

## Monetary help for pregnant women, Rakhine State given high priority

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The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement will increase the giving of subsidies more than ever and expand new projects. For now, the department of social welfare has been implementing 10 projects such as child protection, protection of women, the disabled and the aged, drugs and social protection.

Presently, those above 90 years of age will be subsidised starting in June. Those who turn 90 by the end of March 2017 will be eligible this year. The particulars, including facts and figures, has been given to respective districts and townships in regions and states. The aged in question are required to attach passport photos, national registration cards (original), and form 66 (D) of household

registration certificates. Without these documents, recommendation letters need to be collected from ward or village tract administrators and two respectable town-elders at the first stage and then these must be submitted to the township administrator's office, and then to the offices of respective regions and states.

At the third stage, particular documents must be delivered to headquarters in Nay Pyi Taw. At the fourth and final stage, lists sent after approving the 90-year-old people have to be checked and support will be given. On 8-9 May, heads of the social welfare department of regions and states will conduct training about the process, according to the ministry of social welfare, rescue and resettlement.

## U Hau Do Suan presents his Credentials to Vice President of the Republic of Cuba

U Hau Do Suan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Cuba, presented his Credentials to Her Excellency Ms. Gladys Maria Bejerano Portela, Vice President of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba on 21 April 2017, in Havana.

—Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## OCHA Donor Support Group meet with Rakhine State Government

Maung Sein Lwin  
(Myanma Alin)

UNITED Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Donor Support Group (ODSG) and Rakhine State Government held talks yesterday at Rakhine State Government Office over provision of humanitarian assistance and the requirements.

At the meeting, ODSG Chairman Carol Chan said they came to see the work done on donation made and to fulfill the requirement of the locals. Donors want to fully understand the work done by the organizations to which the donation was made and more donations will be made if necessary.

Afterward, secretary of Rakhine State Government office U Tin Maung Swe said Rakhine State is formed with 5 districts, 17 townships and 9 towns and peace and stability prevail in the remaining townships except Maungdaw and certain achievement has been made in time of the new government. The incumbent government is trying its utmost to develop and there were in fact some developments.

At the end of the meeting, donors of ODSG were individually presented with a book entitled "Historical background of Rakhine State" by Rakhine State Minister for Planning, Finance, Revenue and Commerce U Kyaw Aye Thein.—Maung Sein Lwin

## President U Htin Kyaw accepts credentials of ambassadors of Thailand and Belgium



President U Htin Kyaw accepts the credentials of Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand Mr. Jukr Boon-Long. PHOTO: MNA

MR. JUKR BOON-LONG, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his Letter of Credence to U Htin Kyaw, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw at 2 pm yesterday.

Similarly, Mr. Philippe Kridelka, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, presented his Letter of Credence to U Htin Kyaw, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi

Taw at 2:35 pm yesterday.

Present on the occasions were Deputy Minister for the President's Office U Min Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Zeya and Director-General U Thant Sin of the Protocol Department. —Myanmar News Agency



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the co-ordination meeting of Central Committee for the Development of the National Tourism Industry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

## Major effort for development of Myanmar tourism

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changing time and condition, we want to urge you to manage what can be implemented, depending upon the natural resources in the country."

U Ohn Maung, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism and secretary of central committee for the development of the national tourism industry, then clarified the systematic development of the tourism industry, followed by discussions by Central Committee Member and Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Union Ministers U Thant Sin Maung, U

Ohn Win, U Thein Swe, U Kyaw Win, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin, Chief Ministers of Regions and States, chairman of federation for Myanmar Tourism Industry, joint-secretary of central committee and responsible officials.

In closing, U Henry Van Thio said the tourism industry in Myanmar can reach new heights of success with a coordinated effort that involves citizens, the private sector and all government ministries.

"Only if the government, entrepreneurs from the private sector and people will co-oper-

ate, will the Myanmar Tourism Industry be successful. That is, not only the respective ministry but also related ministries and respective cabinets of regions and states must work hard to achieve success. Community-based tourism is being implemented to increase creation of job opportunities and to earn more income for local people. Myanmar needs to sustainably maintain the acquired good image of our country and to further assure our good image for survival in the international tourism industry market." —Myanmar News Agency

# Four ministries hold press conference on one year performance

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Approvals were given to 648 business owners to obtain loan. In 2016 only CB bank practiced Credit Guarantee Insurance (CGI) system but discussion were conducted with KBZ Bank and Small and Medium Industrial Development Bank (SMIDB) who also wanted to practice the CGI system. Discussions are held with Thailand's Kasikorn Bank to cooperate in development of Myanmar SME.

Afterward, Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers and officials replied to the questions of the media.

## Excerpts from the Q and A session of the press conference

### Ministry of Education

Deputy Minister U Win Maw Htun from the Ministry of Education answered questions on the National Education Bylaw, granting of licenses to teachers, the expected number of applicants of teachers in the coming year and criticism of giving passing grade for passing in only one academic subject. The Deputy Minister replied that the academic bylaw has been drafted and is being applied according to each sector while teachers will be granted licenses or another form of professional acknowledgement after the Private School Act has been ratified. Appointing of new teachers in the 2017-2018 academic year will be dependent on the requirements of each district. As to the complaints of giving pass grade for passing only one subject, the deputy minister and other officials replied that it is valid only for the final examinations as progress evaluation is

carried out throughout the whole ten academic months. There should be increased awareness of the difference between doing well on the exam and actually learning something, which is why the evaluation reports throughout the entire academic year, is added at the end of the 2-hour long final examination.

The Deputy Minister also replied to a question posed on whether universities will move from a central administration system and if the Yangon University Students' Union (YUSU) will be reestablished, saying that currently universities already have free administration with only the financial sector administrated by the Union Minister, while the budget for the construction of the Ks5.2 billion YUSU building has already been approved.

### Ministry of Information

Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint replied to a question regarding the publishing of interviews of one-year performance of the incumbent government in state newspapers saying that every ministry reviewed their performances and communications with the media in the on-year period so that they can express their views on politics, commerce and economy as well as confer new year wishes at the same time. This procedure has nothing to do with policies but is just a normal procedure for the ministry to receive outside feedback on the government's performance while showcasing prominent figures.

Director-General U Myint Htwe of MRTV replied to a question on granting five private companies as content providers

saying that the companies were chosen after careful, transparent evaluation on financial stability, legal liability, and ability to follow current and future policies implemented. Only five channels were available for grant and the selection was based on fair, unbiased judgment.

Dr. Pe Myint replied to a question asking on the National Literature Award saying there are many varieties under National Literature Award and each sector had a subcommittee formed for its evaluation, comprised of well-known literary figures as committee members while working

“ The ministry is trying its best to assist in covering news in Rakhine State and majority of news about the Rakhine State covered by the foreign media are one-sided news based on unreliable sources.

under the rules and regulations of the appointed groups. The Union Minister also replied to a question asking about the code of ethics of news and media personnel saying it is the responsibility of the people working in the media business to uphold their code of ethics.

The Ministry of Information collaborates with concerned organisations as it is the ministry's duty to promote development of the media. Although the media business has improved in the past 4-5 years there are still areas of weaknesses and to improve the code of ethics it is essential for everybody to work together, stating the Ministry of Information is always ready to extend a helping hand.

With regard to the question about media access to the Rakhine State, the Union Minister replied that the ministry is trying its best to assist in reporting news in Rakhine State and majority of the news about the Rakhine State covered by the foreign media are one-sided news based on unreliable sources.

The report issued by International Crisis Group (ICG) highlights the problems in Northern Rakhine State by interviewing the locals and using the interpreters capable of speaking and understanding local language, he added. The journalists residing in

home and abroad in a rapid manner on real time and to implement the goals of the ministry.

### Ministry of Industry

Regarding the question on the status of anesthetics production in BPI pharmaceuticals, Permanent Secretary U Ko Ko Lwin of the Ministry for Industry replied anesthetics for cancer patients include the production of morphine and codeine with morphine imported and around 6,500 grams of raw drugs for codeine will be supplied by the Ministry of Home Affairs as agreed upon. The latest technology is being used in the production for the two drugs and will be sold locally at an affordable price. Meanwhile, production of Tenofovir (300 mg), used in treating HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis B, is being tested in Yangon Pharmaceuticals Factory using technology from India and is in the process of getting an FDA license for commercial distribution. BPI focuses on high quality, safety and effectiveness in its pharmaceutical productions.

The production status of glass tables incorporating Burmese lacquer ware, kanote drawings and traditional carvings designed by the State Counsellor and is mass-produced in the Kyaukse Glass Factory with the objective of acquiring a market space for Burmese traditional arts while also using high quality glass. In the six months since production 20 tables have been sold with prices ranging from Ks1 Lakh to Ks2 Lakh depending on the designs. Further production will be carried out according to market demand. —*Myanmar News Agency*

## Fire destroys religious building in Yathedaung Township, Rakhine State

A FIRE broke out in Zedi Pyin village in Yathedaung Township, Rakhine State yesterday at 10 pm, destroying a religious building.

Arphaut Tullah, who took action as a security guard in the village, informed the head of

one-hundred households after he saw the fire.

The fire destroyed religious books and four carpets worth Ks50,000. The blaze was put out by villagers.

Local police are investigating. —*Myanmar News Agency*

## Stabbing in Yathedaung Township, Rakhine State

Ma Phyu Ma Gyi, 28, and her daughter Ma May Phyu Thant, 11, were attacked by an unknown man wielding a knife in Oak Pho village in Yathedaung Township, Rakhine State on Tuesday.

The mother was injured on

her neck and chin and the daughter suffered small wounds. The police have sent the victims to the hospital.

Action is being taken to capture the suspect, who fled from the scene. —*Myanmar News Agency*

## Invitation to young writers for new Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is now accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its new weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform starting in May.

Interested candidates can send their works to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150 NgarHtatGyiPayar Street, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to [dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com](mailto:dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com) with the following information:

- (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.),
- (2) Real name and (if different) your penname,
- (3) Your level of education,
- (4) Name of your School/College/University,
- (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses,
- (6) A color photo of the submitter,
- (7) Copy of your NRC card,
- (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).

- Editorial Department  
- The Global New Light of Myanmar news office