassion is beneficial for not only the current situation but for the vicious circle.

In Myanmar society, the elders need to lead the younger ones as forging the family spirit. All elder persons in the family need to take responsibility for all family measures, not to leave any burden on the younger ones. Those younger ones are not just followers

in the family but they need to take responsibility for supporting the elders in all measures as much as possible so as to achieve success as a Myanmar saying goes: Many hands make light work.

Whatever it may be, the younger ones do not have the duty to lead the family. They have a chance to take a position of a safer place when the elders are overcoming challenges. But the elders are never disappointed by the younger ones. The elders are always holding up the forgiveness over the younger ones whatever the latter do. If necessary, the elders give advice to the younger ones not to cause derailment from the correct path of life.

Primarily, the elders in all sectors need to take responsibility for placing the younger ones under their compassions not to face any dangers, hindrances, challenges, troubles, problems, etc. It shows their genuine mind. It is the nature of families in Myanmar society. Although the younger ones become mature as well as possess higher positions than the elders, the latter never lessen

their compassions over the former. Such a nature is similar to the river. Everybody knows such an event as the renowned film "the river of no return".

As such, the younger ones try hard to understand the compassion of the elder ones over them. Reciprocally, the elder ones need to stop their coverage of compassion over all younger persons. It is the main theme of their life. If they remove the system of covering compassion, the main theme of Myanmar's families will collapse.

Hence, the younger ones need to repay gratitude as well as respect back to the elder ones for coverage of compassion. Likewise, the elder ones need to never discard dispersing compassion with forgiveness over the younger ones for shaping Myanmar to be peaceful.



# Learned but orthodox treatise on Burmese poetry first published in 1965

Review by Myint Zan

*U Thaw Zin's 'Guide to Poetry'. (Third edition, Seikuchocho publications, June 2022, 278 pages, 4500 Kyats)*

THE author U Thaw Zin (1913-1990) was a scholar who apparently was proficient in Pali, Sanskrit, Bengali and Hindi languages. His book ကျောင်းကျမ်း (‘Guide to Poetry’) was first published in 1965. In June 2022 Seikuchocho publications republished it.

The book is divided into four Parts. They can roughly be translated as: (1) ‘Basic tools necessary for poetry’, (2) ‘Elements necessary to create the characteristics of poetry’, (3) ‘The “jewels” that beautify poetry’ (4) ‘Making poetry alive’.

The basic and overarching approach of the book can be said to be orthodox. U Thaw Zin mentions and refers to a Sanskrit

text on poetry composed several hundred or even a thousand years ago. Perhaps (not?) parts of that Sanskrit treatise might have been translated into Burmese. He asserts that not even one in a hundred Burmese poets have heard of the Sanskrit text. Indeed. But the reviewer would mischievously add: ‘So what is the matter with this non-familiarity?’

U Thaw Zin also urges that a long narration of the techniques he described has been composed by Manlei Sayadaw (a Burmese Buddhist monk) in a 1000 Burmese word poem. Those who want to make ‘poetry alive’ writes U Thaw Zin should learn by heart from this long

poem which he reproduced in five pages of his book (page 264 to 268). One wonders how many among a random sampling of a thousand Burmese poets who flourished during the past 100 years have learned by heart this poem of Manlei Sayadaw.

In each of the four Parts of this book, U Thaw Zin provides examples of Burmese poetry in explaining his various techniques of poetry. One of the ‘latest’ poems which were mentioned in the book was by Salay U Pon Nya which were mainly composed during or before the mid-19th century. Apart from a brief mention of Thakin Ko Daw Hmaing, none of the poetry in various genres including but not limited to

*Khitsan* (‘testing the Age’) poetry nor that of other genres of Burmese poetry of the 20th century was discussed. (Perhaps most of the poems of the early to mid-20th century did not quite adhere to U Thaw Zin’s techniques which he so eruditely explained in his treatise.)

When U Thaw Zin’s book was first published in 1965 there were Burmese political poems which also (shall we say) diverge from the themes, messages and writing styles of pre-World War II ခေတ်စမ်း poetry. Did the ခေတ်စမ်း poems as well as the political (mainly) left-wing poetry from the 1950s to mid-1960s follow the techniques, guidelines and criteria of what is good Burmese

poetry as recommended by U Thaw Zin? The late Saya Maung Tha Noe (1932-2022) is considered to be one of the pioneers of modern Burmese poetry which started around 1965 the year U Thaw Zin’s ‘Guide to [Traditional] Poetry’ was published. The writer is curious whether U Thaw Zin or Maung Tha Noe had reviewed each other’s work concerning Burmese poetry.

U Thaw Zin passed away in 1990. By that time what can be called ‘Modern Burmese poetry,’ ခေတ်ခန့် ကျရာ had begun to play a non-negligible role. Do the *Mawdan* Myanmar ကျရာ poems fulfil the criteria which learned *Saya* (teacher) U Thaw Zin meticulously explained?

The reviewer uses the word ‘erudite’ and ‘learned’ without irony and in sincere compliments if not praise. The reviewer has learned a lot from U Thaw Zin’s treatise. A few (maybe some) of Saya U Thaw Zin’s expositions the reviewer does not fully comprehend. But learned he did from the book first published 57 years ago. Those interested in Burmese literature (and influences of foreign especially Sanskrit and Pali literature on it) and of course potential and even established Burmese poets can benefit by reading the book. The *Seikuchocho* publication is to be complimented for reproducing it.



# Bharat Biotech completes clinical development for phase III trials, booster doses for BBV154 intranasal Covid vaccine

BHARAT Biotech International on Monday said that BBV154 (intranasal vaccine) has proven to be safe, well-tolerated, and immunogenic in subjects in controlled clinical trials.

BBV154 is a recombinant replication-deficient adenovirus vectored vaccine with a pre-fusion stabilized spike protein. This vaccine candidate was evaluated earlier in phase I and II clinical trials with successful results. BBV154 has been specifically formulated to allow intranasal delivery. In addition, the nasal delivery system has been designed and developed to be cost-effective in low and middle-income countries.

### BBV154

BBV154 was developed in partnership with Washington University St Louis, which had designed and developed the re-

combinant adenoviral vectored constructs and evaluated them in preclinical studies for efficacy. Product development related to preclinical safety evaluation, large-scale manufacturing scale-up, formulation, and delivery device development, including human clinical trials, were conducted by Bharat Biotech. The Government of India partly funded product development and clinical trials through the Department of Biotechnology’s, COVID Suraksha programme.

Two separate and simultaneous clinical trials were conducted to evaluate BBV154 as a primary dose (2-dose) schedule; and a heterologous booster dose for subjects who have previously received 2 doses of the two commonly administered covid vaccines in India.

### Human clinical trials

Data from both Phase III



Covid-19 cases in India witnessed a huge decline on 16 August 2022 with the country recording 8,813 new infections in the past 24 hours. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

human clinical trials have been submitted for approval to National Regulatory Authorities.

Primary dose schedule phase III trials were conducted for safety, and immunogenicity in 3100 subjects, and compared with COVAXINO. The trials were conducted in 14 trial sites across India.

Heterologous booster dose studies were conducted for safety and immunogenicity in ~875 subjects, where a booster dose (3rd dose) of BBV154 intranasal vaccine was administered to study participants who were previously vaccinated with licenced COVID vaccines. The trials were conducted in nine trial sites across India.

Being an intranasal vaccine, BBV154 may produce local antibodies in the upper respiratory tract which may provide the potential to reduce infection and transmission. Further studies are

being planned.

### 4 platform technologies

At the start of the COVID pandemic, Bharat Biotech commenced work on four platform technologies, the Vero cell inactivated platform, and the adenoviral vector platform have been developed.

“On this 75th Independence Day, we are proud to announce the successful completion of clinical trials for the BBV154 intranasal vaccine. We stay committed and focused on innovation and product development; this is yet another achievement for the multidisciplinary teams at Bharat Biotech. If approved, this intranasal vaccine will make it easier to deploy in mass immunization campaigns with an easy-to-administer formulation and delivery device,” said Sushitra K. Ella, Joint Managing Director, Bharat Biotech.

“Vectored vaccines also enable faster development of targeted vaccines in response to emerging variants of concern. We hereby thank the volunteers, principal investigators, and clinical trial personnel for all their efforts,” Ella said.

BBV154 has the double benefit of enabling faster development of variant-specific vaccines and easy nasal delivery that helps mass immunization protect from emerging concern variants. It promises to become an important tool in mass vaccinations during pandemics and endemics.

BBV154 is stable at 2-8°C for easy storage and distribution. Bharat Biotech has established large manufacturing capabilities at multiple sites across India, including Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Telangana, with operations pan India.

SOURCE: ANI

MYANMAR Daily Weather Report  
(ISSUED at 7:00 pm Tuesday 16 August 2022)

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is strong to vigorous over the Andaman Sea and moderate over the Bay of Bengal. FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 17 August 2022: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in northern Shan state, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing region and Kachin, eastern Shan, Chin, Kayah states and widespread in the remaining regions and states with regionally heavy falls in Kayin, Mon states and isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady, Taninthayi regions and Rakhine states. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Occasional Squall with rough seas may be experienced Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squall may reach (40) mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar Waters. Wave height will be about (9-11) feet in Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts and (4-7) feet off and along Rakhine Coast.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Continuations of increase of rain in Taninthayi region and Rakhine, Kayin, Mon States.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 August 2022:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 17 August 2022:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).



# District Level of 23<sup>rd</sup> Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held successfully in Yangon Region

THE opening ceremony of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions at district level was celebrated in Yangon Region on Monday.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein attended the events together with the relevant regional ministers.

First, the Leading Organizing Committee on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions Chairman U Htay Aung made an opening speech and cut the ribbon with the officials to start the event.

Then, the performers competed in the singing, dancing, song composing and music competitions at three design-

ated locations.

The award-giving ceremony and closing ceremony were held yesterday.

First, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein delivered a greeting speech.

Then, the region cabinet members and administrators of the North District General Administration Department presented the first, second and third and special prizes to winners at each level.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Soe Thein gave the Cup to winners from Insein Township that won the most prizes in nine townships.

A total of 78 performers competed in the district-level competitions.



The 23<sup>rd</sup> Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions at district level in Yangon Region is in progress.

The district-level winners and central-level of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions will compete in regional-level Myanmar Traditional Cultural —MNA

## 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Myanmar Airways International's annual event held



MAI holds its 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on 15 August.

MYANMAR Airways International (MAI) celebrated its 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the Lotte Hotel on 15 August. Attendees included MAI officials, airline partners for domestic and

international flights, departmental officials, and domestic airline senior staff.

At the event, MAI's CEO delivered a welcoming speech and the CEO of UAB Bank, ex-

plained the "MAI X-tra" programme that will benefit the MAI passengers.

Afterwards, U Aung Aung Zaw, Chairman of MAI, and officials presented awards to employees who have served with excellence, award prizes to departments, and conducted a lucky draw for attendees.

Although MAI faces difficulties during the Covid-19 period, it is currently flying routes like other airlines in ASEAN.

Four Airbus A-319, four Airbus A-320, and three Embraer E190s are used by MAI for regularly scheduled flights, charter flights, and cargo flights on domestic and international routes. — MNA

## Palm oil sold at low price to consumers

THE Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association reports that palm oil is being distributed to customers at a low price, in trucks carrying six barrels, 65 trucks per day.

From 17 July, K3,400 per viss of palm oil is being sold in over 30 townships with vehicles carrying six barrels each containing 110 visses. In the third week of August, palm oil's selling price increased K4,140 per viss.

It costs between K8,000 and K9,600 per viss to sell palm oil in townships of Yangon. From the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association, palm oil is being sold from 50 ticals to one viss per person to facilitate consumers with a small price change once a week.

A total of 40,000 tonnes of

palm oil was imported to Yangon in July to meet domestic consumption. A person in Yangon consumes 2 ticals of palm oil per day and measured by the consumption of 50,000 to 60,000 tonnes per month nationwide, palm oil is imported from abroad.

By increasing the production of sunflower and oilseed crops domestically, palm oil imports from abroad will be reduced, and the price of domestic edible oil will decrease due to the increase in domestic production.

As Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association is selling palm oil at a low price for consumers and trying to continue direct buying from wholesale depots, industrials and food industries. — Nyein Thu (MNA)/GNLM



People are seen lining up to buy palm oil at a reasonable price.

PHOTO: KANU

## Public Notice

1. The Anti-Corruption Commission has established corruption prevention units within ministries to effectively curb corruption.
2. The ACC used SMS on the mobile phone to ask the public who seek services at an office of the department of the relevant ministries via Short Code No "1111" for feedbacks, including the Public Feedback Programme-PFP.
3. According to the PFP, the right replies of the citizens via Short Code No "1111" will provide the quality of services of each department and the requirements for corruption prevention to be fixed.
4. Therefore, the public should make a reply to the questions of the ACC and corruption prevention units of the ministries via SMS at Short Code No "1111" and such doing is a supportive measure for PFP, and the people are urged to cooperate in the operations.

*Anti-Corruption Commission  
Answer "1111" to fight against corruption  
Answer "1111" to improve services  
Let's work together to eliminate corruption towards prosperity*

# HEALTH/PANDEMIC WORLD

## Yoga 'warriors' fighting to diversify booming industry

LONDON-BASED yoga instructor Stacie Graham is on a mission to make the ancient practice more racially and socially diverse, urging her charges to become "warriors for change" in the booming industry.

Yoga, which originates from India, and pilates — a form of exercise focused on postural alignment — are now a \$30 billion-a-year industry, according to the Global Wellness Institute.

But this success masks a lack of diversity, which affects the entire fitness sector, argued Graham, who also works as a diversity policy consultant for corporations.

"Here we are in London.

If you go to any space where there is a gym or yoga studio, you will likely not see 'London', but typically white, female, able bodies — middle class — participating," she said.

"And my question has been: how is that possible?"

A survey of yoga teachers and practitioners in the UK by the medical studies site BMJ Open found that 87 per cent were women, and 91 per cent white, around 10 per cent higher than the national proportion of white people.

Graham has just published book "Yoga as Resistance", to help industry professionals broaden their clientele.



Many people see gym membership as vital for mental health as well as physical fitness. PHOTO: JUSTIN TALLIS/AFP

### 'Subtle exclusion'

She also convenes regular

workshops with other teachers, practising yoga and plotting how

to diversify the industry.

"You want to be warriors of change, yoga gives us everything we need for that fight," she tells her charges as they perform the Warrior 2 posture; one leg bent, the other stretched behind, and the arms horizontal, like arrows.

Attendee Ntathu Allen, who specialises in "breathing and healing" sessions for women of colour, told AFP that she is sometimes asked "if I'm really a teacher" when she arrives at a new studio. Pam Sagoo, owner of Flow Space Yoga in London's multicultural Dalston neighbourhood, was also at the workshop. —AFP

## US monkeypox cases on sharp rise as media blame government's setbacks in containing outbreak



A woman receives a dose of monkeypox vaccine in New Orleans, the United States, 13 August 2022. PHOTO: LAN WEI/XINHUA

MONKEYPOX cases in the United States have kept climbing up rapidly, topping over 11,000 cases, while media and experts have been blaming the Biden administration's response to contain the outbreak.

A total of 11,177 monkeypox cases had been reported across the country as of Friday, according to the latest data from the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

New York had the most cas-

es, with 2,295, followed by California with 1,945 and Florida with 1,085.

So far, the United States has the world's highest tally of monkeypox cases.

Since the CDC confirmed the first monkeypox case in the United States in a Massachusetts man on 18 May, the country has seen continuous surge of cases, according to the trend map on the CDC website.

Health experts said given the testing bottlenecks in the United States, monkeypox cases are likely being tremendously undercounted.

A series of setbacks in the Biden administration's response to addressing monkeypox allowed the disease to gain a foothold in the country, said a report of Politico.—Xinhua

## Shanghai: Shoppers throng exits at Ikea store amid COVID-19 lockdown

SHANGHAI Ikea store saw panicked shoppers rushing for the exits after city health authorities on Saturday ordered the store to shutter down with shoppers inside after a close contact of a COVID-19 case was traced to the location.

Multiple videos on social media showed customers yelling and pushing each other in an attempt to escape the building before the doors closed, reported CNN.

In a press briefing on Sunday, Zhao Dandan, deputy director of the Shanghai Health Commission, said the "store and affected area" would be under "closed loop" management for two days.

Zhao also insisted that people inside the loop must undergo two days of quarantine at a government facility and

five days of health surveillance, reported CNN.

On Monday, city health authorities reported six locally transmitted COVID-19 cases in Shanghai, of which five were asymptomatic.

The Ikea store in Shanghai's Xuhui district was temporarily closed on Sunday and Monday in response to "epidemic prevention guidelines" from the authorities and will reopen Tuesday, Ikea's China communications team told CNN.

Shanghai, China's financial capital and home to 25 million people, was locked down for two months earlier this year, leading to widespread public anger as residents reported difficulties in ordering daily essentials including food and medicine.—ANI



In this undated photo, pedestrians walk past an Ikea centre in Shanghai. PHOTO: XINHUA /FILE

## Australian researchers reveal surge in recruitment scams during pandemic

A new research by Australia's Queensland University of Technology (QUT) showed recruitment fraud surged during the COVID-19 pandemic as the rise of online work made it more difficult to discern job postings.

The study, published in the Social Alternatives journal and

released on Monday, used data collected by peak consumer watchdog, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).

Deanna Grant-Smith from QUT said lockdowns and restrictions created the perfect environment for offenders to target

job-seekers online.

"Offenders seek to harvest personal information by posting a fake ad which requires jobseekers to upload personal information that offenders compile into databases and on-sell to legitimate and illegitimate groups," said Grant-Smith.—Xinhua

# ECONOMY WORLD

## Net zero, Russia war driving nascent hydrogen economy



Green hydrogen is in sharp focus as governments seek to slash carbon emissions and safeguard energy supplies hit by the invasion of Ukraine. **PHOTO: ADRIAN DENNIS AFP/FILE**

KEVIN Kendall pulls up at the only green hydrogen refuelling station in Birmingham, Britain's second-biggest city, and swiftly fills his sedan with clean gas.

Green hydrogen is in sharp focus as governments seek to slash carbon emissions amid record-high temperatures and to safeguard energy supplies hit by the invasion of Ukraine by oil and gas producer Russia.

But the "hydrogen econo-

my" has not fully kicked into gear awaiting significant uptake from high-polluting sectors like steel and aviation.

For Kendall, being an early user of green hydrogen means he does not have to queue during his lunchtime trip to what resembles a petrol pump.

"There is very little green hydrogen being produced in Britain at the moment," the professor of chemical engineering

tells AFP. "It needs now to move forward."

In Birmingham, central England, it costs about £50 (\$60) to fill Kendall's Toyota Mirai with the green hydrogen that is produced at a plant next to the refuelling station.

That is around half the bill for a similar-sized diesel car after the Ukraine war sent fossil fuel prices rocketing.

Despite the price benefit, Britain is home to around only a dozen hydrogen refuelling stations.

While hydrogen is the most abundant element on Earth, it is locked in water and hydrocarbons such as natural gas, meaning "it's difficult to make", according to Kendall's daughter, Michaela Kendall.

Together they founded Adelan, a small-sized business producing box-shaped fuel cells similar to the metal-encased devices used to help power the Toyota Mirai.—AFP

## Heathrow extends passenger cap into October

LONDON'S Heathrow airport said Monday it was extending its capacity limit through most of October to reduce the chaos caused by a post-pandemic surge in passengers amid a lack of staff.

Europe's largest airport introduced a cap of 100,000 departing passengers per day in July, which was originally slated to have expired at the end of September.

"Since the cap was introduced, passenger journeys have improved with fewer last-minute cancellations, better punctuality and shorter wait times for bags," said Heathrow.

It said the extension through 29 October "will provide passengers with confidence ahead of their half-term getaways".

Airlines scheduled thousands of flights in Europe this summer season to capture a boom in travel demand following the relaxation of Covid restrictions.

But having cut back staff drastically during the pandemic, both airlines and airports found it difficult to hire enough employees.

This led to long waits to check-in, clear security and collect bags in many airports across Europe, as well as to cancellations of flights due to lack of crew.

The Heathrow cap was set

at roughly 4,000 passengers per day fewer than scheduled flight capacity.

Airlines have cancelled flights in response to the cap, as well as in recognition of their staffing levels.

Heathrow said it was regularly reviewing the situation and would remove the cap early if it sees an improvement.—AFP



Heathrow Airport, originally called London Airport until 1966 and now known as London Heathrow, is a major international airport in London, England. **PHOTO: LEON NEAL/AFP/FILE**

## Japan firms' earnings momentum unlikely to bring hoped-for wage hikes

SOLID profits at major Japanese companies in recent earnings reports are unlikely to translate into near-term wage hikes in broad sectors due to the risk of a global recession, dashing Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's hopes for higher pay to blunt the impact of rising prices.

The Japanese currency's drop to 24-year lows against the US dollar has served as a major profit driver for some blue-chip companies, boosting profits earned overseas and inflating the value of assets held abroad in yen terms. Companies from automakers and components suppliers to energy companies reported upbeat earnings for the April-June quarter and revised upward full-year projections, driven by the yen's slide.

Toyota Motor Corp. earlier this month raised its net profit forecast for the year to March 2023 to 2.36 trillion yen (\$17.7 billion) from its previous forecast of 2.26 trillion yen.

"A weaker yen has a big positive impact on our sales," a Toyota official said. The world's largest automaker by volume said the weaker yen pushed up its operating profit outlook by 670 billion yen. The company expects an operating profit of 2.40 trillion yen for this fiscal year.

Honda Motor Co. also lifted its full-year operating profit forecast recently due in part to the yen's weakness, while Subaru Corp. and Mitsubishi Motors Corp. reported strong growth in net profit for the three months that ended in June.—Kyodo



Photo taken in November 2019 shows a Nintendo store in Tokyo's Shibuya district. **PHOTO: KYODO**

## Global business travel won't see full recovery until 2026: report

INFLATION, supply chain problems and ongoing Covid-19 lockdowns in China are among the factors conspiring to delay a full recovery in business travel to its pre-pandemic level, according to an industry forecast released Monday.

The Global Business Travel Association now projects business travel will regain its 2019 level of \$1.43 trillion in mid-2026, 18 months later than predicted in the group's last forecast in November.

"Recovery has hit some headwinds," GBTA said in a

statement that outlined a gradual improvement from a 2020 low of \$661 billion until reaching \$1.47 trillion in 2026.

"The factors impacting many industries around the world are also anticipated to impact global business travel recovery into 2025," said Suzanne Neufang, the association's chief executive.

The group said recovery was "short-circuited" in late 2021 and early 2022 by the Omicron variant of Covid-19, but that trips surged after that once Covid cases fell.—AFP

## Oil prices extend losses in Asia, equities rise

OIL prices extended losses Tuesday after weak US and Chinese data reinforced recession expectations, though equities won support from hopes the figures will allow central banks to temper their pace of interest rate hikes.

Stock traders tracked a Wall Street advance led by tech firms thanks to an increase in bets that the Federal Reserve will not lift borrowing costs by 75 basis points for a third straight meeting next month.

Both main crude contracts dropped in early Asian business, having lost around three percent the day before, as demand expectations are lowered in light of a string of soft economic indicators in major economies.

Signs that Iran is moving towards a nuclear deal added to the downward pressure on prices, with an agreement seen



A drop in oil prices has raised hopes that inflation could ease back from multi-decade highs. **PHOTO: AFP**

allowing the country to restart sales into the world market.

Analysts said Tehran could provide 2.5 million barrels a day, giving a much-needed shot in the arm to supplies, which have been hammered by sanctions on Russia in response to its invasion of Ukraine.

Libya has also boosted production, helping prices drop to six-month lows and wiping out the gains seen after the Ukraine war started.

But analysts warned that there might still be some way to go on an Iran agreement owing to upcoming US elections.

“A deal with Iran

would likely not be popular with US voters and so is hard to envisage before the November midterms,” said National Australia Bank’s Ray Attrill.

“Markets are currently prone to optimism, though, and hopes for a deal... have added to downward pressure on oil prices.”—AFP

## Fukushima chemical waste moved to Hokkaido for detoxification

HIGHLY toxic chemical waste stored near the crippled Fukushima nuclear power plant was transferred Tuesday to a city in Hokkaido in northern Japan for detoxification, stirring safety concerns among local residents.

The waste, mostly consisting of condensers and lighting ballasts, contains high concentrations of polychlorinated biphenyls that are harmful to humans and was disposed of in municipalities surrounding the plant before the 2011 nuclear

disaster triggered by a massive earthquake and tsunami, according to the city of Muroran.

The waste had been set for detoxification at a treatment facility in Muroran operated by the government-sponsored Japan Environmental Storage & Safety Corp., but the plan was postponed due to the nuclear crisis.

On Tuesday, around 10 people including members of a citizens’ group protested near the facility against the delivery of the waste.

“Once we accept the waste, it will be forced on us again and again,” said the group’s co-leader Sachiko Okura, a resident of Date neighbouring

Muroran.

The Environment Ministry said it had confirmed that radioactive materials in the waste were below safety standards prior to removal. The ministry also said it will measure air dose rates periodically during transportation and treatment.

The toxic compounds, known as PCBs, were used in products such as insulating oil for electrical equipment but their production has been banned in Japan since 1972 following a 1968 mass food poisoning outbreak. The government has been proceeding with the disposal of waste containing PCBs.—Kyodo



A truck carries waste containing polychlorinated biphenyls to a treatment facility in a Hokkaido city of Muroran for detoxification on 16 Aug 2022. **PHOTO: KYODO**

## Tofu shops facing fight for survival amid rising costs

MANY tofu shops in Japan are struggling amid higher prices for imported soybeans following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, although demand remains solid for the Japanese staple.

A tofu shop run by Takashi Kurosawa in Tokyo’s Minato Ward is among the around 42 per cent of medium-sized and small stores that remained in the red in the fiscal year ended March, with 47 per cent incurring losses in the previous year, according to a

recent survey by credit research firm Teikoku Databank Ltd.

“Not only soybeans, but plastic trays, (packaging) film. The price of everything has been increasing,” the 53-year-old said, adding the costs of electricity and the oil necessary to make fried tofu are also rising.

Tofu, sold in supermarkets and small family-run shops, has gained attention overseas as a healthy food item that is low in fat and high in protein.—Kyodo

## China’s tech giant Huawei releases H1 financial results

CHINESE tech giant Huawei’s revenue reached 301.6 billion yuan (about 44.7 billion US dollars) in the first half of 2022, with a net profit margin of 5 per cent, according to the company’s semiannual report released on Friday.

As for the company’s three main businesses, the carrier business revenue reached 142.7 billion yuan, the revenue from enterprise business amounted to 54.7 billion yuan, and

device business revenue hit 101.3 billion yuan.

“While our device business was heavily impacted, our ICT infrastructure business maintained steady growth,” said Ken Hu, Huawei’s rotating chairman. “Moving forward, we will harness trends in digitalization and decarbonization to keep creating value for our customers and partners, and secure quality development.”—Xinhua

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (0271-726N)

Consignees of cargo carried on **M.V UNI ACCORD VOY.NO. (0271-726N)** are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on **17-8-2022** and cargo will be discharged into the premises of **AWPT** where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 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.

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# GLOBAL AFFAIRS

## RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT

### Putin pushes Russia's combat-tested arms for export



Russian President Vladimir Putin (C) vaunts Russian weapons to foreign partners at the opening of a military forum.

PHOTO: MIKHAIL KLIMENTYEV SPUTNIK/AFP

PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin on Monday promoted Russian weapons to his foreign allies, saying they had all been tested on the field of battle.

"We are ready to offer allies and partners the most modern types of weapons — from small arms to armoured vehicles and artillery, combat aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles," Putin said in televised remarks at the opening of a military forum outside Moscow.

He said Russian weapons are valued by military professionals for their "reliability,

quality and most importantly — high efficiency". "Almost all of them have been used in real combat operations more than once," he added.

Putin also praised Russia's "many" allies as the country finds itself increasingly isolated since the start of the military intervention in neighbouring Ukraine.

Washington and Brussels have hit Moscow with a barrage of crippling sanctions, pushing Putin to seek new markets and strengthen ties with nations in Africa and Asia. — AFP

### The curators saving Ukraine's heritage at all costs

WHEN she understood Russian troops were advancing in the region of Zaporizhzhia, Natalya Chergik helped to fill a truck with a tonne of paintings, antique fire-arms and 17th-century ceramics.

"We drove 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) in five days. The trip was awful, planes were flying over us and we did not even know if they were Ukrainian or not," she recounts. "The hardest part for us was to convince people at checkpoints not to search the artwork and to let the truck through as quickly as possible."

Chergik is a curator at Khoritytsia, a museum-island in the Dnipro river of around 30 square kilometres (11.6 square miles) that was a base for Ukrainian Cossacks from the 16th century.

It was the home of the first Zaporizhzhian "Sich" — a type of Cossack state ruled by direct democracy that remained in place until 1775 when Russian empress

Catherine the Great destroyed it.

This is a "sacred place for the history of Ukraine", said Maksym Ostapenko, the 51-year-old head of the Khoritytsia reserve, an important Ukrainian cultural centre that houses, among others, dozens of historical artefacts

found during archaeological excavations over the years.

#### 'Evacuation plan'

Ostapenko and most of his colleagues joined the Ukrainian army in the early days of the invasion. — AFP



Sandbags are piled high around a statue of the Duc de Richelieu in Odessa, Ukraine, on 14 March 2022. PHOTO: SCOTT PETERSON/SMITHSONIANMAG/AFP

### Five Europeans go on trial in separatist-controlled Ukraine

FIVE Europeans captured in eastern Ukraine went on trial Monday in a court administered by Kremlin-backed separatists in the city of Donetsk, Russian media reported.

The five — Mathias Gustafsson of Sweden, Vjekoslav Prebeg of Croatia, and Britons John Harding, Andrew Hill and Dylan Healy — all pleaded not guilty to charges of be-

ing mercenaries, according to Russian media reports. They could face the death penalty under the laws of the self-proclaimed, unrecognized Donetsk People's Republic. — AFP

## WORLD UPDATE

### Assange lawyers sue CIA for spying on them

LAWYERS for WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange sued the US Central Intelligence Agency and its former director Mike Pompeo on Monday, alleging it recorded their conversations and copied data from their phones and computers.

The attorneys, along with two journalists joining the suit, are Americans and allege that the CIA violated their US constitutional protections for confidential discussions with Assange, who is Australian.

They said the CIA worked with a security firm contracted by the Ecuadoran embassy in London, where Assange was

living at the time, to spy on the WikiLeaks founder, his lawyers, journalists and others he met with.

Assange is facing extradition from Britain to the US, where he is charged with violating the US Espionage Act by publishing US military and diplomatic files in 2010 related to the Afghanistan and Iraq wars.

Robert Boyle, a New York attorney representing the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, said the alleged spying on Assange's attorneys means the WikiLeaks founder's right to a fair trial has "now been tainted, if not destroyed". — AFP

### China, Japan share love of dinosaurs, Doraemon at exchange event



Xing Lida (C), an associate professor at the China University of Geosciences in Beijing, and children who participated in a Japan-China exchange event on dinosaurs pose for a group photo on 30 July 2022, at the Japanese Embassy in Beijing. PHOTO: KYODO

ABOUT 150 Chinese children, their parents and others shared their love of dinosaurs in a re-

cent exchange event held at the Japanese Embassy in Beijing, which featured the screening of

a popular animation Doraemon movie and a scholar inspired by its main character.

After the participants saw the film "Nobita's Dinosaur 2006", Xing Lida, 39, an associate professor at the China University of Geosciences in Beijing, explained that his impression of the cartoon led him to name a footprint fossil of a new species of dinosaur discovered in China after the pivotal character. The fossil found in July 2020 in China's southwestern province of Sichuan was named "Eubrontes nobitai". It has been recognized as being related to a new species of carnivorous dinosaur in the Cretaceous period. — Kyodo

## Iran denies link with Rushdie's attacker, blames writer



Iranians in Tehran walk past a billboard bearing a portrait of the late supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who in 1989 issued a fatwa calling for author Salman Rushdie to be killed. PHOTO: AFP/FILE

IRAN on Monday denied any link with the attacker of British author Salman Rushdie but blamed the writer himself for “insulting” Islam in the novel “The Satanic Verses”. “We categorically deny” any link with the attack and “no one has the right to accuse the Islamic Republic of Iran”, said foreign ministry spokesman Nasser Kanani in Tehran’s first official reaction to Friday’s stabbing.

“In this attack, we do not consider anyone other than Salman Rushdie and his supporters worthy of blame and even condemnation,” he said.

“By insulting the sacred matters of Islam and crossing the red lines of more than 1.5 billion Muslims and all followers of the divine religions, Salman Rushdie has exposed himself to the anger and rage of the people.” In Washington, US State Department spokesman Ned Price took issue with the statements by Kanani blaming Rushdie for the attack.

“It’s despicable. It’s disgusting and we condemn it,” Price said.

### Severe injuries

Rushdie, 75, was left on a

ventilator with multiple stab wounds after the attack at a literary event on Friday in upstate New York.

But by Sunday he was off the ventilator and “on the road to recovery”, though with severe injuries, his agent Andrew Wylie said.

The prize-winning writer had spent years under police protection after Iranian leaders in 1989 called for Rushdie’s killing over his portrayal of Islam and the Prophet Mohammed in the novel “The Satanic Verses”.—AFP

## Bolsonaro, Lula to launch campaigns in Brazil

THE race for Brazil’s October elections officially opens Tuesday with dueling campaign events by far-right incumbent Jair Bolsonaro and leftist ex-president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva highlighting the South American giant’s deep divides.

Front-runners Bolsonaro and Lula, who have in reality been on the campaign trail for months, will make it official with rival events showcasing their polar-opposite styles.

Bolsonaro, 67, plans to launch his campaign with a rally in Juiz de Fora, the small southeastern city where an attacker stabbed and nearly killed him during his 2018 campaign.

The attack cemented Bolsonaro in the minds of die-hard supporters as “The Myth” — a hero swooping in to rough up the political establishment and speak his mind with tough-talking clarity.

It is an image that has suffered as Bolsonaro has lurched



Charismatic ex-steelworker Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva rose from poverty to become the most popular president in Brazilian history, only to fall spectacularly from grace when he was jailed for corruption. PHOTO: AFP

through a series of crises, from the coronavirus pandemic — which he insistently downplayed, even as Brazil’s death toll surged — to soaring inflation that has come as a gut-punch to Brazilian families.

Lula, 76, who leads in opinion polls, will meanwhile start his campaign with a visit to a Volkswagen plant in Sao Ber-

nardo do Campo, in the industrial heartland of Sao Paulo state, the place where he launched his political career as a union leader.

Both events are dripping with symbolism, said political analyst Adriano Laurenco, who called the race “the most polarizing presidential election since the return to democracy” in Brazil in the late 1980s.—AFP

## Germany sends fighter jets to Indo-Pacific for 1st time

THE German air force sent a fleet including fighters to the Indo-Pacific for the first time on Monday for joint exercises and other operations, the Defence Ministry said.

The dispatch of six Euro-fighter jets and other military

planes, including air tankers, is aimed at promoting security ties with the region amid high tensions surrounding the Taiwan Strait.

The fleet will visit Japan from 28 September after joining a 17-nation exercise in Australia

starting Friday, according to the German and Australian defence ministries.

The aircraft from a base in the southeastern state of Bavaria will also visit South Korea and Singapore, the German Defence Ministry said.—Kyodo

## Kenya on edge after Ruto wins narrow election victory

KENYANS were on Tuesday braced for a potential period of uncertainty after William Ruto was proclaimed winner of the hard-fought presidential election but his opponents cried foul.

All eyes were on defeated rival Raila Odinga, who failed at his fifth stab at the presidency but has yet to make any public comments about the outcome of the 9 August election.

After an anxious days-long wait for results, the 55-year-old Ruto was declared president-elect on Monday with a narrow victory over Odinga, the veteran opposition leader who had stood with the backing of the ruling party following a stunning shift in political allegiances.

The aftermath of the largely peaceful vote will be keenly

watched as a test of democratic maturity in the East African powerhouse where previous elections have been marred by claims of rigging and bloodshed.

“Ruto it is!” trumpeted the front page headline in People Daily, while The Standard declared “Ruto the 5th”, as he will become Kenya’s fifth president since independence from colonial power Britain in 1963.

The results announcement did little to calm nerves, with the election commission that supervised the vote itself split over the outcome and demonstrators in Odinga’s strongholds hurling stones and setting fire to tyres. On the campaign trail, both Odinga and Ruto had pledged to deal with any disputes in court rather than on the streets.—AFP



William Ruto had served as deputy president since 2013. PHOTO: AFP



## UEFA reject Levski Sofia's rematch appeal, Hamrun cleared to face FK Partizan

THE UEFA Appeals Body has declared Levski Sofia's appeal for a rematch against Hamrun Spartans in the UEFA Europa Conference League inadmissible, on Tuesday.

Levski Sofia had filed a complaint to UEFA against the result of their Conference League defeat to Hamrun Spartans after the referee failed to spot a Maltese player's infringement

before scoring a crucial goal.

Reports said on Saturday that the Bulgarian side had filed a protest to the European governing body UEFA over the Spartans' second goal scored by Ryan Camenzuli.

Levski contended that Romanian referee Istvan Kovacs had committed a technical error when after the Bulgarian side score their equalizer, he failed to

spot that Dodo had run beyond the halfway line before play resumed prior to the kick-off.

The appeal was heard by the UEFA Control, Ethics, and Disciplinary Board.

Hamrun are now cleared to face Partizan Belgrade of Serbia in Thursday's historic play-off matchup. The Maltese side is expected to travel to Serbia on Tuesday afternoon.—AFP



The UEFA Appeals Body declared Levski Sofia's appeal for a rematch against Hamrun Spartans in the UEFA Europa Conference League inadmissible, on Tuesday. **PHOTO: AFP**

## Myanmar club ISPE suffer defeat in Asian Women's Club tourney

THE first day of the 2022 Asian Women's Club Championship (East Asian Zone) group was held on 16 August in Chon Buri, Thailand, and Myanmar club ISPE faced a loss.

Myanmar club ISPE team and Chinese Taipei club Taichung Blue team were supposed to play on the evening of 15 August, but due to heavy rain, the match was stopped at 21 minutes, and the remaining 69 minutes were played again on the morning of 16 August.

The Myanmar women's club ISPE team competed in the first international competition and tried to get a good result, but lost by three goals to two.

The ISPE team was led by captain Khin Marlar Tun, and young star players participated.

The ISPE team was able to come back from a two-goal deficit to draw, but they conceded a third goal just two minutes after the two-goal tie.

The equalizer for the ISPE team was scored by Khin Marlar Tun in the 33<sup>rd</sup> minute, and Shwe Yupar Tun in 58 minutes, and the goals for the Taichung Blue team were scored at the 28-, 32- and 60-minute mark.

The ISPE team will play against the Thai club "College of Asian Scholars" on 18 August as the second match of the group.

In the East Asian zone, Myanmar, Thailand and Chinese Taipei clubs are competing, and the club with the most points will play the final against the team with the most points from West Asian Zone. — Ko Nyi Lay/GNLM

### 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.

## Murray downs Wawrinka in Cincinnati battle of veterans

ANDY Murray won his first hardcourt match of the summer on Monday, defeating Stan Wawrinka 7-6 (7/3), 5-7, 7-5 in the opening round of the ATP/WTA Cincinnati Masters.

The 35-year-old Scot was facing his 37-year-old Swiss rival for the 22<sup>nd</sup> time with both treble Grand Slam champions still coming back to full form after long-term injuries over the past few seasons.

Murray lost in the first

round at Washington and last week in Montreal while Wawrinka's last win came on grass two months ago at Queen's Club, London; he has not won on cement since the Australian Open last year.

Murray needed four match points to advance at a tournament he has won twice, in 2008 and 2011.

The veteran was competing here for the 17<sup>th</sup> time.—AFP



Andy Murray returns a forehand in his win over Stan Wawrinka of Switzerland in Cincinnati on Monday. **PHOTO: AFP**