

Union Minister discusses environmental issues in Singapore

UNION Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win attended the third session of the UN Environment's Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific, held in Singapore on 24 and 25 January, with 41 international counterparts.

The meeting reviewed the progress on the implementation of the UN Environment Assembly resolutions in Asia and the Pacific, laid down formulating policy objectives and funding principles for sustainable consumption and production through innovative means, identified priorities in the Asia Pacific, engaged with the private sector on environmental solutions, and discussed challenges and opportunities to strengthen the regional environmental agenda for delivering the sustainable development goals

and regional commitments to international agreements.

The meeting also dealt with climate change, natural disasters, adequate supplies of food, energy, and water resources, current issues and challenges.

On 24 January morning, Union Minister U Ohn Win met Japan's State Minister of the Environment and discussed waste management and environmental concerns; reduction of waste harmful to the natural environment and public health; waste-from-energy projects; policy, laws, rules, and directives on waste management; holding Japan-Myanmar environmental conservation week; and, running for capacity building programmes for government staff.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister held talks with the Singaporean Minister of Environment



Union Minister U Ohn Win holds talk with Singaporean Minister for Environment and Water Resources in Singapore. **PHOTO: MNA**

and Water Resources. Their talks focused on environmental challenges, appropriate measures for food sufficiency and alleviation of the impact of climate change,

regional cooperation to attain the sustainable development goals, capacity building programmes, and bilateral cooperation. The meeting passed and issued a

declaration on the points to be approved at the fourth session of the forum, which will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in March 2019.—MNA ■ (Translated by TMT)

SWRR Ministry provides cash for nursing homes, day nursery schools in Taungup, Thandwe



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and officials make intimate interaction with the children. **PHOTO: MNA**

RAKHINE State's Settlement and Socio-economic Development Working Committee Chairman and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye accompanied by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and Dep-

uty Minister U Aung Soe attended the ceremony to provide cash assistance at the Taungup Town Hall in Taungup yesterday.

During the ceremony, cash assistance of K 4.9 million was distributed to seven self-reliant nursery schools, K 4.866 million

for Shwe Myittar Home for the Aged, and K 1.26 million for three Mother Circles (day nursery schools) in planning stage. Toys and nutritional snacks were also distributed. A Hluttaw representative expressed thanks in return.

The union minister also visit-

ed the shrimp and crab breeding farm in Abay Village, and coordinated with the local residents near the village the matters of job opportunities, health and education.

The union minister then attended another ceremony to provide cash assistances at Dwar Yar Wati Hall in Thandwe Town and handed over K 5.961 million to Myittar Wati Home for the Aged, K 1.4 million to two self-reliant nursery schools, K 3.0781 million to five Mother Circles to be opened and toys and nutritional snacks for children.

The union minister then, together with volunteer organizations, town elders, children and officials have commemorative photos taken.

In his speech at the ceremony, the union minister said Union Government is prioritizing ethnic affairs and internal peace, forming Rakhine State Peace, Stabil-

ity and Development Committee and implementation committees for all nationals to enjoy equal rights.

The works on providing social pension for the aged above 85 and cash assistances for pregnant women and children aged under 2, are also being carried out, along with educative programs for nutrition, personal hygiene and family planning, he added. The children's physical and intellectual development are systematically being promoted in accord with the early child care knowledge as this is a project that is certain to bear benefits in the future nation.

The ministry's social protection and social care works will be much more efficient, with the cooperation of states and regions' authorities, volunteer organizations and people, the union minister said.—MNA ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

ICOE Chairperson arrives in Myanmar

AMBASSADOR Rosario Manalo, Chairperson of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE), Former Deputy Foreign Minister of the Philippines and former chair and current Representative of the Philippines to CEDAW, landed in Myanmar at 4:40 pm yesterday.

The ICOE Chairperson was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by U Zaw Phy-

Win, Deputy Director-General of the Strategic Studies and Training Department, U Zaw Tun Oo, Deputy Director-General of the Protocol Department, and other officials.

Similarly, Ambassador Mr. Kenzo Oshima, member of the commission, Former Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator

and Former Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, will arrive in Myanmar at 4 pm today.

The Independent Commission of Enquiry was established as part of Myanmar's national initiative to address reconciliation, peace, stability and development in Rakhine State.—MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Chairperson of the Independent Commission of Enquiry, Ambassador Rosario Manalo, is welcomed by officials at Yangon International Airport yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**