China’s PLA sends relief supplies to Myanmar’s flood victims by flight

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Aug — The Chinese People’s Liberation Army on Friday donated relief supplies to flood victims in Myanmar.

Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hong Liang officially dispatched the items to Lt-Gen Ye Aung of Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office during a ceremony, after the two Ilyushin-76 aircrafts carrying 54.62 tons of relief materials arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

The supplies donated include tents, generators and blankets and further items will arrive on 29 and 30 August.

Also present at the ceremony was Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Brig-Gen Moe Myint Tun and senior military officials, as well as Chinese Embassy officials.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, 28 Aug — The 12th regular session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw came to a close on Friday.

Representatives discussed a Yen 99.850 billion loan for the Ministry of Rail Transportation and the Ministry of Electric Power from JICA during the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Session on Friday.

Some representatives supported the loan in principle but maintained it is important to spend the funds in the most beneficial way. One representative suggested that ministries provide updates to parliament every six months on the work being carried out using foreign loans.

Another representative pointed out that despite the benefits the loan may offer, Myanmar’s current economic slowdown means that the debt will also be a burden. The representative urged ministries to hold themselves accountable for the spending of the funds.

Members ultimately approved the plan to accept a loan from JICA, as well as the monogamy law and the signing of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006.

Later, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Daw Su Su Hlaing explained ongoing disaster management efforts in flood affected areas. She said that disaster relief efforts could be considered a success overall despite some weaknesses in management. She commended the high level of cooperation between experts, civil society organisations and the government and added that state and region governments will be responsible for the reconstruction of flood-hit areas.

Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann explained the achievements of the 12th Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, which includes the passing of 185 laws, 10 motions and approvals for foreign loans.

The speaker concluded the 12th regular session by saying that parliament has served the interests of the country and its people.

INTERNATIONAL AID FOR REHABILITATION

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Contemporary Asian artwork to go on display

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 28 Aug — Artists from Thailand, China, Japan, and Myanmar are taking part in a group exhibition at Beikthano Gallery from 29 August to 4 September.

The eight artists, five of whom are from Myanmar, are showcasing 40 contemporary works as part of the Oriental Friendship exhibition in Bahan Township.

“I decided to organise this exhibition as part of an ongoing cultural exchange between Myanmar art masters and their foreign counterparts. I’d like to see more opportunities for art students to take part in art exchange programmes in the future,” said Mon Thet, who is the ex-principal of the Yangon State School of Fine Arts.

He added that during various trips abroad he encountered a great deal of interest in Myanmar’s contemporary art scene, which inspired him to invite international and local artists to combine their works in a group exhibition.

Along with Mon Thet’s work, the other Myanmar artists being featured are Tin Win (Beikthano), Lun Pe, CNK and Thar Gyi.

Foreign artists include Assistant Professor of the Fine and Applied Arts Department of Visual Arts (Painting) Khon Kaen University of Thailand Kanaid Silsat, the award-winning Chinese artist He Si’en and Katsumi Mukai, a Japanese painter and sculptor who is well-known for his nature-inspired creations.

Beikthano Gallery is located at No. 113/3 (b), Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township.

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Art work created by Chinese artist He Si’en.