

Senior General receives PRC Ministry of Foreign Affairs Special Envoy for Asian Affairs



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with Mr. Sun Guoxiang, Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: THE OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF**

SENIOR GENERAL Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, received Mr. Sun Guoxiang, Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (PRC), at the Bayintnaung guest house in Nay Pyi Taw

yesterday morning.

During the meeting the status of China's participation and assistance to the Government and Tatmadaw on their efforts toward achieving eternal peace in Myanmar; China's support towards the 21 December 2018 announcement by the

Tatmadaw and China's strong condemnation of AA insurgents' attack on border police posts as irresponsible and unacceptable acts were discussed according to news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. — MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)

Ethnic Affairs, Religious Affairs and Culture ministries act to conserve intangible cultures of ethnic peoples



Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin (Right) visits the booth of intangible culture of ethnic peoples at his ministry yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE Ministry of Ethnic Affairs and Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture jointly conducted a course in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday to promote the conservation of the intangible culture of Myanmar.

In his opening remarks, Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai Thet Lwin said the course would help the participants to understand the rules and procedures for conservation, as

well as submitting the country's intangible cultural heritage to become listed among the world's heritage list.

Conserving the intangible cultures of ethnic people is one of the four policy goals of his ministry, said Nai Thet Lwin.

Conservation of the intangible heritages of ethnic people would be helpful for promoting understanding among the ethnic people of the country, as well as

to strengthen the friendship among them, he added.

"Strengthening understanding and friendship among the ethnic peoples would lead to peace in our Union and would be helpful for building a democratic federal union inspired by the peoples," said Union Minister Nai Thet Lwin.

Myanmar ratified the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in early 2014.

Afterwards, U Ye Myat Aung, Deputy Director of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, discussed the lectures to be given during the three-day course, which ends on 24 January.

Following the opening ceremony, the Union minister, dignitaries and trainees visited booths displaying intangible cultures of ethnic peoples.—MNA

(Translated by AMS)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee holds meeting

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee held a meeting over Myanmar Gemstone Bill sent by the President with comments at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Building D, second floor meeting hall yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker, Joint Bill Committee Chairman U Tun Aung @ U Tun

Tun Hein, deputy chairmen, secretary, joint secretary and committee members from Joint Bill Committee, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission members, officials from Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Union Attorney General Office and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office. —MNA (Translated by Zaw Min)



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee discusses over Myanmar Gemstone Bill yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Energize Myanmar donates USD 10,000 to UEHRD

A donation ceremony was held yesterday morning at the UEHRD Yangon office on 11 Shweli Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon at 10:00 a.m.

At this ceremony Mr. Billy Harkin, Chairman of Energize Myanmar Co. Ltd. donated USD 10,000 for Information and communication activities of UEHRD - Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine. The donation was accepted by Professor Dr. Aung Tun Thet, Chief Coordinator of UEHRD after which he presented a certificate of appreciation signed by Vice Chairman of UEHRD Dr. Win Myat Aye who is Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

Also present at this ceremony were U Toe Oung, Advisor to the Chairperson of UEHRD, U Kyaw Myaing, Information and Communications Director of UEHRD, and U Aye Lwin, Head of the NRPC Supportive Unit. Dr. Moe Thuzar, Executive Director and Mr. Seamus Glynn, CFO from Energize Myanmar including staff from both sides attended the ceremony.

It is learnt that the donated money will be used to support and assist the activities of the CIM - Communications, Information and Media Task Force and to improve the functions and capabilities of the UEHRD website. (www.rakhine.unionenterprise.org).—Kyaw Myaing



Chief Coordinator of UEHRD Professor Dr. Aung Tun Thet, Chairman of Energize Myanmar Co. Ltd. Mr. Billy Harkin and attendees pose for the documentary photo at the UEHRD Yangon office. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

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Over 60,000 people visit Myitkyina Children's Literature Festival on last day

THE Children's Literature Festival at Myitkyina University drew over 60,000 visitors yesterday, the last day of the event.

Ethnic dance troupes from Lisu, Yawan, Tailai, Larchid, Tailong, Zaiwah, and Tailay performed at the fest, attracting large crowds of people.

Puppet shows and Kyaukse traditional elephant dance performance were also a draw for visitors yesterday. Children from private schools of Kachin State also performed traditional dances at the festival, which included competitions such as paper-folding, coloring, painting, toy assembly, and group games.

Writers Myit Nge Ah Kyaw Ah Maw and Ah Gyi Ko Ko (Katha) gave talks on literature, while schoolchildren Maung Naw Aung, Ma Theint Nandar Tun, Ma Phyo Thandar Kyaw, and Maung Zaw Myo Htike took part in the roundtable on 'Youth and Literature'.

Booths on general knowl-



Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina is crowded with students on the final day.

edge were crowded with people at the festival. Literature and traditional culture booths of the Lawwaw, Yawan, Larchid, Jinhaw, Lisu, Zaiwah, Tailay, Tailai, Taisar, and Thakhamti ethnic tribes were packed with visitors.

The festival had 51 bookshops set up by publishing and distribution businesses, with sales totalling more than K36 million over three days.

During the festival, over 6,000 t-shirts, over 6,000 writing

books, and over 9,000 storybooks and comics were distributed to children.

About 20 games were held during the festival, and over 30,000 schoolchildren, including 1,505 students who participated in the entertainment programme, took part in the games. A total of 146 prizes were awarded to children. The Children's Literature Festival attracted over 50,000 people on the first day and the number of visitors exceeded 60,000 on the second day. Final day, over 60,000 people visited the festival, bringing the total number of visitors to over 100,000 over three days. The festival was held with the aim of sharpening the intellect and ideas of children who will become future leaders of the country, improving their creativity and communication skills, promoting close association with literature, instilling the reading habit, and making children happy.—Aung Min Han / Photo: Htein Nan Naw

(Translated by Hay Mar)



Book stalls attract students at the Children's Literature Festival in Myitkyina on the final day.

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct a coordinated naval patrol

MYANMAR and Bangladesh conducted a coordinated naval patrol along the Naf River at 10:30 am to 11:10 am on 21 January, according to the information released by the Myanmar Police Force. The patrol of Myanmar was led by Acting Police Major Tin Hlaing from No.2 Border Police sub-division (Ywetnyotaung), Area 5, Maungtau Township, while the Bangladeshi side was led by Humayun Kobin

from No. 2 Domdomia Outpost of Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB). The Myanmar troops in the two water crafts met with the Bangladeshi troops on their two water crafts at the middle of the Naf River and patrolled together from nautical mile 8 to 11 along the Naf River. After the patrol, the two forces held a discussion on a watercraft.—GNLM (Translated by JT)

