

2nd National-level Political Dialogue's CSO Peace Forum continues in Nay Pyi Taw

The 2nd National-level Political Dialogue's CSO (Civil Society Organisation) Peace Forum continued as its second day, yesterday morning, at MICC-II, Nay Pyi Taw.

Members of the National-level CSOs, Union-level CSOs, Peace Forum Committees, representatives from the regions and the states, representatives of the disabled, as well as other officials participated in the forum.

During the forum, commit-

tee members of the Union Level Committee CSOs for Peace (UCCPF), Ban Sai Bu and Naw Ta Kaw Htoo, delivered a brief about the process of the meeting and the discussion on the first day of the forum.

UCCPF members U Myat Thu Win and Saung Win then handed over the process of issuing policy papers to members of UCCPF.

They later discussed the topics separately, regarding the papers and policies, which

were submitted by the representatives of the regions and states.

Following the discussion sessions which took place for two days, they put forth their suggestions and concluded the forum.

They also submitted two papers regarding Federal-based policy and Rehabilitation policies with the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee (UPDJC). —Myanmar News Agency ■



U Myat Thu Win and Saung Win hand over the policy papers to members of UCCPF. **PHOTO: MNA**



Buddhist devotees are seen at the New Year Dhamma donation ceremony in Yangon. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

New Year Dhamma Donation Ceremony continues in Yangon

A New Year Dhamma Donation Ceremony continues at the People's Park at the foot of Shwedagon Pagoda yesterday evening attracting about 250,000 people.

Shwe Parami Tawra Sayadaw Ashin Sandadika gave a sermon at the third-day ceremony.

Among the congregation were Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, regional ministers, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun, Deputy Speaker U Lin Naing

Myint, government officials and devotees from townships in Yangon Region.

Commenting on the sermon, U Maung Maung Soe, Mayor of Yangon said, "All sermons delivered by Sayadaws this year have taught the people how to develop the country based on loving kindness each other."

The number of Buddhist devotees has increased year by year, reaching about 250,000 this year.

The three-day ceremony began on the New Year Day.

Before Ashin Sandadika, Dr Nanda Marla Bivumsa and Sitagu Sayadaw Dr. Nannisara delivered their sermons respectively. During the ceremonies, wellwishers donated refreshment to the devotees.

Similar New Year Dhamma Donation ceremony was held by Yangon Region Government for five days from 1 to 5 January 2017. —Zaw Gyi ■

Four guns lost during ARSA attacks in Maungtaw discovered

FOUR guns which were lost during the ARSA attacks in Maungtaw were recovered near Thinbaw Hla village, Taung Pyo Ware

Township, Maungtaw, yesterday.

The security forces found an unknown packet near Mae Di and Thinbaw Hla Chaung

village, Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State, where they discovered the lost weapons, it was learnt. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Botahtaung BEHS No.6 to host Children's Literature Festival

CHILDREN'S Literature Festival Yangon, jointly organized by the Ministry of Information, Ministry of Education and Yangon Region Government, will be held from 6-8 January, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Basic Education High School No. (6) Botahtaung (Saint Paul).

A coordination meeting was held yesterday morning in Basic Education High School No. (6) in Aung Kyaw Hall. At the meeting, Botahtaung Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative Daw Myint Myint Soe explained about the festival, while Information and Public Relations Department Deputy Director General U Aye Kywe discussed the status of work completed for the festival.

The festival will include books exhibitions, books sales, a poetry reciting competition, sto-

ry-telling competition, debates, painting competition, origami competition, scrabble tournament, jigsaw puzzle, games, sports and shows during the three days.

On the first day, there will be 28 entertainment programs by students from various schools. Also, 38 entertainment programs and 28 entertainment programs are scheduled for the second and third day, and will include a Kyaukse elephant dance program.

During the festival, workshops on children's literature will be conducted.

Children's literature festivals have also been held in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Mawlamyine, Taunggyi and Monywa. The festival is being held in Yangon for the sixth time and is open to the public. — Aung Min Han ■



Girls looking through microscope in science lab at Children's Literature Festival. **PHOTO: MNA**