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President U Htin Kyaw, second from right, welcomes guests, dignitaries and diplomats at a dinner in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of Independence Day at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening. **PHOTO: MNA**

## President hosts 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Independence Day dinner

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw and First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin hosted a dinner in commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of Independence Day in the front lawn of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening. The President and First Lady arrived at the dinner at 6:30 pm and cordially greeted the guests individually. **SEE PAGE-7**

## Independence Day celebrated in Maungtaw, Buthidaung

A STATE flag hoisting ceremony to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Independence Day was held at the Myoma playground in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State yesterday morning, with district and township department officials, ward, village administrators, and the public in attendance.

The attendees saluted the country's flag and district administrators read out a message sent by President U Htin Kyaw in recognition of the 70th Independence Day.

"The event aims to mark the anniversary of Independence Day and also promote equestrian sports. Some of the athletes who compete here will go on to compete in international events", said U Zaw Min Htway, deputy director of the Sports and Physical Education Department.

Sports competitions including futsal football, cane ball, tug-of-war, a 100-metre event for children, as well as a 500-metre event were held.

Similarly, a grand ceremony was held at the General Administration Department in Buthidaung Township, Rakhine State to mark the 70th anniversary of Independence Day yesterday.— Zayya and Myint Maung



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