

Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe attends CND in Vienna

UNION Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe and delegation attended the Sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and Ministerial Segment held at Vienna International Centre in Vienna, Austria, from 14 to 22 March.

At the conference, the Union Minister said that Myanmar was combating the narcotic drugs as a national task. The country saw greater effectiveness in the sector of controlling and curbing narcotic drugs thanks to the ardent efforts after the opening of a complaint acceptance session at the President's Office, he said, and added that the joint anti-drug campaign at the Golden Triangle Region where the borders of Myanmar, Laos and Thailand meet was gaining progress. Myanmar could significantly reduce opium cultivation when compared with

the previous years, he noted, inviting international cooperation in curbing the trafficking of chemicals and equipment used in manufacturing stimulant tables. He promised that Myanmar would join hands with the international community.

The Union Minister and delegation also attended preliminary meeting held on 13 March and the Ministerial Segment held on 14 and 15 March. The Union Minister held separate talks with Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Mr Yury Fedotov and Chairman of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) Mr Viroj Sumyai. Moreover, Ambassador U San Lwin of the Permanent Office of Myanmar is attending the follow-up meeting held between 18 and 22 March, MNA ■



Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe (left) attends the Sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at Vienna International Centre in Vienna, Austria. **PHOTO: MNA**

AA turns to attacking civilian targets



The civilian boat is attacked and set on fire by AA on Kaladan River on 16 March. **PHOTO: MNA**

ON 16 March 2019, at around 10 am, MV-Yadana Win 7, a civilian boat, was attacked and set on fire by AA. It was carrying construction materials of vital importance to the development work undergoing in Rakhine State, ie. the construction of Paletwa Bridge project across Kaladan River.

The vessel left Yangon on 10 March and was making its way to Paletwa, via Sittwe and Kyauktaw when it was attacked.

The boat was shot at with small arms, and after the crew were taken onshore, the vessel was set on fire.

The vessel was captained by U Aung Kyaw Thu and a crew of ten, all civilians.

The vessel was carrying 256.085 tons of steel frames, 24.96 tons of frame base, 0.35 tons of paint, 4.835 tons of high tension bolts, bridge construction materials worth about 1.072 billion kyats.

The vessel was unarmed and was not carrying any security personnel. The AA deliberately chose to target a civilian boat carrying construction materials meant for the development of Rakhine. There has been a widespread condemnation by the public of the terrorist act by AA in burning and destroying a civilian vessel transporting materials meant for the development of Rakhine State. —MNA ■

Yangon Book Street attracts book lovers

BOOKWORMS thronged the Yangon Book Street that was livening with literary talks, book launching and let's solve the literary puzzle programs yesterday.

The seventh week of the Yangon Book Street hosted the introduction of the book "Ayeyawady" compiled by Thakin Mya Than and published by Pyone Sarpay at 11 am; the talks on "the Fear Factor" by writer Chit Oo Nyo at 2 pm and "Live begins at 60" by writer Dr Myint Than (Nyaunglaybin) at 3 pm; and let's solve the literary puzzle presented by model Moe Myint Thazin, in which popular books published by Thiha Yadana printing house were presented to winners.

Prominent writers, Shwegu May Hnin, Maung Thway Thit, U Thura Zaw shared literary

knowledge with other literati and booklovers.

"Novelist Chit Oo Nyo even praised his meeting with the people as a historic moment of the literature. The novelist explained us about the people of a certain place where they in the habit of obeying orders only under authoritative power or intimidation. A lot of people attended the literary talks. The number of attendees increased after two in the afternoon," said Ko Thiha of Mingalataung Nyunt Township, Yangon.

The Ministry of Information, with the assistance of Yangon Region Government and Yangon City Development Committee, has been organizing the Yangon Book Street every weekend in the open season since 2017.—Thant Sin Win ■ (Translated by TMT)



Booklovers visit Yangon Book Street on Thein Pyu Street. **PHOTO: THANT SIN WIN**