

Rule of law is necessary to overcome challenges in Rakhine

ALTHOUGH progress has been made on resolving the Rakhine issue, we are still facing some challenges with respect to security, human rights, and the socio-economic development of the local people. We have focused all our energy into the implementation of Kofi Annan's advisory report to bring about development in Rakhine State and witnessed the fruits of our efforts. But, we are not out of the woods yet. That means we still need to step up efforts for implementing the remaining works. We are confident that we will overcome the challenges for the safe and voluntary repatriation of verified displaced persons, and establishing the rule of law and security in Rakhine, through bilateral cooperation with Bangladesh.

To overcome the challenges in Rakhine State, upholding the rule of law is necessary.

fundamental necessity for dealing with the current security crisis, repatriating displaced communities to their homes, and preventing any future violence.

We recognize the grave challenges we have to face and overcome in Rakhine State. From the very beginning of its term in office, our Union Government has identified the imperative need for rule of law and sustainable development in Rakhine as a national priority.

With a view to ensure long-term peace and harmony for all those living in the State, the Union government has been doing its utmost to meet the security and humanitarian needs of the people, in line with the recommendations of the commission led by the late Dr. Kofi Annan.

Much of Rakhine's economic potential still remains untapped, while other parts of Myanmar have benefited to a large extent from the opening up of the country's economy.

The Union Government is committed to finding a lasting solution for peace and prosperity in Rakhine. With that aim, the government is continuing to uphold the recommendations and will implement those that best serve the interest of our nation.

The international community is urged to understand the situation we are in, and support us in this uphill battle.

Cooperation will resolve the issues between the neighbours as we are ready to welcome back verified displaced persons through the agreed bilateral mechanism. We cannot resolve such a long-standing issue overnight. Rakhine's problems are not of recent origin, and go back a couple of centuries. Like, many other parts of Myanmar, the Rakhine State has suffered from poverty and under-development for decades.

To restore normalcy and improve the situation in Rakhine, we must promote the socio-economic development of the local people.

To overcome the challenges in Rakhine State, upholding the rule of law is necessary. Rule of law is a

Educative talks should be the quest to conserve the Forests

By Maung Khinemar
(Ahtetminhla)

PRESENT-DAY world is severely threatened with wars and natural disasters. Deforestation is one the basic factors for creating the occurrence of a natural disaster.

Important roles of forests
People together with animals have been inhabited in the natural environment of water, land and forests in this world mutually dependent for millions of years. Among all factors, trees and forests play an important role for the survival of men. United Nations Forum on Forests describes trees and forests as beneficial:

- 1) World rain forest releases over 40% of oxygen
- 2) Dependence of 89% terrestrial biodiversity on trees and forests
- 3) Supply of medicinal plants to men
- 4) Availability of 25% latex drugs from tropical forests
- 5) Daily livelihood of mankind depends on forests
- 6) Pollination in cultivation of tropical forests.

Benefits of trees and forests
Forests are beneficial:

- 1) Creating a temperate climate (Trees absorb carbon dioxide from atmosphere and a tree absorbs 0.611 kilogram to



big green walls to prevent natural disasters such as storms Deforestation

As forests are very important for human societies, humanity takes shelters from forests but timberlands are destroyed by people. In order to meet human immediate needs, trees are being felled excessively. Forests, bigger than the areas of Australia are lost yearly from 2014 to 2016. The

per minute.

In Myanmar, 0.15% rate of deforestation from 1990-2010, 1.73% rate from 2010-2015, 546 000 hectares are being deforested yearly, putting Myanmar at third rank in the world after Brazil and Indonesia. The reason why the deforestation rate has increased shockingly is due to :

- 1) dense population, 2) urbanization, 3) felling of trees for agriculture, 4) forest fires, 5) extensive uses of wood and forest products, 6) Extension of pastures and unsystematic uses of land 7) unsystematic extraction of metal ,petroleum and gases.

In the way, chopping of firewood is being used as fuel, over 70% of our population live in rural areas; they used firewood and charcoal as main fuel for daily cooking purposes. Daily requirements of firewood is 16.53 cubic tons for the populace of rural and urban areas; it accounts for 76.41% of all energy consumed. In addition, Myanmar is included in the World's biggest production of firewood, fuel and wood charcoal which account for about US\$ 30.5 million; Exports of total 330000 charcoal tons to China, according to UN Contrade and database.

With a population of 53.9 million in 2015 with a possible

increase to 60.2 million in 2030, the requirements of firewood and charcoal will also increase. The use of firewood and charcoal will definitely increase in densely populated areas of Ayeyawaddy, Mandalay, Bago, and Sagaing Regions, according to the report of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD).

In consequence of deforestation

1.The consequences cause high temperature, floods, landslides, ecological damages in biodiversity, abnormal weather, spread of diseases, insects and other microbes to men.

2.Sustainable management of forests must be sought by collecting funds from different sources; maintenance and rehabilitation of trees in the damaged forests in the developing countries must be encouraged by giving enough incentives.

In the same way, New York Declaration on Forests dated 23 September, 2014 describes to reduce 2 degree centigrade worldwide, reduce deforestation by 50% in 2020 and no more deforestation in 2030.

3.In the worldwide programs, the objectives of rehabilitation and maintenance of forests should be included .

4. oil-palms, horse grams,

ing 2017-8 to 2027-8 financial years must be implemented. Programs of deforestation and lower standards of forests to carbon reduction are being carried out at a country level.

6) The up-to-date forest laws dated 20 September, 2018 should be prescribed by Pyidaundsu Hluttaw as law no.29

7) REED roadmap was drawn in 2013 and started to implement it in 2015.

Carbon Market in the World

Prior preparations are being carried out by Myanmar to enter World Carbon Market. The Market means to change the abnormal climate and to reduce deforestation in the developing countries with scant forests should be helped by the United Nations and World Bank to establish the Green Climate Funds. From these organizations, aids will be given to the countries which maintain trees and forests.

Brazil plays an important role in the Carbon Market. For Myanmar, for its deforestation and storage of Carbon from the forests, stands at 34th position. By 2030, Myanmar is expected

In Myanmar, timber productions stopped in Bago Yoma during 2016-17 for ten years. Rehabilitation plans of forests in the Regions and States during 2017-8 to 2027-8 financial years must be implemented.

tioned ones. Private businessmen should be helped to reduce deforestation and wipe it out completely.

5.In 2020 ,to reduce deforestation due to other economic businesses.

6. As a basic need for agriculture and charcoal requirement creates deforestation and other ways and means must be sought to reduce deforestation and poverty.

In Myanmar, timber productions stopped in Bago Yoma during 2016-17 for ten years. Rehabilitation plans of forests in the Regions and States dur-

to store up to 90km million.(A tree could absorb an average km of 15 per year) Our country including media focuses on importance and a high price of a tree and maintenance of forests; it needs to be educated from all sides and in different ways.

In conclusion, in a period during which many hectares of forests are being destroyed per second, educative talks on reforestation are strongly urged starting from the moment now.

Translated by Arakan Sein

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order No. 16/2019
4th Waxing of Kason, 1381 ME
(7 May, 2019)

Amnesty Order

As a gesture of marking the Myanmar New Year, to ensure the peace of mind of the people, taking into consideration the humanitarian concerns, to make peace making efforts of the Union Government smooth and success, and to support the national reconciliation, 6,520 prisoners serving jail terms in various correctional facilities across the country have been given unconditional amnesty today under the Sub-section (1), Section 401 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Sd/
Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order 17/2019
4th Waxing of Kason, 1381 ME
7 May, 2019

Appointment of State Minister

In accordance with the provisions stated in article 262 (f) and article 264 (c) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Section 19 (c) and 82 (c) of the Union Government Law, and Section 8 (g), 56 (a) of the Region or State Government Law, U Hla Tun has been appointed as the Minister for Electricity, Energy and Industry of the Mon State Government.

Sd/
Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Head of Service Organization appointed

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Min Aye Ko, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Deputy Director-General), Office of the Union Minister under the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs as Director-General of the same office on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

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marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the Global New
Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at
No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan
Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light
of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No.
00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.gnlmdaily@gmail.com
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Workshop on Review of Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State concludes

THE second day of Workshop on Review of the Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State concluded in Yangon yesterday, with open discussions on achievements and challenges in resolving Rakhine issue.

During the two-day workshop, those taking part in implementing the recommendations of the Annan Commission openly discussed and reviewed the implementations and sought better ways for future tasks, said Dr. Win Myat Aye, Chairman of the Committee for Implementing the Recommendations on Rakhine State and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

The workshop was held as part of efforts for peace and stability and for speeding up socio-economic development in the state; five sectors were discussed.

It was attended by U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor; Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint, Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi,



Union Minister U Thaung Tun (Centre) acts as the chairman of the workshop while Dr. Kyaw Yin Hlaing as the speaker and Dr. San San Aye as the discussant. **PHOTO: MNA**

Foreign Economic Relations U Thaung Tun, Chairman of the Committee for Implementation of Recommendations on Rakhine State and Union Minister

eral, representatives of Hluttaw, members of the Maungtaung Investigation Commission, members of the Advisory Commission for Rakhine State, members of the

discussion while Dr. Kyaw Yin Hlaing, Director of CDNH acted as the speaker and Dr. San San Aye, Director-General of the Social Welfare Department as the discussant.

Afterwards, in the health education sector, Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe acted as the chairman of the discussion while Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Sports Dr. Thet Khaing Win acted as the speakers and Dr. Tha Hla Shwe from the Myanmar Red Cross Society as the discussant.

The workshop ended in the afternoon with concluding remarks by Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye.

In his remarks, Dr. Win Myat Aye expressed thanks to those who openly discussed at the workshop and the attendees.

The suggestions produced by the workshop would be helpful for the future work for implementation of the recommendations, said Dr. Win Myat Aye.

The suggestions would be put on record and the future plans and progress would distributed to ministries concerned.

He also called on those from committees concerned working on implementation of the recommendations of the Annan Commission to make more efforts for overcoming challenges of the longstanding deep rooted issue.

A press conference was held following the workshop. —MNA
(Translated by TTN)



Union Ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, Dr. Pe Myint, Dr. Myint Htwe, Dr. Win Myat Aye and Dr. Myo Thein Gyi attend the second day of Workshop on Review of the Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Ministers for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Investment and

for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, deputy ministers, directors-gen-

committee on implementing the recommendations on Rakhine State and members of the advisory board, representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), diplomats and representatives of the UN agencies and international organizations.

In the social cohesion sector, Union Minister U Thaung Tun acted as the chairperson of the

The suggestions produced by the workshop would be helpful for the future work for implementation of the recommendations, said
Dr. Win Myat Aye.

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Committee on implementing recommendations on Rakhine State clarifies achievements, challenges at press conference



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye (2nd from Right), Hon. Lord Darzi of Denham (2nd from Left), Mr. Arnel Capili (Left) and Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Information U Myo Myint Maung are seen at the press conference. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

A PRESS conference was held following the Workshop on Review of the Implementations on Rakhine State in Yangon yesterday.

It was attended by Union Minister of the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, departmental officials, members of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State and Advisory Board, representatives of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management-AHA Centre, diplomats and representatives from the UN agencies and local and foreign media.

The press conference began with a statement by Dr. Win Myat Aye, Chairman of the Committee for Implementing the Recommendations on Rakhine State and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

"The implementation of the recommendations is stagnant because of the additional conflict caused by AA; to address these insecurity issues, heightened

security is needed to prevent both ARSA and AA" said Dr. Win Myat Aye.

"That the best way forward is to implement the bilateral agreement between Myanmar and Bangladesh as has been done previously successfully," said Dr. Win Myat Aye.

"Government should step up its communications effort to disseminate information widely including to the international community. In this regard, a mechanism is needed to be developed to tackle disinformation," he added.

"There are challenges to UEHRD i.e sustainability, be it financial or political sustainability beyond 2020. But we are trying to overcome all the difficulties for sustainability. UEHRD cannot be for short term. It must be for long term. We need the assistance from other INGOs. The development of Rakhine state must be a national task," said Dr. Win Myat Aye.

Hon. Lord Darzi of Denham, member of the Advisory

include clear commitment from the leadership, attention paid for further economic development from Rakhine and significant effort to expand access to both health care and education of both communities," said Hon. Lord Darzi of Denham, member of the Advisory Board of the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State.

"We discussed through the two days how the government can use its initial progress in addressing those recommendations to build momentum toward meeting of the recommendations. Continued development and expanded access to the education come from the basics. Renewed freedom of movement, and expanded access to livelihood and then pave

mar and more importantly between international community and Myanmar towards securing a lasting peace in Rakhine and the safe return of the refugee whose desperate plight continues. This is essential to build on today's progress so that all of its people can live together with dignity and the hope of a better tomorrow," said Lord Darzi of Denham.

Mr. Arnel Capili, Deputy Executive Director of the AHA Centre

Afterwards, Mr. Arnel Capili, Deputy Executive Director of the AHA Centre, said ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management-AHA Centre gathered all the interviews focused group discussion and would sub-



Union Ministers, representatives of UN and diplomats are seen at the press conference. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Board of the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State

"The challenges in Rakhine had been intensified since the initial publication of the report. It is my view that some important steps had been taken. These

the way to improve cohesion and reconciliation. Initial progress and bringing community back together and ensuring government commitment to facilitate the change will help forge the trust," he added.

"We really need to turn this (dialogue) on both within Myan-

mit the completed report to the Union Minister for Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement. "What we have seen there is that the government of Myanmar has done a lot of things. We have seen everything is in place.

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Local and foreign journalists raise questions on implementation of recommendations on Rakhine State at the press conference. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

Committee on implementing recommendations on Rakhine State clarifies achievements, ...

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But there are still a lot of rooms for improvement. ASEAN as a regional body is ready to stand and support our friend and family member. And we will stand ready to be able to provide more assistance to the government of Myanmar," said

Mr. Arnel Capili.

Afterwards, Dr. Win Myat Aye, Rt. Hon. Lord Darzi of Denham and Mr. Arnel Capili replied the questions raised by the journalists.

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye answered the question on if the scheme to bring back the displaced persons from

the neighbouring country was delayed, if the government had a plan to hold a forum inviting representatives from local Islamic communities, from Rakhine communities and from Islamic religious organizations in foreign countries.

He also replied to the question about one year

extension for return of displaced people.

Rt. Hon. Lord Darzi of Denham also answered questions raised by journalists.

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye answered the question on human rights situation in Rakhine State.—Win Sandi

(Translated by GNLN)

Magway Tsp to cultivate sesame over 13,500 acres using GAP



Sesame plantation in Magway.
PHOTO: ZEYATU (MAGWAY)

SESAME will be cultivated on more than 13,500 acres of land in Magway Township, using Good Agriculture Practices, in the coming season, according to Magway Township's Agriculture Department.

Foreign demand for

black sesame grown under GAP system has increased greatly, and cultivators growing sesame using GAP have earned more profits than ordinary sesame growers. Last year, sesame was cultivated on 5,000 acres

of land, but now growers in Magway plan to bring another 8,500 acres of land under sesame cultivation.

"Sesame cultivated under the GAP system ensures food safety of customers and guarantees high quality in the market. So, the numbers of growers cultivating sesame under the GAP system is increasing. The Magway Region Government is also planning to expand sesame acreage with the use of GAP system in collaboration with other partnering associations," said U Khine Min, the head of Magway Township's Agriculture Department.

Growers are currently learning about Good

Agriculture Practices, such as using organic pesticides, avoiding chemical pesticides, recording data from cultivation to harvest stage, according to one farmer.

The Agriculture Department plans to cultivate over 180,000 acres of sesame and 60,000-80,000 acres of peanut in the coming rainy season in Magway Township.

Earlier only 48 villages in Magway Township cultivated black sesame under the GAP system, but now the number of villages has crossed 50, according to the township's Agriculture Department.—Zeyatu (Magway)

(Translated by La Wonn)

Illegal drugs, two hand grenades confiscated in Indawgyi region

Authorities seized illegal drugs and two hand grenades on 5 May in Ilaytu Village, Indawgyi region, Mohnyin Township, Kachin State according to the report. During anti-narcotic surprise check operation, a combined team comprising members of the police and anti-narcotic drug squad from Mohnyin Township inspected the suspect, Myint Aye (aka) Zaw Min Tun's house.

They discovered and confiscated the 8.5 and 4 inches of hand grenades, 50 stimulant tablets, raw opium weighing 25g, a sword and a knife with the suspect. Action is being taken against the suspect, Myint Aye, 40 from Ilaytu Village under the section 19 (A) and 22 (B) by the Lone-tone Town Police Force.—Ni Toe

(Translated by La Wonn)

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Dated 8th May 2019

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