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Firefighters remove debris left by Cyclone Mora as it brushed past Maungtaw, Rakhine State yesterday on its way to Bangladesh. PHOTO: YE HTUT

## Cyclone Mora wreaks havoc, cuts power in Maungtaw

By Min Thit

CYCLONE Mora wreaked havoc in Maungtaw Township in northern Rakhine State, leaving transportation and communications in chaos and causing a loss in power to the township as it crossed into Bangladesh early yesterday morning.

The cyclone had intensi-

fied in the Bay of Bengal and travelled north, making landfall in Bangladesh but affecting northern Rakhine State in western Myanmar.

“We have removed the debris in the roads since the storm made landfall. I’m not sure if the storm killed people or not in villages because the storm has affected communica-

tions,” said U Thant Zin, head of the Maungtaw Township Fire Services Department.

The wind reached its maximum sustained speed at about 4am with heavy rain, cutting communications around 6am, he added.

“Security has also been tightened and departmental offices are also urged to be on

alert due to the lack of communications and power supply since early morning,” said U Ye Htut, Maungtaw District Commissioner.

Local authorities have carried out evacuations, cleared roads and started to compile a list of damaged buildings.

The cyclone weakened in Bangladesh by late morning.



**NATIONAL**  
Natural disaster management committee discusses 2016 survey  
**PAGE-3**



**NATIONAL**  
Senior General holds talks with Turkish Ambassador  
**PAGE-9**

**NATIONAL**  
Parkland rental fees in Yangon to be examined  
**PAGE-3**



**NATIONAL**  
India Myanmar Thailand highway: Project is likely to start from next month, says Nitin Gadkari  
**PAGE-6**

**LOCAL BUSINESS**  
Over Ks56,000 million earned from four types of insurance policies  
**PAGE-5**



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