

Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe shares views on int'l peace, security, trade disputes at Future of Asia Forum in Japan

FROM PAGE-1

The future of Asia lies on investing in peace, multilateral system and in protecting the rules-based multilateral trading system.

The Union Minister also responded to the questions raised by the moderator related to aspects of belt and road initiative, peace process, the cooperation between neighbouring countries, the ways and means of maintenance of the small and medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in Myanmar to offset the adverse effects of foreign direct investment (FDI).

After the meeting, the Union Minister was interviewed by reporters from Nikkei Inc.

For the bilateral meetings, the working lunch and working dinner between Union Minister and the Mr. Ichiro Aisawa, Chairman of Parliamentary Friendship Union, and officials from Japan Parliament, Mr. Hideo Watanabe, Chairman of Japan Myanmar Association and high-ranking government officials were held.

During the informal meetings, both sides exchanged views on the perpetuation of Japan-Myanmar friendship, the on-going peace process, My-



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe (third from left in the front role) poses for the documentary photo together with dignitaries at the working dinner in Japan. **PHOTO: MNA**

anmar's democratic transition and the latest developments in Rakhine State, cooperation between the two parliaments, de-

velopment in other sectors such as economic, electricity and energy, sport, Official Development Assistance (ODA), and

ways and means to raise the capability and efficiency of human resources.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Rakhine State Chief Minister inspects relief operations in Thandwe

RAKHINE State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu inspected the progress of relief operations in Thandwe Township yesterday, following the recent flashfloods in the area.

The chief minister, State Minister Dr. Chan Thar, and other officials met families residing in the Shwe Sandaw Taungchay religious community building temporarily in Thandwe and gave cash donations yesterday.

A total of 80 people from 21 households in Thandwe wards left their homes to seek shelter in the Shwe Sandaw religious community building.

The chief minister and his entourage then inspected the state of flooding along the Thandwe-Gwa road, Thandwe-Ngapali road, and

Thandwe-Kinmaw road. They instructed officials responsible to take measures to prevent possible water-borne diseases and healthcare actions related to the floods.

Later, the chief minister and his entourage arrived at Shwe Andaw Pagoda religious community building in Thandwe and donated food and necessities to 160 people from 40 flood-stricken households residing there temporarily.

Military personnel from Thandwe garrison, police officers, firefighters, officials, and the local people are all working collectively to carry out relief and protection operations in the area. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu inspects damage caused by flooding in Thandwe Township yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe holds meeting with health officials in PyinOoLwin

UNION Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe held a meeting with the heads of state and region health departments in PyinOoLwin on 9 and 10 June to discuss swifter healthcare services and promotion of multi-level sector-wise interactions.

During the meeting, the union minister encouraged the participants to discuss any difficulties or restrictions they may face in their work and asked them to share their opinions and advice.

He explained the main purpose of the meeting was to discuss the delegation of more authority to state and region departments concerning their administration, management, staff affairs and finance.

The union minister said the state and region health departments are extensions of the ministry and thus require



Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe at the meeting with the heads of state and region health departments in Pyin Oo Lwin. **PHOTO: MNA**

more support and aid to effectively carry out their tasks.

The ministry will promote health education and update school health and regulations, will remove obsolete practices, promote relations between healthcare providers and patients and their families, open people-centered clinics, eradicate non-infectious diseases,

open mobile medical units with basic healthcare providers, and reform the state and region healthcare training teams.

This was followed by officials explaining their policies, progress reports, staff affairs, management, finance, and the establishment processes. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated patrols

FOLLOWING coordination between the two countries, the Myanmar Border Police and the Bangladesh Border Police forces conducted coordinated patrols along the respective sides of the border.

Security forces from the

two countries conducted coordinated ground patrol from border posts 41 to 42 on 27 May, from border posts 42 to 43 and from border posts 31 to 34 on 10 June, and from border posts 43 to 44 on 11 June. A total of 40 coordinated ground patrols

were conducted. The coordinated ground patrols were conducted 14 times in February, seven times in March, 16 times in May and three times in June. A coordinated naval patrol along the Naf River was also conducted four times. — MNA ■

The Committee for Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State

Report to the People on the Progress of the Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State
(January to April 2018)

(CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY)

Procedures for application of business licenses were simplified to promote trade. Authorities have reduced paperwork requirements for international trade - with only 3 supporting documents now being required for export license instead of 9 documents previously, and only 3 supporting documents for import licenses instead of 11. Company registration fees were also reduced from 500,000 MMK to 250,000 MMK starting from April 1, 2018.

Automatic meteorological instruments were installed in 12 townships - 10 township agricultural departments and 2 townships hosting Danyawaddi naval base in Rakhine State, as a part of the Disaster Risk Management Project for improved climate resilience and early warning of natural disasters, funded by the World Bank. Additionally, 4 earthquake measuring instruments were also installed in four townships of Rakhine State.

Works such as natural cross-breeding of trees and forests on 525 acres across 7 townships, establishment of 300 acres of commercial ironwood plantation, repair of forest roads for 20 miles, preparation of forest reserve boundaries for 90 miles, preparation of plot boundaries for 80 miles, fire prevention for 1,190 acres of forest, expansion of reserve/protected forest area for 602.5 square miles, and 3 skill trainings with 168 participants for trees and forest conservation were also implemented for improved environmental conservation and climate change adaptation.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Industry, the Rakhine State Government is constructing one 500-ton silo for long term dry-storage of paddy; and this work is now 93% completed.

Seed production plantations were also established across Rakhine State including 55 acres of summer paddy, 20 acres of winter peanuts, 50 acres of winter green grams, 2,500 acres of pure variety wet-season paddy, 1,115 acres of peanut zone and 1,060 acres of green gram zone. Additionally, 330 acres of wet-season paddy, 95 acres of green gram, 350 acres of peanut, 20 acres of rubber, 50 acres of cashew nut and 10 acres of sugar cane were also established as model farms across the townships. Research plots were also established for agricultural research including 3 green gram plots, 2 peanut plots and 5 plots for summer paddy cultivation techniques.

Construction of one auxiliary spillway, 2 check dams and 1 creek dam were completed for improved irrigation systems. Construction works for 9 floodgates, 10 check dams, 2 embankments for prevention of saline water intrusion, 4 embankments for freshwater, 1 reservoir and 5 creek dams, as well as upgrade of 9 embankments are currently in progress.

Citizenship

In this reporting period, a total of 339 people - 87 people that attained 10 years of age and 252 that attained 18 years of age - received their Citizenship Scrutinization Cards, of all the persons who applied to the Central Governing Body for the decisions as to his/her citizenship status in accordance with the Section 65 of 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law. Those who received Citizenship Scrutinization Cards are entitled to enjoy the rights of a citizen prescribed by the laws of the land, in accordance with section 12 of the 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law.



Efforts were put in to speed up the national verification process in accordance with the existing laws and regulations. During this reporting period, NV cards issuance alongside with biometric data collection were done for 379 people in Shwezar Village Tract, Myoma (1 Ward and Myoma South Ward of Maungdaw Township, and 1,907 people in Aung Mingalar Ward, Thetkaepyin and Thae Chaung Village of Sittwe Township. As NV Card is the basis for the national verification process, this process was scaled up in Thetkaepyin and Gaungdoteka IDP Camps in Sittwe and Nidin IDP Camp in Kyauktaw as main pilot areas. Arrangements are currently made for NV Card applicants to simultaneously apply for the citizenship scrutinization process.



The timeframe for completing the procedures of national verification process starting from the date of filing the application till issuance of an appropriate type of certificate/card is now set as 5 months.

Applicants who are denied from citizenship can appeal to the Union Cabinet, in accordance with Section 70 (a) of the 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law. And the Section 70 (b) of the law prescribes the decision of the Cabinet as final. During this reporting period, three persons who were dissatisfied with the decision of the Central Body and appealed to the Cabinet were granted citizenship by the Cabinet decision after review of the cases again. Although a person is not deemed as a citizen, s/he can live in the country by holding NV cards and following the rules and regulations set out by the State if his/her residency in Myanmar can be verified. Regulations for permanent residency is also now enacted for foreigners who reside permanently in Myanmar.

Leaflets that outline the national verification process and encouraging Muslim communities to cooperate in the process were also distributed between 1 January 2018 and 31 March 2018, as part of public awareness campaigns to revitalize the verification process in Sittwe, Mrauk-U, Ponnagyun, Minbya, Kyauktaw and Maungdaw Townships.

Departmental investigations are carried out for complaints against the verification process, and actions are taken as appropriate if these complaints are verified. Additionally, the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and the Anti-Corruption Commission also investigate complaints that they receive, and actions

are taken in accordance with the laws and prescribed procedures.

Freedom of Movement

A road map with a timeline and important milestones is currently being implemented to ensure that all people in Rakhine State - regardless of religion, race and citizenship status - enjoy freedom of movement that will bolster socio-economic opportunities, in accordance with the existing laws, rules and regulations. As a result, people holding NV Cards can now enjoy freedom of movement in Maungdaw District. Discussions and coordination among relevant departments and agencies were also held to analyze and remove restrictions on movement as required. During the reporting period, there were 58 people (31 males and 27 females) who travelled out of Rakhine State to Yangon with temporary travel authorization certificate (Form - 4). Discussions to raise awareness with on procedures and regulations governing the movements were also held in Aung Mingalar Ward and Thetkaepyin IDP Camp in Sittwe on 04/03/2018 and 05/03/2018 and in Budthidaung and Maungdaw Townships on 27/03/2018 and 28/03/2018, with an aim to contribute towards peace and stability of the Rakhine state through increased interrelations and movements among the communities in State.

No (1) Border Guard Police Command Centre of the Myanmar Police Force, Ministry of Home Affairs is also implementing a security protocol to enable the locals travel freely and safely.

Additionally, a workshop with Rakhine State Government officials, MPs, officials from relevant government departments, and representatives of ethnic minorities - Mro, Khami, Daing Net or Chakkama, Chin (Asho Chin, Laizao Chin, Zhotung Chin, Lawhtu Chin), Maramargyi, Kaman etc. was held at Khaine Thazin Hall, Sittwe, Rakhine State on April 7, 2018, to review any laws and local orders that restrict the rights and freedom of ethnic minorities. It was learnt that the representatives of ethnic minorities attending the workshop were quite satisfied with the workshop proceedings.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Plans are in place to organize a workshop with relevant government officials on 2 June 2018 in Nay Pyi Taw, for developing a 'National Strategy for Closure of IDP Camps in Myanmar' that will outline camp closure processes and timelines. Efforts are also taken to close the IDP camps in Rakhine State the soonest possible, and to promote a peaceful and stable social environment. 50 units of low-cost housing were constructed as a first step for the closure of Taungpaw IDP Camp in Myaypon Township, to which some IDPs were resettled. Another 50 units of housing are currently under construction, as well as other necessary infrastructures like roads and bridges.

Consultations for camp closures were also held with the people living in the IDP camps; and arrangements are currently in progress for resettlement of these IDPs. These consultations took place in Nidin IDP Camp in Kyauktaw on April 4 and 5, 2018, in Thetkaepyin IDP Camp in Sittwe on March 3, 2018, and in Gaungdoteka IDP Camp (1) and (2) on April 6, 2018.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Everyone should understand complexity of Rakhine issue

THE Union Government's firm conviction is that issues of border security and the rule of law between two neighbours can be solved bilaterally in an amicable manner.

The Rakhine issue is complicated; it is not right for the international community to intervene in this issue.

Therefore, the Union Government has dissociated itself from the UN resolutions last year to send a fact-finding mission to investigate the allegations of human rights abuses in Rakhine State. The resolution is not in keeping with the needs of both communities in Rakhine State.

We do not feel it was in keeping with the needs of the region in which the government is trying to establish harmony and understanding, as well as remove the fears that have kept the two communities apart for so long. It is also not in accordance with the situation on the ground and the national circumstances.

Very few people outside Myanmar are aware of all the historical issues that are involved. Meanwhile, we would like to urge our people in Myanmar to understand what's going on and the government's actions.

The Myanmar government is dealing with human rights issues, particularly, by investigating the complaints of rights violations.

From the beginning, the government has taken the most cautious approach to deal with the issues in Rakhine State, and prevent unnecessary accusations of human rights violations by the international community.

We cannot resolve a problem that has been existing for such a long time overnight. The incumbent government, which took office just two years ago, needs more time.

We realise that the animosity, distrust, fear and hate in Rakhine were rooted in the fact that it is a region where there is very little prosperity and little security. Therefore, the Union Government formed the committee for the rule of law and development in Rakhine. Since then, the government

has been looking for long-term solutions to the complex issues in Rakhine State. Very few people outside Myanmar are aware of all the historical issues that are involved. Meanwhile, we would like to urge our people in Myanmar to understand what's going on and the government's actions. Every individual needs to understand the meaning of human rights. Every country is faced with human rights issues. In dealing with human rights issues, the government alone cannot solve this issue. It also requires the cooperation of our people. We are the ones who must in the long run to preserve the stability and security of our country.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their works to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyeeg Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Real name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).- Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office

By Maung Hlaing

Although my parents were uneducated, they could instil a habit of reading, or a good hobby of reading in me. Due to the dire consequences of the war, they had no access to formal education. However, thanks to the endeavours made by the Buddhist monks, they knew Three Rs-Reading, Writing and Reckoning. In other words, they were able to pursue monastic education-what we call vocational education in Ba-Ka schools today.

Despite the lack of (modern) formal education, the monastic education system inspired their enthusiasm to read a lot. My father had keen interest in reading newspapers which were out of reach for the rural people in those days. As for my mother, she took happiness in reading literary works of fiction written by Maha Swe, P.Moe Nin, and other famous writers. In this way, I think, my fervant wish to read books, periodicals and newspapers took root since the early days of my childhood.

As the dailies hardly reached our small town of Wake-ma, we had to read the old newspapers brought by those who came from the city of Rangoon (Yangon). I could remember that the paper we mostly read was "the Rangoon Daily" which was published in November, 1946 but the publishing ceased in June, 1972. Although we intermittently read the paper, it could widen our horizon to know what was going on in the world.

When I passed the 3rd. Standard of the monastic education, I moved to Yangon where I was brought up by my uncle who earned his living by working as a tinsmith. He was uneducated too but he read a lot. He was a subscriber to a daily known as the "Kyae-ni-Daily", or the "Red Star Daily", an evening paper. We had to pay only ten pyas per copy. All the news stories, articles some of which were witty and satirical, novels in series and advertisements were so attractive that we could not help waiting for the next issue. At that time, I was only nine years old and the Kyae-ni Daily became my heartthrob.

As a matter of fact, no one can deny the fact that a newspaper is nothing but a "Mirror of an epoch". Besides, it is figuratively designated as a mouthpiece of a government or a people.

The dailies are the portals providing the people with health, educational and other important



N and I Newspapers

information released by the government. And in similar vein, they are the platforms where the voices of the people can be heard and desires of the people can be conveyed to the government.

According to the World Book Encyclopedia (N.O), hand written newssheets posted in public places were probably the first newspapers. The earliest known daily newssheet was Acta Diurna (Daily Events), which started in Rome in 59B.C. The world's first printed newspaper was a Chinese circular called Dibao (Ti-pao). The Chinese bagan printing Dibao (Ti-pao) from carved wooden blocks during the A.D.700's.

According to the records, the first newspaper in Myanmar was published in English. It was the Moulmain Chronicle which was published on 3 March, 1836 in Mawlamyine. In the time of Myanmar monarchs, the Yadanarbon Nay-pyi-taw newspaper was published with the guidance of Myanmar king. It was published on 22 April, 1874 in Mandalay in the reign of King Mindon of the late Konbaung Dynasty. The emergence

of the old paper the Moulmain Chronicle was followed by so many newspapers-"Myanmar Thandaw Sint" in 1869, "Myanmar Thadin-sar" in 1872, "Lawki Thuta Pyinnya" published by the British Government in 1873, "Myanamr Ah-swe" in 1865, "Zabu Kyet-tha-yay" in 1895, "Taing-lone Zabu" in 1895, "Hanthawady" in 1897 and "Maha Bodhi" in 1902 respectively.

World War I (WWI) broke out between 1914 and 1918. Before the WWI, the youth members of YMBA (Young Men Buddhist Association) published "Thuria" newspaper on 4 July, 1911. "Myanma Alin" newspaper was published even in the year of 1914 when WWI began to break out.

The publishing of the newspapers did not cease even in the period of WWII. These papers were "Bama Khit", "Myanma Alin", "Thuria" "Dawei Daily", "Kambawza" "Greater Asia", "Mandalay Thuria" and "Taing Chit".

During the post-war period and independence period, newspapers were published in Myanmar; English, Chinese,

Indian and even in the ethnic languages. The regions where the newspapers were published were Mawlamyine, Mandalay, Dawei, Yangon, Thonze, Sittway, and Pakokku. However, most of the papers were published and distributed in Yangon and Mandalay. Besides, newspapers for youths, students and children have been published as well. The "Lu-ngae-Let-yone" came out on 7 April, 1939. The editor was Myoma Than and the motto was "Do things and give up your life for the nation".

On 18 January, 1940, editor Daw Ma Ma Khin published the "Kyauing Thar", (the Student) newspaper. After regaining independence, "Kalay Thadin-sar" (the Children's Newspaper) emerged with the motto of "For Ko Khway and Ma Khway who will create the future Burma".

In the time of Burma Socialist Programme Party (Government), we had two English dailies: The Working People's Daily and the Guardian and the four Myanmar dailies: Lokethar Pyithu Nayzayn, Kyay-mon, Botataung, Myanma Alin and Hanthawady. The editorials

and articles had to contribute only to the government policies and reading public became fed up with stereotyped news stories and articles.

Times have elapsed. Reforms that have taken shape after the democratic government came to power include the repeal of censorship on the press, permission for the publication of dailies, and the formation of literary associations. As a result, we can now enjoy reading of various kinds of newspapers including privately owned newspapers and State-run papers.

According to the Mirror Daily (Kyemon) issue on 30-3-2018, we've come to know that the Ministry of Information has already permitted to publish 44 papers-37 privately owned newspapers and 7 departmental newspapers. The seven departmental papers are Mandalay Daily, Yadanarbon, the City, Myanma Alin, Colourful Myawady, the Mirror Daily and the Global New Light of Myanmar.

Among the privately owned newspapers, 4 papers-The Straits Times, New York Times, Myanmar Times and China

Daily-are published in English. The Myanmar newspapers being published are the Standand Time, Khit Thit, Democracy Today, 7 Day Daily, Daily Eleven, the Voice Daily, Pyidaungsu Daily, Myanamr Times, Myanmar Thandaw Sint, the Vitoria, and evening paper: Besides, there are newspapers and journals being published in ethnic languages such as Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine. Shan and Ta-ang (Palaung).

Today, all three State-run dailies in parallel with the privately owned papers are gradually changing in form and substance appearing in a new look and style with a large number of interesting stories. They all are trying their best to be more considerate of the readers' satisfaction while serving as a bridge between the government and the people.

As for the State-run papers, they really are the bridges between the government and the people, concentrating on the things the government would like to inform the people. On the contrary, privately owned papers serve as a mouthpiece for the people. Actually, newspapers have a crucial role in the media industry and are regarded as the fourth pillar in many countries. They are also responsible for serving as a means of communication with the general public, known as the Fifth Pillar.

According to the ups-and-downs of life of media industry, high operating expenses have driven many newspapers out of business. Financial problems have hit hardest at some newspapers, which face special distribution problems as well as increasing competition from electronic media.

In this knowledge age or modern age, we cannot stay away from the papers. They have become so much a part of our lives that reading the papers is the first thing many people do after getting out of bed in the morning. We grab for the papers even before our eyes are fully opened. If there were no newspapers, we would have no way to know more about the developments in the world.

May existing papers be prosperous!

New papers are cordially welcome!

(Note: Names of the newspapers mentioned in this article are transliterated.)

- Ref: 1. မြန်မာ့သမိုင်းကျမ်း အတွဲ -၁၂
- 2. The World Book Encyclopedia (N.O)
- 3. စာနယ်ဇင်းနှင့် ခေတ်ပြောင်း (1983)

Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm Tuesday 12th June, 2018)

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL NOON OF THE 13th JUNE, 2018: Rain will be widespread in the whole country with regionally heavy falls in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Kachin, Chin and Rakhine States and isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Southern Shan, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40)m.p.h. Wave height will be about (10 - 15) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Strong to vigorous monsoon.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13th JUNE, 2018: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13th JUNE, 2018: Intermittent rain which may be heavy at times. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 13th JUNE, 2018: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Monsoon vigorous over Andaman Sea, Bay of Bengal

The monsoon is vigorous over the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal, according to the Myanmar Daily weather report issued by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology yesterday.

The forecast for Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and the neighbouring areas for today is some rain, and the degree of certainty is 100 per cent, whereas for Yangon and the

neighbouring areas it is intermittent rain, which may be heavy at times, and the degree of certainty is 100 per cent.

Occasional squalls with rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar coast.

The surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40 m.p.h. The wave height will be some 10-15 feet off and along Myanmar's coast.—GNLM ■

