

Equality, unity vital for peace

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye paid his respects and presented offertories to the Sayadaw of Central Missionary School in Laukkai, Kokang Self-Administered Zone, in northern Shan State yesterday morning.

During a meeting with U Kyauk Htechan, chairman of the leading body, and members of the zone, the Union Minister said the government is prioritising the rule of law and socio-economic progress while striving for peace and development. He visited the area as a means of implementing the agreements of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong. Cooperation is required to resettle victims of conflicts. Members of the leading body should get in touch with the Shan State government. The Union Government will do its best, he said. U Kyauk Htechan explained the education, health and social endeavours and requirements. MP U Kyaw Ni Naing explained the resettlement plan for people



Dr. Win Myat Aye meets with members of the Central Missionary School in Laukkai, Kokang Self-Administered Zone. **PHOTO: MNA**

displaced by armed conflicts in 2015. The Union Minister looked into the requirements.

The Union Minister and the delegation held a meeting with members of the leading body, departmental personnel, social or-

ganisations and the local people. The Union Minister expressed pleasure in seeing the unity in the Kokang Self-Administered Zone. He said the government will fulfil the public needs, especially the requirements for peace and

progress. "Peace can be achieved through equality and unity. Laws, rules, directives and procedures are being rewritten or amended to become more people-friendly and fairer. The government, the Hluttaw and the people will join

hands to carry out the rehabilitation task in the zone. Social organisations are the reliable force in fulfilling the public's needs. All should strive with confidence for the emergence of the union under the federal system," he noted.

The Union Minister presented Ks 31.4 million and 12,000 sheets of tin roofs worth Ks 144 million for the rehabilitation programme of 657 displaced families.

He then inspected the construction of homes for the displaced persons and the opening of temporary camps in Laukkai. The Union Minister inspected the route to build a detour, the projected place for the Myanmar-China special economic zone, pre-primary school of the Chinshwehaw youth association in Chinshwehaw and the projected site for a new bridge in Kunlong. The Union Minister was accompanied by Bama Ethnic Affairs Minister of Shan State Dr Aung Than Maung, MPs representing the zone and other officials.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Myanmar delegates attend ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Banks Governors' meeting

DEPUTY Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win and Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Soe Thein attended the fourth ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Banks Governors' meeting in Singapore from 2 to 6 April. At the meeting, international organisations presented the global, Asian and ASEAN's economy and vision and exchanged views with finance

ministers and central bank governors. The Myanmar delegates also took part in discussions on the free movement of capital, investment market, freedom of financial services, insurance, customs, banking, all-inclusive financial affairs, payments and accounts, the Chiang Mai Agreement and the Asian bond market. Thailand will host the meeting in 2019.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Participants of the ASEAN Finance Ministers' and Central Banks Governors' meeting in Singapore. **PHOTO: MNA**

IDP camps closed; resettlement underway in Rakhine

TWO deputy ministers visited Nidin Village's internally displaced persons (IDP) camp in Kyauktaw Township, Rakhine State, on 5 April, where they explained the resettlement programmes and the plan to close the IDP camp.

During their meeting with those in-charge and residents

of the camp, Deputy Minister of the State Counsellor's Office U Khin Maung Tin and Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung elaborated on the teacher reinforcement plan in the schools, higher learning pursuance plans for students who passed the matriculation ex-

amination, the station hospital extension plan at Khaungtok Village in Kyauktaw Township, vocational education plans and the national verification card issuance plan at the camp.

The deputy ministers were accompanied by Rakhine State Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Phone Tint

and other officials, where 581 people from 85 households are living.

The plan to close the camp is underway, and Director of Implementation Committee on Recommendations on Rakhine State Dr Aung Thurein met with those in-charge and residents of Khaung Dokka camps

1 and 2 in Sittway Township the next day and discussed closure plans.

The committee, while prioritising the camp closure plan, is working to close the Thekebyin camp in Sittway, Taungpaw camp in Myebon and Nidin camp in Kyauktaw.—Myo Myint ■

Taninthayi donors hand over school to Maungtaw

DONORS from the Taninthayi Region handed over a school building, dormitories for faculty members and a concrete road built in Kainggyi, Maungtaw Township in Rakhine State, to the Rakhine government at a ceremony yesterday.

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu delivered the opening speech, followed by Taninthayi Region Chief Minister Daw Le Le Maw explaining the handover process. Next, Rakhine State Minister for Public Affairs Dr. Chan Thar and Taninthayi Region Minister of Public Affairs U Ho Pin delivered speeches. Chief Minister Daw Le Le Maw then handed over the documents of the school to the Ministry for Education and gave

school uniforms to the students. The Rakhine chief minister also gave the Mro people ASEAN family kits and solar lamps and household items donated by the Ministry for Industry.

This was followed by the chief ministers and the officials cutting the ribbon to formally open the school.

The new school measures 90x30 square feet and includes a dormitory for faculty members, concrete roads, fences, two restroom stalls and a 1,200-gallon water tank. The estimated donation to construct the school is Ks183.56 million. Officials then went to a small hill by the school and staked the ground where a pagoda will be erected.

—Aung Kyaw Tin Soe ■



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, Taninthayi Region Chief Minister Daw Le Le Maw and officials tour the new school in Kainggyi, Maungtaw Township yesterday. **PHOTO: AUNG KYAW TIN SOE**

Myanmar Scout Federation delegates leave for Malaysia



Myanmar Scout delegation seen at the Airport before departure for Malaysia. **PHOTO: MYANMAR SCOUT FEDERATION**

TO attend 4th Asia Pacific Region Messenger of Peace Coordinators Meeting, Myanmar Scout Federation Peace Coordinator U Sa Kyaw Nyi Nyi Zin and Yangon University scout leader Min Htet Maung left for Malaysia yesterday.

They were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Myanmar Scout Federation chief organizer U Aye Kyang and scout members

and families.

Peace coordinators from World Scout Bureau and member nations of Asia Pacific Regional Scout Committee will attend the 4th Asia Pacific Region Messenger of Peace Coordinators Meeting and discuss the public, students and civil society organizations' participations at peace processes of their countries.—Myanmar Scout Federation ■

Chindwin bridge (Khamti) opens in Sagaing Region

AN opening ceremony for a bridge in Khamti Township in Sagaing Region was held at the base of the bridge yesterday. The bridge is situated on the Khamti-Sinthay-Lahe road and was constructed by Construction team-3 of the Bridge Department of the Ministry of Construction.

Sagaing Region Hluttaw Speaker U Than and Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin delivered speeches at the ceremony.

U Than said that the new bridge will be beneficial to the local people as it will speed up

transportation in the region. Before the bridge was opened, travelers and their cargo and motorbikes had to cross the Chindwin river by boat and that delayed precious time. The bridge also connects Lower Sagaing Region with the Naga Self-Administered Zone and provides a pathway for Upper Sagaing to reach other parts of Myanmar much easier.

The ceremonial ribbon was cut by the Sagaing Region Hluttaw Speaker U Than, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin, Region Minister for Electricity, Industry and Transport

U Than Nyunt Win, Region Minister for Border Security Colonel Kyaw Thet Naing, Chairperson of Naga Self-Administered Zone U Kay Sai, Pyithu Hluttaw MP U Aung Then Sein, and U Tun Lin the Director of Bridge Construction team-3. Speaker U Than, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Lin and other officials unveiled the commemorative tablet and sprinkled scented water. The officials and other guests then took a tour across the newly opened Chindwin bridge (Khamti).—Myanmar News Agency



Officials and local residents pose for a documentary photo of the opening of the new Chindwin bridge (Khamti) that connects Lower Sagaing Region with Upper Sagaing, Naga Self-Administered Zone, and to the rest of Myanmar. **PHOTO: MNA**