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President receives Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs

Flood assistance, Yangon City civic development among topics discussed



President U Win Myint shakes hands with Japanese Foreign Minister Mr. Taro Kono in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

UWIN Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received His Excellency Mr Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, and his delegation at 9am yesterday at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they openly discussed Myanmar-Japan relations and promoting friendship between the people of both countries, assistance relating to the floods occurring in Myanmar, Yangon City civic development, Myanmar's democratic process, peace process, cooperation in respective sectors, and collabora-

tion in the repatriation of returnees in Rakhine State.

Present at the meeting with the President were Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Soe Win, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Minister for the Office of the President U Min Thu and other responsible officials. Accompanying the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs was Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Ichiro Maruyama. — Myanmar News Agency ■

State Counsellor receives Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs

Japan welcomes progress, efforts made by Myanmar Government in resolving situation in Rakhine State



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi welcomes Japanese Foreign Minister Mr. Taro Kono in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received His Excellency Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, at 10am yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, Foreign Minister Mr. Taro Kono announced that Japan will donate water tanks and tents to the flood victims in Myanmar. He also expressed that Japan welcomes (1) the progress made by the Government of Myanmar in the implementations of the MOU signed between the Government of Myanmar and the United Nations Agencies on assistance to the repatriation process of the displaced persons from Rakhine State, (2)

Myanmar Government's efforts to bring peace, stability, development and to promote harmony and reconciliation among the various communities in Rakhine State, and (3) the establishment of an Independent Commission of Enquiry by the Government of Myanmar.

Moreover, he assured that Japan will provide necessary assistance in construction of housing for the displaced persons, construction of roads, schools and electrification in Rakhine State and continue to cooperate constructively with Myanmar Government in resolving the situation in Rakhine State and provide humanitarian assistance to the displaced persons. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Japanese Foreign Minister: Peace and stability in Rakhine State is very important for the success of building democracy in Myanmar

State Counsellor: A government has to take all different views into consideration, but outside personnel have options to hold a view as they like

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, held a joint press conference following their meeting yesterday.

At the beginning of the press conference, Mr. Taro Kono expressed his sympathy to Myanmar's recent flood victims, disclosing Japanese government's approach to donate water tanks and tents to the victims.

Mr. Taro Kono also expressed thanks to President U Win Myint and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for extending their heartfelt sympathy, on behalf of the Myanmar people, over the flood in western part of Japan.

The Japanese Foreign Minister also reaffirmed the Japanese government's pledge, during his previous visit to Myanmar in July, to provide assistance to the civic development in Yangon, transportation and electrification sectors, saying that Japanese government is taking steps to ensure the aid programs.

Mr. Taro Kono also disclosed that at the talks, the two sides exchanged valuable views over the Rakhine issue, saying that peace and stability in Rakhine State is very important for the success of building democracy in Myanmar.

Mr. Taro Kono said that the government of Japan praised the Myanmar's government for the formation of an independent panel to investigate into al-



State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holding a joint press conference with Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Mr. Taro Kono yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

leged human rights abuses and for signing agreements with the UN agencies to work in Rakhine State.

The Japanese Foreign Minister also said that he asked the Myanmar government to ensure transparency and openness in the investigation, to create an environment in which the displaced people can resettle, and to make efforts for closing internally displaced persons' camps.

He continued to say that the Japanese government, joining hands with Myanmar people, will work together with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to resolve the Rakhine issue.

Annual arrivals from Japan to Myanmar reached over

100,000 in 2016, while the population of Myanmar residents in Japan reached over 20,000 in 2017.

Mr. Taro Kono said Japan and Mekong region countries, including Myanmar, will discuss undertakings for cooperation in strengthening relations among peoples and multi-sectors at the Mekong-Japan Summit, which is slated to be held on 9 October.

He also expressed his hope that State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will attend the Mekong-Japan Summit, which would also give an opportunity for promoting the relations between Japan and Myanmar.

Speaking to journalists, State Counsellor Daw Aung

San Suu Kyi praised the talks in which the two sides discussed openly, expressing her belief that the talks would benefit both countries.

She also called Japan and Myanmar as countries "living the same lives", where experiences faced by the two countries are nearly the same.

The State Counsellor also expressed thanks to Japan for sending aid to the flood victims in Myanmar, saying that the two countries face similar challenges of disasters, which make them closer, though Japan is a developed country and Myanmar is a developing one.

Regarding the Rakhine issue, which the two sides dis-

cussed at the talks, she said Japan discussed the Rakhine issue as a good friend taking approach on how it can help Myanmar and how it can help resolving the issue.

She also expressed her hope that the two countries would bring constructive results in resolving not only current issues but also global issues through cooperation.

She also expressed her delight for the opportunity to visit Japan in October, pledging to strengthen the bilateral friendship during the October visit.

Asked about strengthening the cooperation between Japan and Myanmar, the State Counsellor stressed the need to promote the cooperation both physically and spiritually.

She thanked Japan's physical help in development sectors, adding that Myanmar is keeping alive the hope that it could help Japan physically some day in future.

Regarding the spiritual help, she highlighted the importance of understanding and friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

The State Counsellor also called for more closer contacts between youths from Japan and Myanmar and to retain the genuine friendship between the previous generation of the two countries, saying that there are many true friends between the peoples of Japan and Myanmar.

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Vice President U Myint Swe receives delegation led by Secretary of Jilin provincial committee of CPC

VICE President U Myint Swe received a delegation led by Secretary of Jilin provincial committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Mr. Bayin Choalu at the Presidential Palace diplomatic hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

At the meeting, matters relating to increasing investment in agriculture and increasing bilateral cooperation in transport

and technical development sectors were openly and cordially discussed.

Present at the meeting were Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung, Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary U Myint Thu and other officials. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Vice President U Myint Swe meets with Mr. Bayin Choalu, Secretary of Jilin provincial committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor receives Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

UNION Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe received a Japanese delegation led by Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan H.E. Mr. Taro Kono at the Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor in Nay Pyi Taw at 4pm yesterday.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed matters relating

to the promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation as well as the issue in Rakhine State.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Khin Maung Tin, Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Ichiro Maruyama and responsible officials.—MNA ■



Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe holds talks with Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Mr. Taro Kono in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin hosts lunch for Japanese Foreign Minister



Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Mr. Taro Kono and his delegation being hosted a luncheon by Union Minister U Kyaw Tin yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

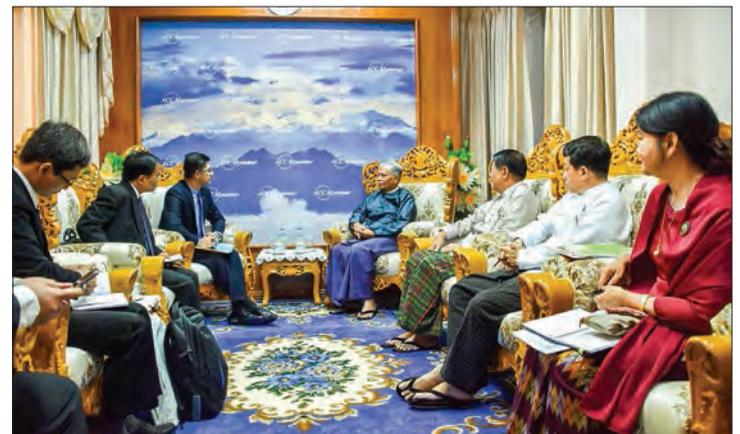
UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin hosted a luncheon for the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Taro Kono and his delegation at the Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Anti-Corruption Commission Chair receives Vice-Chair of Indonesia's Corruption Eradication Commission

U AUNG KYI, Chair of Myanmar's Anti-Corruption Commission, received the Vice-Chair of Indonesia's Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) Mr. Laode Muhammad Syarif and his delegation at the Anti-Corruption Commission's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed bilateral cooperation in matters related to cases of corruption, including prevention and protection, investigation, promoting discipline, and raising awareness.

The KPK Vice-Chair and his delegation were also given an explanation on the Anti-Corruption Commis-



Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman U Aung Kyi receives Vice-Chair of Indonesia's Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) Mr. Laode Muhammad Syarif in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

sion's history, formation and processes from Anti-Corruption Commission's secretary and commission members. They then exchanged

views on investigation cases, pursuing legal action, and prevention and protection operations. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Japanese Foreign Minister: Peace and stability in Rakhine State ...

State Counsellor: A government has to take all different views into consideration ...

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She pinned high hopes on increasing the number of visitors between the two countries to strengthen the genuine friendship between the peoples.

Regarding Japan's aid for development of Rakhine State, Japanese Foreign Minister Mr. Taro Kono pledged that the government of Japan would support the State Counsellor, who is taking a leading role in the development of Rakhine State, and for the undertakings of the Myanmar government.

Mr. Taro Kono said Japan would urge the Myanmar government to carry out resettlement of displaced peoples, adding that Japan would provide aid for construction of roads for trains and

motor vehicles, electrification and building schools in Rakhine State, with the aim of reducing poverty and promoting socio-economic life of the peoples in Rakhine State.

"We assume that peace and stability and development in Rakhine is important for establishing democracy in Myanmar," Mr. Taro Kono said.

Asked about Myanmar government's plans for repatriation of displaced peoples, the State Counsellor said the question focused both short-term and long-term issues being carried out by the government.

Both are included in the Dr. Kofi Annan's report and handled by the government, she said, clarifying that citizenship is a long-

term issue.

Out of 88 points proposed by the Dr. Kofi Annan's commission, over 80 have been implemented through cooperation and the remaining six to seven points are being implemented through step-by-step approach, as they are considered long-term issues mentioned in the commission's report.

A citizenship issue of a country needs to be settled through step-by-step approach, she said.

She recounted that the first terrorist attacks happened before the government's central committee for the rule of law and development in Rakhine State, formed in May 2016, could start its work.

A government has to listen

to different views and voices and has to take all different views into consideration, but personnel outside a country have options to hold a view as they like, she said.

The independent investigation commission would be given exclusive rights to carry out its work, she said, adding that members of the commission are qualified.

She expressed her hope that other friendly countries, including Japan, would offer technical assistance to the commission.

Asked about the stance of Japan on the situation in Rakhine State, Mr. Taro Kono said Rakhine issue is very deep and complicated. Japan would provide aid not only for human rights and humanitarian assistance but also

for reducing poverty in the state.

He continued to say that State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is taking firm steps to resolve the Rakhine issue, but, at the same time, other voices are demanding to take quick steps to resolve the issue.

But steps, including bringing harmony between the two communities in Rakhine State, need to be firm in the long-run, he added. The government of Japan will work together with Myanmar government, which is trying to resolve difficult issues, and will explain Myanmar's efforts to the international community.

The government of Japan values the Myanmar government's taking steps in realizing Japan's demand to cooperate with UN in issues, such as an independent investigation into issues in Rakhine State. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Exhibitions for 30th anniversary of 8888 Uprising displayed in University of Yangon premises

THE University of Yangon's premises were filled with students, monks and people yesterday, as political discussions were held and exhibits portraying the history of the 8888 Uprising were put on public display to mark the 30th anniversary of the nationwide event. The exhibitions will be on display till tomorrow.

Attendants at the event, held in the recreation centre (RC), paid respect to the flag bearing the peacock insignia and observed eight seconds of silence for those who fell during the uprising.

The first political discussion was held at Weikza Hall under the title "Thirty-year journey of democracy" and participants divided into groups for the discussion. The discussions focused on the thirty years of Myanmar's democracy journey, what demands were made, what improvements were carried out based on those de-

mands, what restrictions were put in place during that time, and what steps should be taken to move forward, with the discussions put on record.

The second political discussion was held under the title "Ethnic equality and a federal union". Participants divided into groups again discussed the views and opinions of ethnic nationals on the federal union, current difficulties and opportunities, exploring concepts and meanings, and steps to be taken towards a future federal union.

On display at the exhibition in the RC were documentary photos depicting the political situation before, during and after the uprising, and the activities of the monks, people, and students during that period, press release documents, flags and items used during the uprising to inform the youths of the 8888 Uprising's history, as well as cartoons, posters,

flags relating to the uprising for public display.

The second day of the 30th anniversary event continues today and a political discussion under the title "Myanmar's political landscape and military dictatorship" will be held at 9am. Results from the two-day discussions will be publicly released on 8 August (tomorrow).

Attending the event yesterday were Yangon Region ministers, Hluttaw representatives, participants of the 8888 uprising, students, monks and the general public.

During the 25th silver anniversary of the 8888 Uprising, held at the Myanmar Convention Center in Mayangone Township, decisions were successfully made to establish a democratic federal union, amending the 2008 constitution or drafting a new one, and convening an inclusive national reconciliation conference. —Zaw Gyi (PaNiTa) ■



Political discussions held at the ceremony to mark the 8888 Uprising in Yangon. **PHOTO: PE ZAW**

39 dams, reservoirs overflow through spillways

THE water level in some dams and reservoirs in regions and states exceeded the full tank levels, due to torrential rains, and overflowed through their spillways.

People have been urged not to worry about the overflowing

water as it goes through spillways into the rivers, said the Irrigation and Water Utilisation Management Department.

Taung Kayan Dam from Gangaw Township, Magway Region, and Monyin Dam from Namtu Township, Shan State,

are currently overflowing. Wapa Dam from Thaton Township in Mon State has ceased overflowing from its spillway. A total of 39 dams and reservoirs are currently overflowing, according to the department yesterday. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Supreme Court sits to pass judgment and hear cases

UNION Supreme Court sat at Union Supreme Court room number 1 yesterday morning with Chief Justice of the Union Supreme Court U Htun Htun Oo and all Union Supreme Court

judges to pass judgments on three special criminal appeal cases and eight special civil appeal cases, and hear seven special civil appeal cases. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister U Thein Swe receives UNDP Country Director and UNHCR Assistant Representative



Union Minister U Thein Swe meets with UNDP Country Director and UNHCR Assistant Representative in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe received UNDP Country Director Mr. Peter Batchelor and UNHCR Assistant Representative Ms. Cécile Fradot at his ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed cooperation from the UNDP and UNHCR in the repatriation of returnees from Bangladesh, the UNDP and UNHCR delegation's trip

to Rakhine State, the state of the villages for relocating returnees to, the implementation process of the MoU signed with the UNDP and UNHCR, prioritized processes and long-term projects for socio-economic development in Rakhine State, the national verification process for returnees, renovating the UNHCR offices in Maungtau, and close cooperation with various ministries. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Central Bank of Myanmar Governor holds coord meeting



CBM Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung and IMF officials holding a coordination meeting in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

U KYAW KYAW MAUNG, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM), held a coordination meeting at the Yangon branch of CBM yesterday with the Deputy Governor, directors-general, deputy directors-general, IMF Resident Representative Mr. Yasuhisa Ojima and IMF Resident Advisor Ms. Irma Kikvidze.

They discussed matters relating to Myanmar's current economical and financial situation, the Central Bank of Myanmar Law and the Foreign Exchange Management Law, foreign currency exchange rates, CBM's financial report and internal auditing process. —Myanmar News Agency ■