



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attends the ceremony to fix the golden umbrella atop Myenitaung Pagoda in Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Golden umbrella hoisted atop Myenitaung Pagoda

A CEREMONY to fix the golden umbrella atop Myenitaung Pagoda in Lewe Township near Nay Pyi Taw Airport was held in conjunction with a ceremony to consecrate the pagoda yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by Buddhist monks led by Aye Lar Town, Myothit Dhamma Rakhita Monastery principal Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimala and guests led by Commander-in-Chief of

Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, Deputy Commander-in-Chief and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win.

First the congregation took the Eight Precepts from Aye Lar Town, Myothit Dhamma Rakhita Monastery principal patron Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimala.

Next, Tatmadaw Command-

er-in-Chief and wife, Tatmadaw Deputy Commander-in-Chief and Commander-in-Chief (Army) and officials donated, diamond orb, vane, golden umbrella and other offerings to the Members of the Sangha. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nyanisara delivered a sermon and the congregation shared the merit gained. Members of the Sangha consecrated the pagoda. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin meets ethnic culture officials in Hpa-an



Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin holds the meeting on construction of office for Ethnic Literature and Culture in Hpa-an **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai Thet Lwin together with Deputy Permanent Secretary U Aung Soe Win, visited a construction site for the office of Ethnic Literature and Culture Department and the Department of Protection of Ethnic Rights in Hpa-an, Kayin State on 31 December.

The Union Minister was welcomed there by Kayin State Minister for Mon Ethnic Affairs U Min Tin Win, Kayin State Minister for Bamar Ethnic Affairs U Teza Htut Hlaing Htwe and other officials. The Union Minister

called for timely completion of the project, minimizing waste and loss in accord with allotted fund after he heard reports presented by U Myint Thu, a project engineer at the briefing hall.

The branch offices of the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs are being constructed in Hpa-an, Loikaw, Mawlamyine, Bago and Patheingyi by the Building Department under the Ministry of Construction. The aforesaid buildings are planned to be opened on 71st anniversary of the Union Day.—Myanmar Digital News ■



Workers carrying sacks of rice at the Maungtaw Border Trade Zone in Maungtaw. **PHOTO: NAY WIN TUN**

Maungtaw border trade zone conducts trade worth US\$2 million

TRADE zones in Maungtaw, Rakhine State, carried out trade worth US\$8.311 million during fiscal year (FY) 2017-2018, according to official statistics from the Maungtaw Border Trade Zone.

Exports during FY 2016-2017 were worth \$5.918 million, while for this fiscal they were \$8.311 million. Therefore, exports are

expected to exceed \$2.366 million more than last year.

Myanmar's main exports to Bangladesh are rice, ginger, silk, cotton, onions, fish, prawns, dried fish, bamboo, cane and other industrial goods.

The imports arriving through the Maungtaw Border Trade Zone from Bangladesh

have ceased since the violent attacks in October 2016.

The trade zones between Myanmar and Bangladesh mostly rely on the swell and ebb of the river, and the Kanyin Chaung trade zone is being developed to pave way for larger cargo vessels, according to officials.—Myint Maung, Zeyar ■

116 died, 863 injured in 555 traffic accidents on highway in 2017

SOME 555 traffic accidents occurred along the Yangon-Mandalay Highway in 2017, killing 116 and injuring 863.

During 2016, there were some 744 traffic accidents, killing 170 persons and injuring another 1,304.

Just in December 2017, seven were killed and 67 injured in 45 traffic accidents.

The number of deaths and injuries, however, were fewer in 2017 than those in 2016, an official from the Ministry of

Construction said.

Of the 555 vehicle accidents in 2017, 153 were involved in speeding, 74 were due to drowsy driving, 22 due to undisciplined road crossing or jay-walking by pedestrians, 81 due to reckless motorbike driving, 59 due to reckless driving, 137 because of flat tyres while driving, 24 due to cars breaking down, and five because of slipping on the roads.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Correction

Please read "Rector Prof. Dr. Mar Mar Win" in the caption of the story "31st Convocation ceremony of Yezin University of Veterinary Science" on page-12, 1st January Issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar. —Ed ■