

Coord meeting on promoting healthier lifestyles in youths held at Health & Sports Ministry

A coordination meeting on separating students from cigarettes, alcohol and drugs and instilling them with life skills through a national movement was held at the Ministry of Health and Sports yesterday.

The Union Education Minister, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, first delivered a speech. He said the State Counsellor has guided the ministries of education and health and sports to collaborate on making schools and universities completely free of drugs, cigarettes, and alcohol, instilling healthy lifestyle and habits in students, reducing injuries from traffic and vehicle accidents, to incorporate reproductive health education in the curriculum, and to do away with habits of playing too much electronic games.

The role of Teachers' Union and Students' Union are important in ensuring success, said Dr. Myo Thein Gyi. He added that the Ministry of Education includes general knowledge on health in



Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe delivers the speech at the coordination meeting at the Ministry of Health and Sports yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

its lifelong skills lessons.

Next, Union Health and Sports Minister Dr. Myint Htwe delivered a speech. He said the 9.7 million school-age youths in Myanmar are the future of the country. He said it is important to impart them with general knowl-

edge on health, teach them how to live healthily, and instil a habit for physical activities and sports. Doing so will make not only them healthier, but will create a positive ripple effect on people in their immediate surroundings, said Dr. Myint Htwe. He said the role of

school health divisions is crucial for the tasks guided by the State Counsellor to succeed. He said they will monitor and evaluate school health groups at the township, state and regional levels and fill in where support is necessary. He said the sub department for

health education is important as well.

Dr. Myint Htwe said doing sports and physical activities will reduce and eradicate smoking and consumption of alcohol and drugs, which is why they are increasing tasks related to them. He said carrying out these numerous tasks require cooperation from the Ministry of Home Affairs, General Administration Department, city development committees, and other relevant organizations as well.

The MoE leads implementation on the set tasks and the MoHS provides additional support as needed, said Dr. Myint Htwe. He added that monitoring and evaluation on these tasks will be carried out simultaneously.

After the speeches, officials from both ministries in attendance begin discussions on related topics. Afterwards, Dr. Myint Htwe concluded the meeting with a closing speech. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

AA attacks regional military headquarters near MraukU

THE regional military headquarters near MraukU Township in Rakhine State were attacked on the night of 17 April by a group of AA based in Baungdote Village, according to a military release.

The AA group reportedly launched an attack on the southern part of the regional military HQ in Baungdote village, near MraukU Township, from the Baungdote Village School around 10:40 p.m. on 17 April. AA group bearing small and heavy arms attacked the southeast part of the HQ around 11:32 p.m. and they struck Security Post 2 around 11:40 p.m. The attack by the AA stationed in Baungdote village forced the military to retaliate, according to a military release. The fighting stopped around 11:45 p.m.

Around 10:40 p.m., the AA also opened fire on the MraukU town's regional military HQ from the Yangon-Sittway Union Road, forcing the HQ to return fire.

Yesterday afternoon, officials from the MraukU Township administration office, the district police force, and departmental officials went to the Bhuddha Nattaung monastery in Baungdote Village. In the presence of the monastery's head monk Bhaddanta Razeinna, they met

with village elders and asked them not to allow AA members into the village as they had launched an attack on the military headquarters from inside the village.

The officials told locals they would be in danger if armed conflicts take place, and asked them not to support terrorism, and inform the security forces if members of



Officials meet village elders at the monastery in Baungdote village. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF DEFENCE SERVICES**



The location where AA group stationed themselves in the village during the attack. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF DEFENCE SERVICES**



Security personnel inspect the location AA group were positioned during the attack. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF DEFENCE SERVICES**

the AA come near the village. The officials also asked the villagers to cooperate in efforts to maintain stability and peace in towns, wards, and villages.

Members of the AA are taking cover in towns, wards, and villages in order to approach and attack military HQs so that, if the military engages with them, the AA can create a misunderstanding between the people and the Tatmadaw, according to news released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Min)

