



Union Minister U Han Zaw, Dr. Katharina Spiess and Country Director Ms. Eva Schneider of German KfW development bank cut ribbon to open the roads in Kalaw Township, Shan State. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Upgraded German-Myanmar friendship rural roads in southern Shan State inaugurated

A RURAL road constructed with the assistance of German KfW development bank was opened yesterday in Kalaw Township, southern Shan State.

The new road will benefit over 15,540 people from 30 villages in the area and would directly result in promotion of socio-economic life of local people. The road is 13.48 km long and 4.5 metre wide.

Speaking at the ceremony to inaugurate the road, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw stressed the importance of rural roads in promoting the so-

cio-economic life of rural people, disclosing that the country is in need of all-weather roads in rural areas. He also said that his ministry is drafting policies for road and bridge development as part of efforts for smooth transportation in the country.

Under the assistance of German KfW development bank, upgrading the rural roads in Taunggyi District started in 2014 at a cost of 7 million euros, and the upgrading of the roads with a total distance of 30 km have been completed. Meanwhile, the work on upgrading of six rural

roads with a total distance of 60.5 km in Taunggyi, Kalaw, Hopone, Nyaungshwe and Yaksawk townships were upgraded at a cost of 11 million euros, and they were also commissioned into service yesterday.

The roads were opened in the presence of Union Minister U Han Zaw and Dr. Katharina Spiess and Country Director Ms. Eva Schneider of German KfW development bank. Besides, MoU on 10.90 million euros assistance was signed on 27 February to upgrade rural roads in Taunggyi and Loilem districts.—MNA ■

## Union Minister seeks assistance from UNISDR to reduce disaster impacts



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye meets with Ms. Mami Mizutori at the Office of the United Nations for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, who is in Geneva, Switzerland, attending the 69<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme (Ex-COM), received Ms. Mami Mizutori, Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-Gen-

eral for Disaster Risk Reduction, at the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction.

At the meeting, Dr. Win Myat Aye asked the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) to provide technical assistance to Myanmar, as the country is carrying out assessment of possible disasters

in regions and states.

Myanmar is implementing the Myanmar Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction-2017 (MAPDRR), which was drafted in accordance with the Sendai Framework.

His ministry is also reviewing laws related to disasters to be able to carry out preparedness and response to disasters effectively with the use of the cooperation of the people.

Ms. Mami Mizutori pledged to aid works for disaster preparedness and reduction in Myanmar, acknowledging the country report submitted to MAPDRR, in accordance with the Sendai Framework.

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye also held talks with permanent representatives and officials of partner countries over Rakhine State issue including current humanitarian aid, readiness for repatriation in Rakhine State and efforts for the rule of law in the country.—MNA ■

## Republic of the Union of Myanmar Office of the President Order 35/2018

9<sup>th</sup> Waning of Tawthalin,  
1380 ME  
3 October 2018

## Resignation of Rakhine State High Court judge approved

In accordance with the provisions stated in Article 312 Section (a) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Article 49 Section (a) of the Union Judiciary Law, Daw San San Yi, judge of the High Court of the Rakhine State, has been approved to resign on her own volition from the position of judge of the High Court of the Rakhine State, with effect from 1 November, 2018.

*Sd/ Win Myint*  
President  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

## Myanmar, Japan sign MoU on financial assistance for Water Supply Project in southern Yangon

JAPAN and Myanmar inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on Japan's financial assistance of Yen 4.176 billion for the Water Supply Project in southern Yangon yesterday.

U Set Aung, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Ichiro Maruyama, on behalf of the government of Japan, signed the MoU.

The project is aimed at promoting drinking water and communal water supply for the people in Dala, Seikyi-Khanaungto, Twantay, Ka-

whmu and Kungyangon townships and improving the water supply system.

"Japan is using its official development aid to improve the infrastructures in Myanmar, giving priorities to transportation, electricity and energy and development of Yangon," said Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Ichiro Maruyama.

He continued to say that Japan would cooperate with Myanmar government in developing the infrastructures in Myanmar.—MNA ■



Deputy Minister of Planning and Finance and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar signing an MoU on Japan's financial assistance for Water Supply Project in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

# In need of waste management plan

**W**ASTE management poses a great problem both to the government and the people. With a dramatic increase in population in urban areas, the problem of waste management seems to be greater in Myanmar.

Cities experience flooding caused by the indiscriminate disposal of all types wastes, including plastic wastes into the drains, whenever it rains. The situation has become critical due to the large amount of waste that collects in and clogs the drainage ditches.

The air pollution and health hazards to people in nearby wards caused by the garbage dump fire at Yangon during April 2018 is a warning to prioritize the systematic management of waste products all over the country.

Vice President U Myint Swe has urged departments concerned at the Sixth Coordination Meeting of National-level Environmental Conservation Committee on 28 September to draw and implement a guideline on systematic collection and disposal of wastes, including plastics, based on waste management strategy in the country, giving priority to major cities such as Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay.



When we think about drawing long and short term natural environment conservation programs and setting priority works, we should be reminded of the 3 R's: recycle, reuse and reduce policy.

When we think about drawing long and short term natural environment conservation programs and setting priority works, we should be reminded of the 3 R's: recycle, reuse and reduce policy.

Myanmar's sound traditional practices of using renewable resources instead of plastic, highlights the country's significant examples, such as clay pots to store drinking water, and the use of cane baskets and leaves for shopping. Cane chairs and bamboo chairs are good examples of Myanmar handicrafts.

Our ancestors saved everything. Every citizen applying these good traditional practices continuously can help reduce plastic pollution.

That philosophy of repurposing changed over subsequent decades as we embraced throwaway goods mostly made of plastic that often takes more time being manufactured than the time we spend using them.

It is time to go back to putting a priority on reusable goods. Rethinking grocery bags is an easy place to start.

Although there are limitations in human resources, technical requirements and funding needs in implementing the maintenance of the natural environment and climate change matters to support the country's economic policy, socio-economic development of the country and the people, it is believed that difficulties and challenges can be overcome step by step with the combined efforts of all who are involved in this.

The government cannot do it alone either. Reducing plastic waste needs a concerted effort led by the ministries concerned and the private sector. Furthermore, management of plastic wastes and waste management in general need to be done from the ground up, from the village and ward level. We need to get all the people involved through effective mobilization and public talks to educate and motivate the people. There is no room for flexibility when it comes to plastic.

# A good teacher and teaching

By Arakan Sein

*“Teaching should be regarded as a profession; it is a form of public service that requires teachers of expert knowledge and specialized skills, required and maintained through rigorous study; it also calls for a sense of personal and corporal responsibility for the education welfare of the pupils in their charge.”*

1966 UNESCO/ILO recommendation concerning the status of teachers

World Teachers' Day is held annually on October 5. More than 100 countries across the world celebrate World Teachers' Day, established in 1994, after the signing of 1966 UNESCO/ ILO recommendation concerning the status of teachers, which is a standard-setting instrument that addresses the status and situations of teachers around the world.

*“Although we are in charge of four UN bodies which deal with many aspects of education, we can definitely say that, without proper training and support, we could not step into a school classroom and teach effectively.”*

Excerpts from the joint statement sent to the World Teachers' Day on 5 October, 2003, by UNESCO, ILO, UNDP and UNICEF



PHOTO:PHOE KHWAR

On this auspicious day, the heads of four UN organizations asked parents and all citizens to take a moment to think of a difference that a good teacher, a memorable teacher, has made in their life. Where would they be now if that teacher hadn't crossed their path, if, demotivated that teacher had already left the profession?

World Teachers' Day aims to focus on appreciating, assessing and improving the educators of the world. Teachers play a very important role in shaping our lives.

They are the ones who guide us and also motivate us to follow the right path. It is teachers who always support their students to do better in life. They are like a candle which melts itself to lighten the life of others.

**Importance, history and significance of Teachers' Day: celebration in India**

Teachers' Day is celebrated every year in India on September 5 to mark the birth of Dr. Radhakrishnan, who wrote, “The philoso-

phy of Rabindranath Tagore placed the India philosophy on the world map.”

**Sri Lanka (July 6, 2016)**

Teachers play an important role in our life, making us become successful in career and business. A good teacher helps us become good human beings in society and good citizens of the country. Teachers know that students are the future of any nation. They impart the data and information in the brains of students to analyze.

**China**

September 10 is a holiday for World Teachers' Day. This holiday has existed in China as early as the Middle Ages. Teachers and coaches have always been honoured and respected in China.

**The Philippines**

The Department of Education honors teachers across the country with month-long commemoration starting from September 5 to October 5. Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones stated the following: We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dearest teachers who treat learners as their own children, who devote themselves to lifelong mission of combating illiteracy, and who work above and beyond the call of duty. All regional offices, school division offices, and public and private schools across the country are enjoined to follow synchronized activities including information dissemination, resource mobilization, posting of streamers and announcements, and conduct of specific activities and other undertakings that shall highlight and honor teachers' contributions to the society.

On the other hand, teachers take an oath of allegiance for the welfare of students: to respect and defend against anyone the

uniqueness of each child; to stand by for his or her physical and mental integrity; to take awareness of his or her emotions; to listen to him or her; to challenge and promote their gifts and potentials and to protect them where they are weak and to support them where it is needed; to prepare them to take over responsibility within and for the community; to let them learn the world; to give them a vision of a better world and the confidence that it might be achievable.

**World Teachers' Day in Myanmar**

To implement all education projects successfully and effectively, the Minister for Education has urged all educators to teach in freedom and empower teachers, according to the theme of World Teachers' Day 2017.

In passing, I would like to add something of our uniqueness that Myanmar society considers teachers as one of five gems (others being Buddha, dhamma, sangha and parents). In accordance with this noble tradition, I hope we will celebrate World Teachers' Day on 5 October along with other countries across the world.

References: Wikipedia, Google



## Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued on Wednesday 3 October 2018)

**SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS RECORDED AT 09:30 hrs M.S.T:** During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Nay Pyi Taw, Taninthayi Region and Kachin State, scattered in Sagaing, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions, Chin and Rakhine states, fairly widespread in Southern Shan, Kayin and Mon states and widespread in the remaining regions and states with regionally heavy falls in Mandalay Region and isolated heavy falls in Lower Sagaing Region. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Thabeikkyin (3.82)inches, Sagaing (2.27) inches, Kyaukse (2.16)inches, Loilin (1.69)inches, Mogok (1.34)inches, Hinthada and Loikaw (1.26) inches each, Patheingyi (1.25)inches, Tada U (1.14)inches, Pyapon (1.11)inches and Magway (1.07) inches.

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is weak over the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal. Weather is partly cloudy elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF 4 October 2018:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Chin State, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Magway, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi regions, Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon states and fairly widespread in Bago Region and widespread in the remaining regions and states with isolated heavy falls in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (2 - 5)feet off and along Myanmar Coasts.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of withdrawal of Southwest monsoon from Southern Myanmar areas.

**FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 October 2018:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 October 2018:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4 October 2018:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

# Reflections on the International Day of Democracy

By Arakan Sein

**A**S I studied several papers of many parties read on the International Day of Democracy, I came to realize that we all want to be on a path for a free democratic system. This article shares my knowledge with my compatriots from across the country.

**Definition of 'democracy'**

Democracy is a universal value based on the freely-expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of life. There is no single model of democracy and that democracy does not belong to any country or region. At the suggestion of Inter-Parliamentary Union, September 15 was chosen as the date of the Universal Declaration on Democracy. The Declaration affirms the principles

of democracy, the elements and exercise of democratic government and the international scope of democracy.

**Challenges to democracy**

1. Foundational challenge: different countries face different kinds of challenges.
2. Change of Expansion: most of the established democracies face change of expansion; it involves applying basic principle of democratic government across all religions, different social groups and various institutions.
3. Deepening of democracy: the third challenge of deepening of democracy is faced by every democracy in one form or another.

Theme for 2018 observance is “Democracy under strain: solutions for a changing world”. Coinciding with the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Day is also an

opportunity to highlight the value of freedom and respect of human rights as essential elements of democracy.

**Challenges to democracy in Myanmar**

On 4 January 1948, Myanmar achieved independence from Britain and became a democracy under the parliamentary system, with Sao Shwe Thaik as the first president and U Nu as the first prime minister. But in 1962, General Ne Win led a coup d'etat and established a socialist military government, expropriated private businesses and followed an economic policy of isolation.

After five decades of military rule, Myanmar held its first elections on November 8, 2015 with a landslide victory for the opposition party National League for Democracy (NLD). Most observers declared the elections as free and

fair, and many people in Myanmar and abroad hoped that the country can make a historic transition to democracy again. The NLD's victory is one of the most promising developments in Myanmar's recent history, but there is still a long road ahead before the nation's political future is secure.

In particular, several serious challenges lie ahead for the incumbent government:

1. The government has little experience running any bureaucracies, let alone a large, complex and ethnically diverse country.
2. The government will have to tackle deep-rooted corruption and high inflation.
3. For reaching a peace treaty with insurgent groups.

We have to admit that inflation is due to weak economy of our country, as it happens to be among the poorest in the ASEAN countries after suffering from decades

of stagnation, mismanagement and isolation.

Lack of an educated workforce skilled in modern technology hinders Myanmar's economy although recent reforms and developments carried out by the new government in collaboration with foreign countries and organizations aim to make this a thing of the past.

While the government has been working to establish peace, stability and a Democratic Federal Union, there are many challenges ahead.

Previous governments tried to resolve the Rakhine State issue for over 70 years. Since ARSA attacks on the police stations and military outposts in October, 2016, the Rakhine State situation has become unstable, with a significant number of people fleeing to Bangladesh. But coordinated patrol between Myanmar and Bangladesh

signals the situation will be settled amicably by both sides.

Myanmar has commemorated International Day for Democracy for eight consecutive years since 2011.

“We must continue our approach of resolving formidable challenges through dialogues and collaborations in strengthening the foundation of democracy. The pace of democracy might be slow, but it is the only way to overcome 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges,” Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat said.

In conclusion, the resounding victory of the opposition party NLD in 2015 general elections has raised hope for a successful political transition from a military rule to a free democratic system. This transition is widely believed to be the determining factor for the future of our country.

\*\*\*\*\*