

President U Htin Kyaw arrives back from China

A Myanmar delegation led by President U Htin Kyaw and wife Daw Su Su Lwin left Beijing yesterday morning and arrived in Kunming, Yunnan Province at 12:30 pm local standard time, where Mr Chen Shun, Vice Governor of Yunnan Province and Kunming-based Myanmar Consul-General U Soe Paing welcomed them at the airport.

The president received Mr Chen Hao, Party Secretary of Yunnan Province at Haigeng Garden Hotel and attended a luncheon hosted by Mr Chen Hao. In the afternoon, the president and his team visited Stone Forest, a famous site in Yunnan Province.

The Stone Forest is a collection of naturally occurring limestone pillars that resemble a forest of trees 96,000 acres. The stones have lasted for millions of years and were once under water. The stones emerged as they are seen today when the sea levels went down.

The Stone Forest is a tourist destination and attracts foreigners for its mysterious natural beauty. There are also extraordinary rock caves and beautiful wide lakes in the Stone Forest.

In the evening, the president and party left Kunming International Airport for Nay Pyi Taw by special flight and arrived at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport at 6 pm.

The president and entourage were welcomed by Vice Presidents U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, U Thant Sin Maung, Union Minister for Transport and Communications, Dr Myo Aung, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council and wife, the Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, Mr Chen Chen, charge d'affaires of Chinese Embassy in Myanmar and responsible persons at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—

Myanmar News Agency



President U Htin Kyaw being welcomed back at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport. PHOTO: MNA

Rakhine State Chief Minister meets Maungtau residents, inspects land reclamation tasks

A meeting between the Rakhine State government and local people took place at Thiri Mingalar Hall in Maungtau Township, Rakhine State yesterday morning.

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu made an opening address and was briefed about the socioeconomic status of the region and was brought up to date on the economic, road transportation and regional de-

velopment tasks by the local people. Rakhine State cabinet members and officials gave sector-wise clarifications regarding the necessities presented by the local people.

Then, the state chief minister and officials presented fiber boats, life jackets, relief items, bags of rice and Gazi-branded water tanks through Township Administrator U Myint Khaing,

who expressed words of thanks.

Afterward, the State chief minister and party inspected land reclamation tasks with the use of heavy machinery in Wabeik Village, Kyeekanpyin Village-tract and proceeded to Myinlut Town to examine construction of new buildings and arrangements made to establish a new village in Kyaukpandu Village-tract.—

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Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu inspects land reclamation tasks in Maungtau. PHOTO: TIN SOE

Under '95 model buses granted 3-month extension

PASSENGER buses made before 1995 were granted to run for three more months on the YBS bus line, according to an official from Yangon Region Transport Authority.

Although authorities previously announced that buses made

before 1995 would have to deregister no later than 16 April, the deregistration period has been extended for three months because of a shortage of new buses.

Under the latest announcement, buses made before 1995 will have to leave the YBS line

starting on 15 July.

The 1995 model CNG passenger buses Dynas and BMs have been issued with car import slips since November, 2016. A total of over 1,000 vehicles have already been issued with the slips as of yesterday.—200

Fifteen people detained for illegal entry into Myanmar

EARLIER this month, security forces patrolling along the sea coast apprehended a vessel carrying 15 people who the authorities say had illegally entered Myanmar's territorial waters in Maungtau Township, Rakhine State and placed them under arrest.

The security forces spotted the boat at 1am on 1 April. When the security forces signalled for the boat to stop, they tried to escape. Three men, seven women and five children are being questioned by the authorities.—

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Former ten-household head missing in Maungtau Township

A FORMER ten-household head in Kunthibin Village, Maungtau Township in Rakhine State has been missing since Monday.

Mawphee Arlaung, 40, a former ten-household head, departed

his house at 3 pm on Monday to catch shrimp and did not return. His wife Sartika Bakon filed a case at the local police station and the investigation is ongoing.—

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He further explained the complex nature of the situation in Rakhine State and the challenges faced by the government, pointing out the government's continued efforts to address the issue by stressing the importance of building trust and confidence between the communities, addressing poverty and underdevelopment and finding a lasting solution.

The National Security Advisor provided an update on the progress made in healthcare, education, infrastructure and electricity, and highlighted the measures taken by the government in response to recommendations in the interim report published by the Advisory Commission on

Rakhine State.

He emphasised that criminal acts to instill terror in the population cannot be condoned under any circumstances and that any attempt to sow the seeds of terror in one country can affect the peace and stability of the region and beyond.

He expressed appreciation to the donor countries and international organisations for their assistance and expressed the hope that international community would continue to provide understanding and constructive support for the government's endeavor to build peace, justice and development for all the people living in Rakhine.—*Myanmar News Agency*