

Yunnan Province, China: a rosy chance for stability



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport. PHOTO: MNA

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that named a new species of rose in her honour. The event took place at the Hai Geng Garden Hotel in Yunnan Province, China yesterday afternoon.

At the ceremony, a taxonomist explained the new rose species and presented a commemorative document of the ceremony to the State Counsellor. The new rose species was named "Aung San Suu Kyi Rose" in honor of the State Counsellor.

Afterward, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and party attended a luncheon hosted by the Communist Party Secretary of Yunnan Province Mr. Chen Hao.

Earlier in the day, the State Counsellor left Beijing by air and upon arrival in Kunming was welcomed by Yunnan province Vice Governor H.E. Mr. Chen Shun, Myanmar Consul-General U Soe Paing and other officials.

She also spoke with the Com-

munist Party Secretary about increasing cooperation in economic, infrastructure, education, cultural and health sectors.

At 3pm local time, the State Counsellor left Kunming by Myanmar National Airlines and was seen off at the airport by Yunnan province Vice Governor H.E. Mr. Chen Shun, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thit Lin Ohn, Myanmar Consul-General U Soe Paing and officials from the embassy and the consulate.

The State Counsellor arrived in Nay Pyi Taw International Airport yesterday evening and was welcomed at the airport by Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung and wife, Deputy Minister for the President's Office U Min Thu and Mr. Chan Chan, Charge d'affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar.

—GNLM ■

Initiation Workshop for Rakhine Joint Assessment held

HUMANITARIAN aid groups in Rakhine are urged to perform their tasks with good intention and efficiency.

The remark made by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, comes at the Initiation Workshop for Rakhine Joint Assessment held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In his address, the Union minister, who is also the chairman of the working committee for resettlement and development of socio-economic life in the region, also stressed the need to carry out the tasks of developing the area and ceasing conflicts to be implemented simultaneously.

Out of 19 organisations which had signed MoU with Myanmar, 12 organisations have been carrying out the tasks of providing humanitarian aid in Rakhine State,

According to UN reports, Myanmar was ranked 42nd out of 171 disaster-prone countries and 12th among 191 countries in human-caused disasters.

A total of 6.4 million of the population are living in areas where conflicts are taking place.

Cessation of conflicts and achievement of peace is of great importance, it was determined. It is necessary for 15 regions and states, including Nay Pyi



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye delivers a speech at the initiation workshop in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Taw Council Region, to develop proportionally. But in Chin State and Rakhine State which lagged behind in development, more attention needs to be paid. This is true especially in Rakhine State, which has experienced many conflicts.

According to reports, there are nearly 120,000 displaced people in Rakhine State. The working committee for resettlement in the region and development of socio-economic life was formed and has been performing the tasks of developing all of the whole Rakhine State.

In doing so, Ks3,656.840 million were spent for building bridges and roads in 16 townships in

Rakhine State with the emergency funds of the President of the State, with Ks4,164.325 million supported for humanitarian aid from the national fund for management of natural disasters. A five-year-plan for development of socio-economic life drawn up by the Rakhine State Government will be supported. In performing the tasks, cooperation was made by linking with UN organisations and aligned countries for development.

During the period of the stay in camps, vocational trainings are being conducted for the displaced people. Successful management of opening the Smart Sewing Factory and Shwe Kyar

Textile Factory jointly operated by the government and Rakhine nationals were the accomplishments for creating more jobs for the locals and for implementing the development of socio-economic life. The government has been operating SMEs in public partnership for regional development. This is targeted at gaining development from the project for providing humanitarian aid. It is of urgent need to negotiate the emergence of peace-orientated analysis, which is the very basis of development, and implementation in harmony with social affairs.

At the meeting, Ms Renata Dessallien, UN Resident Representative and Humanitarian Coordinator, made the welcoming speech, discussing matters on cooperation concerning the workshop, followed by discussions on the main objectives of the workshop and the ways to achieve harmony in social affairs by the permanent secretary and director-general of the social welfare department.

Present at the workshop were the vice-chairman of the working committee for resettlement in the region and the development of socio-economic life, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Brig-Gen Than Htut and responsible officials.—Myanmar News Agency ■

HAPUA Council Meetings held in Yangon

33rd Meeting of Head of ASEAN Power Utilities/Authorities—HAPUA Council & its related meetings were held from May 15 to May 17 at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel in Yangon.

Present at the meeting were heads of ASEAN Power Utilities/Authorities—HAPUA Council, Secretary-General of HAPUA, President of Consultancy Committee on ASEAN Power System, representatives from ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN Center for Energy & responsible officials from the Ministry of Electricity and Power.

At the meeting, matters on power generation from the use of power resources in the regional countries, sufficient acquisition of energy in ASEAN regions, establishment of ASEAN power grid by linking among ASEAN member countries, adaptation of standards, rules and regulations between member countries and acquisition of technical aids from international countries, were discussed frankly.—Myanmar News Agency ■