



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with Mr. Nguyen Quoc Dung Special Envoy of the Vietnamese Prime Minister. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor receives Special Envoy of Vietnamese Prime Minister

DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI, State Counsellor of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar received Mr. Nguyen Quoc Dung, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and Deputy Foreign Minister on 28-1-2019, at 3:30 pm at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they frankly discussed matters on enhancing of Myanmar-Viet Nam bilateral relations and cooperation, Myanmar Government's efforts for the repatriation of displaced persons from Rakhine State, humanitarian assistances provided by Government to all communities and the development of the Rakhine State.

After the meeting, Special Envoy of the Vietnamese Prime Minister donated US Dollars 100,000 from the Government of Viet Nam as humanitarian assistance in Rakhine State to the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine. State Counsellor conferred the Certificate of Acknowledgement to the Special Envoy.

Also present at the meeting were Dr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation, Senior Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Luan Thuy Duong and Representatives from Viet Nam.

The Special Envoy of the Vietnamese Prime Minister also paid a courtesy call to U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation at 12:45 pm on the same day and discussed matters pertaining to the further enhancement of cooperation between Myanmar and Viet Nam in regional cooperation mechanism including ASEAN and in international arena. —MNA ■

State Counsellor opens Invest Myanmar Summit 2019 with keynote speech summarizing Myanmar's economic, investment progress

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To assist investors in the process of identifying investment priorities in a more strategic, transparent and open manner, the Ministry of Planning and Finance and the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations have developed a Project Bank, a rolling databank consisting of major, transformative projects that have been screened, appraised and prioritised such that they are ready for implementation with the most appropriate source of financing, be it government budget, development assistance or even through private sector financing, by way of Private-Public-Partnership (PPP) mechanisms.

Our Project Bank is envisioned as an online one-stop-shop, where all information on projects designed to implement the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan can be easily accessed with a single click. In preparing these projects, the

Government is prioritising appropriately balanced risk allocation between the government and the private sector, as well as the use of blended financing mechanisms to ensure the success of PPPs that are included within the Project Bank.

I hope that it is now obvious that Myanmar is committed to creating not only a favourable, but also a predictable, facilitative and friendly, investment environment.

The World Bank acknowledged the positive change in Myanmar's investment climate brought about by these and many other reforms back in 2017 when we were granted the 2017 Star Reformer Award. But we cannot and will not rest on our laurels.

The Star Reformers Award was made on the basis of efforts made by the Government to usher in transformational investment policy and promotion reforms representing a significant shift in the development path of the country, improving

the ease of doing business, and maximizing the potential benefits of foreign direct investment and its spillover effects in the domestic economy.

We will continue to strive to improve the investment climate.

Challenges Ahead

But of course, many challenges remain. For example, our infrastructure gap continues to constrain Myanmar's development potential.

Our energy potential has also yet to be fulfilled. Myanmar remains one of the world's least electrified countries, notwithstanding our natural gas and renewable energy resources.

Myanmar's ports must also be upgraded and expanded to meet growing demand.

Despite these challenges, or one may even say because of them, business opportunities are abundant in proportion to the critical need for foreign direct investment. Thus, for investors, challenges can be

turned into opportunities.

Invest in our people

It is said that what is comfortable is rarely profitable. This is certainly the case when it comes to investment in frontier markets. As Southeast Asia's final frontier market – final and best we hope – we offer innumerable investment opportunities; investment opportunities are everywhere in Myanmar. Some are plain to see, others are waiting to be found.

I stand here to reaffirm our commitment to continue our reforms and to build an investment-friendly-environment.

We only ask our investors to ensure that their investments are responsible, by incorporating environmental, social and governance factors into their investment and business undertakings.

So please do come to Myanmar, soak in an atmosphere brimming with opportunities, and witness our newfound economic vibrancy with your own

eyes.

This has been a rather long speech and I hope it has covered all the salient points of our investment policies and the steps that we have been taking to implement them.

Before concluding, I would like to say that our greatest investment is in our people. Everywhere I go, I see our children bright and innovative, and they are the insurance of our future. And they are also the insurers for the future of investment in this country.

So, please invest in our people, in our potential.

I wish all of you the very, very best as we go forward in our business-to-business engagements and also in our people-to-people relationships. We value the deep, genuine and mutually beneficial friendships that can bring peoples and businesses together for the benefit of all.

I wish you and this Summit every success.

Thank you.

Senior General receives Special Envoy of Viet Nam Prime Minister

SENIOR GENERAL Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services received Special Envoy of Prime Minister of Socialist Republic of Viet Nam Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Nguyen Quoc Dung at Bayintnaung guest house in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting a requirement to increase cooperation on security matter in addition to co-operation in military training and military technology, Tatmadaw working toward internal peace and achieving stability and peace Maungtaw region in Rakhine State and support of Viet Nam on the announcement made by the Tatmadaw on 21 December were discussed.

Later in the afternoon Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the final of the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief Cup Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with Special Envoy Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr. Nguyen Quoc Dung in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: THE OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF**

Air) football competition held at Zeyya Thiri Tatmadaw sports ground in Nay Pyi Taw and presented prizes.

The final was between Central Command team and Com-

mander-in-Chief (Army) Head Office team where Commander-in-Chief (Army) head of office team wins three goal to nil.

At the prize presentation ceremony, Deputy Tatmadaw

Commander-in-Chief and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice Senior General Soe Win presented the first prize cup and cash awards to the Commander-in-Chief (Army) head of office

team.

This was followed by Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presenting the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief shield and cash prize to Commander-in-Chief (Navy) team that comes out overall first with 252 prizes consisting of 119 gold, 72 silver and 61 bronze medals in the sports competition of Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air).

The 2018-2019 Tatmadaw (Army, Navy and Air) sports competition includes, football, boxing, Sepak Takraw, track and field, para sports event, Chinlone, Volleyball, Judo, Swimming, Weightlifting, Body Building, Wushu, Karatedo, Myanmar Thaig and Taekwondo according to news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

Union Minister U Thein Swe receives UNSG's Special Envoy, party

UNION MINISTER for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe received United Nations Secretary General's (UNSG) Special Envoy on Myanmar Mrs. Christine Burgener and party at the ministry's guest hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting opening of reception centres in Taung Pyo Letwe and Nga Khu Ya to receive persons from Rakhine State who were displaced to Bangladesh due to terrorism, arrangements made for board and lodging for the returnees, construction of houses near the villages where the displaced persons lived before, forms for receiving returnees as agreed in the bilateral

agreement sent by Bangladesh and reply from Myanmar side, readiness for receiving returnees who were already assessed and the process of receiving them, arrangements made for returnees who were issued with national verification card (NV Card) to apply for assessment of citizenship and to hold an appropriate card, the present status of issuing NV cards, NV Card being the first step toward scrutinizing citizenship and follow up steps toward citizenship, explanations made to the locals on about NV Card and its benefit, May Yu FM Radio broadcast in Maungtaw and Buthidaung area in Bama, Rakhine and Bengali languages,

distribution of pamphlets in IDP camps, Myanmar-Bangladesh bilateral cooperation on receiving returnees and the delay in repatriation work despite having people who want to return, signing of MoU between the ministry, UNDP and UNHCR to succeed in the work, status of conducting three step field visit according to the MoU, assessment of according to 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law, status of humanitarian assistance and support of UN and international organisations on a dignified return of returnees were discussed frankly and views exchanged. — MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)



Union Minister U Thein Swe meets with United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy on Myanmar Mrs. Christine Burgener in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

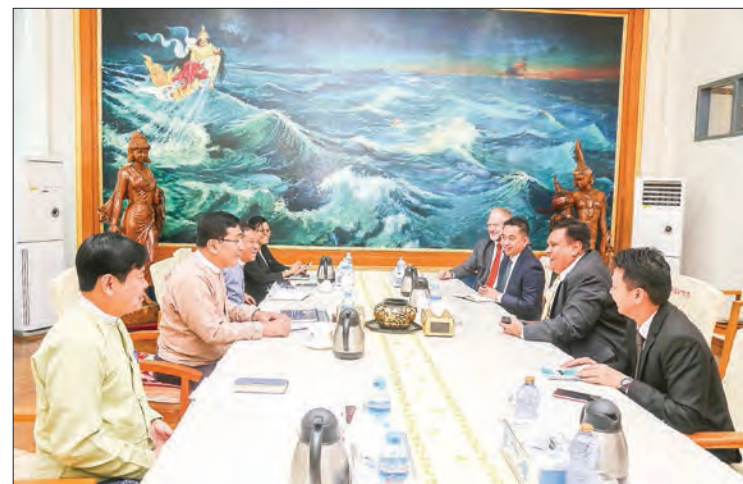
Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye receives Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar

UNION MINISTER for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye received a delegation led by Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr. Zahairi Baharim, at the Maykhal Hall of the Minister's office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they

discussed matters relating to travelling, social and economic sectors in cooperation with INGO in Malaysia, business cooperation, making investment in Myanmar in terms of Malaysian Companies and cooperation in Rakhine Investment Fair.—MNA

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye holds talks with Malaysian Ambassador Mr. Zahairi Baharim in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

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