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We stand with the State Counsellor

Myanmar community in UK holds peaceful demonstration outside Foreign Office

MEMBERS of the Myanmar community in London held a peaceful demonstration outside the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the Westminster section of capital of the United Kingdom in support of the Myanmar government.

The protesters urged the British government to stand up for the Myanmar government in its efforts to deal with the Rakhine issue. The demonstration was in apparent response to comments made Thursday by the Foreign Secretary the Rt. Honourable Boris Johnson, who called on the State Counsellor to condemn the attacks on members of Rakhine's Muslim community.

The protesters said they were also demonstrating against the proliferation of false news on the situation in Rakhine State, where dozens of border police outposts were attacked on 25 August. The attacks and the subsequent efforts by the Tatmadaw to restore order prompted thousands of Muslims to flee to the Bangladesh border and thousands of ethnic people to take shelter in southern Rakhine State.

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Members of the Myanmar community in the United Kingdom hold signs of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at a demonstration outside the Foreign Office in London urging the British government to support the State Counsellor in dealing with the issues in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: KHINE MORRIS**

Some basic education schools in Maungtaw to reopen

By Min Htat Aung and Tin Maung Lwin

Some of the basic education schools in Maungtaw, northern Rakhine State that were closed due to terrorist attacks by ARSA extremists on 25 August will reopen by the third week of September, according to Maungtaw Township Head of Education

Office. Under the guidance of Rakhine State government, the state education department informed teachers that they could return to their assigned schools by 17 September. There are some who have already reported for duty, said U Khin Aung, Maungtaw Township Head of Education Office.

"Currently, eight basic edu-

cation schools in Maungtaw will be reopened where the security is good. Afterwards, schools in ethnic national villages will be reopened. There are more than 1,300 teachers teaching in Maungtaw Township. Some were already back (in schools) while some were staying in towns and villages in the region and thus schools can be reopened. We

don't know how many students will come. Once there are students, teaching will start," said U Khin Aung.

Fearing terrorists attacks, ethnic nationals in Maungtaw Township and some villages had left for relief camps in Sittway, Buthidaung and Yathedaung.

The list of students in these camps were being collected, add-

ed U Khin Aung.

Of the temporary areas setup in Maungtaw town for displaced persons, the Myoma Monastery area had 375 students attending fifth to tenth standards in Nant-thataung free education monastic school, Taungpyoletwe and they were being given education by teachers who came together with volunteers, it is learnt. ■

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye separately receives ambassadors from Japan and India

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye separately received the Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Tateshi Higuchi on 14 September and the Ambassador of India to Myanmar Mr. Vikram Misri yesterday.

In the meeting, the Ambassador of Japan said Japan had provided poverty reduction and development aid for Rakhine State and humanitarian assistances directly to Myanmar or via international organisations. Japan strongly condemns the terrorist acts in Maungdaw region on 25 August causing loss of lives and injuries to people. Most important is to regain complete security and they recognize the departmental organisations' efforts toward this. It is expected that everything will be conducted according with the law. Japan would like to provide reconstruction and redevelopment assistances and assist in implementing the recommendations of Rakhine State Advisory Com-

mission said the ambassador.

The Union Minister said after the incumbent government took office a central committee led by the State Counsellor and four other related work committees were formed to implement stability and development of Rakhine State while the Union Minister himself took the duty of Chariman of the work committee for resettlement and socio economic development in the region. To resolve the long running Rakhine State affair, the Rakhine State Advisory Commission was formed and after the terrorist attack on 9 October 2016, the Maungdaw Region Investigation Commission was formed. On the morning of 25 August, the day after Rakhine State Advisory Commission submitted its final report, 30 police posts came under terrorist attack. The majority of those affected by the attacks were ethnic nationals who were the minority (in the region). Clearance operations conducted were according to international

norms and practices. It is important to fence the border. The minority ethnic nationals dare not live on in their towns and villages and were temporarily sheltering in Sittway and other big towns. Before the incidents of 25 August, ethnic Mro nationals were killed on 3 August. Due to this event, the government delivered two-months ration to those villages. After the attack of 25 August, road and river transports were inconvenient and the Union Minister himself went to the terrorism affected villages by a civilian helicopter to meet with the villagers and start providing necessary assistance. Arrangements were made with Red Cross Movement to provide humanitarian assistance to all affected civilians. A committee was formed to implement the advice related to Rakhine state and ground situation will be carefully assessed and practically effective measures will be carried and first. What is right will be done and the implemen-

tation will be transparent, said the Union Minister.

In the meeting with the ambassador of India, the ambassador said India is a close friend of Myanmar and was the first nation to condemn the terrorist attacks in Maungdaw region as soon as it occurs. With regards to this event, (India) stands together with Myanmar government and will continue to do so. India understands that there are three subjects in the Maungdaw event. First is security. (India) fully understands that Myanmar had the right to defend itself in security matter. Second is humanitarian assistance. In this, (India) would like to assist what Myanmar government is doing. He would like to know in what way the assistance should be directed. Third is long term development. For long term development of Rakhine State, (India) would like to cooperate by signing a bilateral memorandum of understanding.

There were cooperation in the past for Rakhine State in-

frastructure development and development of Chin State and Sagaing Region said the ambassador.

Next, on behalf of the Myanmar government the Union Minister thanks (India) for standing as a good friend with Myanmar on the Maungdaw events during the India Prime Minister's goodwill visit. With regards to humanitarian assistance Myanmar government is providing this without discrimination. International assistance were also accepted and received and will cooperate with India too. Government had formed a committee to implement suggestions on Rakhine State and had started the implementation works. Based on the ground situation, suggestions will be implemented accordingly for long term benefit. Security, humanitarian assistance and long term development will be conducted in cooperation with related ministries said the Union Minister.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Viet Nam National Day and ceremony commemorating Viet Nam-Myanmar bilateral cooperation held



Ambassador of Viet Nam to Myanmar Dr. Luan Thuy Duong greets Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi at the ceremony of Viet Nam National Day and to commemorate Viet Nam-Myanmar bilateral cooperation. **PHOTO: MNA**

A ceremony to mark the 72nd Anniversary of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and to commemorate Viet Nam – Myanmar bilateral cooperation was held at Melia Hotel, Yangon yesterday evening which was opened with the national anthem of Myanmar and Viet Nam.

H.E. Dr. Luan Thuy Duong, Ambassador of Viet Nam to Myanmar and Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi delivered opening speeches. Myanmar-Viet Nam traditional

dance troupes then performed traditional dances.

Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi and wife Daw San San Yu, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint and wife Daw Khaing Nwe Oo, Lt-Gen Myo Zaw Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Army), Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Thet Pone, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin and invited guests attended the event.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Senior General meets Tatmadaw officers attending Law Diploma Officer Course

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met with Tatmadaw officers attending Law Diploma Officer Course in Yangyiaung Hall, Tatmadaw Command School, Pyin Oo Lwin cantonment yesterday morning.

In his speech to the course attendees, the Senior General said there is drawing up a law, enacting a law and doing according to the law. In doing according to the law, Tatmadaw personnel need to do according to the military conduct, regulation and law and follow

the Geneva Convention. In the constitution, there is a check and balance between administrative, legislative and judicial sectors.

All need to know and understand the reason for enacting the law, following the law and doing according to the law and ensure your subordinate also understand and follow the law. With regards to the events in Rakhine region, from 25 August, there were 93 engagements with ARSA extremist terrorists. This is a prearranged terrorist act and was conducted with an

aim to establish a secure area for them in Buthidaung-Maungdaw region. Participation of all local ethnic nationals in the redevelopment of Rakhine region is required. We all need to assist in this as well as providing security for the locals said the Senior General.

The course was attended by 21 colonel and major general level Tatmadaw officers. It is a six month course and after succeeded completion of the course, the Diploma in Law will be conferred.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Decision (Order) on 2017 by-election electoral complaint case number 2017/5

UNION Election Commission (UEC) accepted a 2017 by-election electoral complaint case number 2017/5 filed by State Hluttaw Representative Candidate U San Shwe (Union Solidarity and Development Party) who contested in 2017 by-election Shan State Nyaungshwe Township

Constituency 1 complained against the elected State Hluttaw Representative U Khin Maung Win (National League for Democracy) in accordance with State Hluttaw Election Law Section 67, 68.

UEC Tribunal 1 made up of UEC member U Soe Rae as Chairman with U Khin

Maung Than and U Than Win as members heard the case and gave a decision (order) confirming the election of U Khin Maung Win as State Hluttaw Representative of Shan State Nyaungshwe Township Constituency 1 and rejected the complaint of U San Shwe.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Illegal immigrant arrested in Maungtaw

SECURITY forces arrested a illegal immigrant in Maungtaw yesterday and handed over him to a local police for further interrogation.

The suspect is identified as Nur Hussein, son of Abdu Dawdein of Sharpawtat Village, Chittagong, Bangladesh, in a farm near a destroyed Duchi-atan (middle) village.

Information committee stated that action will be taken against him in accordance with the law. —Myanmar News Agency ■

H.E. Daw Ei Ei Khin Aye Presents Credentials to President of Indonesia

Daw Ei Ei Khin Aye, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Indonesia, presented her Credentials to His Excellency Mr. Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia on 12 September 2017, in Jakarta.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Secure resettlement and development for local nationals discussed

HLUTTAW representatives, businesspersons, representatives from political parties and experts held talks in Sittway yesterday over secure resettlement and development of displaced people in Maungtaw.

In the meeting, matters relating to providing mental and physical security of displaced local ethnic nationals from Maungtaw, Buthidaung and Yathedaung Townships and support for socio development and sovereignty of the land were discussed. — Tin Tun (IPRD) ■

Fire destroys about 30 houses in Nyaungchaung Village, Maungtaw

A fire yesterday evening in Nyaungchaung Village, Maungtaw Township destroys about 30 houses, according to local authorities.

The fire was put under control in more than one and half hour by firemen and volunteers.

“As soon as we heard of the fire, we went immediately with relevant security forces and fire brigade personnel. Transport connection with Nyaungchaung Village was not good and the fire engine

could not enter the village. We use pumps to draw water from nearby wells in order to extinguish the fire difficultly” said U Ye Htut, Maungtaw Township Commissioner.

About 30 houses were destroyed by the fire. Investigation is under way about the fire incident. Nyaungchaung village is a village where Bengalis lived but while the fire burns, security forces check the un-burnt houses and found no one inside.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Firefighters extinguish the fire in Maungtaw, Rakhine. PHOTO: MNA

Utensils for displaced local ethnics in Maungtaw

By Tin Maung Lwin and Min Htat Aung

The department of Maungtaw District Relief and Resettlement provided 98 sets of utensils for families, each containing 9 items, to local displaced persons who were temporarily sheltering at Aloetawpyae

monastery and Sasana Beikman in Maungtaw, yesterday morning.

Similarly on 12 September, 135 sets of utensils for families which contained 10 items each were provided to 135 households who were sheltering in 3 miles monastery and Sasana Beikman.

According to records made by Maungtaw District General Administrative Department, as of 13 September, there are a total of 6421 persons, 3336 women and 3085 men from 1310 households were sheltering at 21 rescue camps including monasteries in Maungtaw. ■

Food aid for displaced persons and ethnic nationals

Displaced persons from Maungtaw, Yathedaung and Buthidaung Townships were provided with aid and uten-

sils by Red Cross Movement (RCM) and from 26 August to 14 September.

A total of 19,092 persons

were provided with 302 rice bags, 2,986 cans of canned fish, 128 mosquito nets, 403 blankets and utensils.—MNA ■



Red Cross members provide aid and utensils to displaced persons from Maungtaw, Yathedaung and Buthidaung Townships. PHOTO: MNA

Myanmar community in UK holds peaceful demonstration outside Foreign Office

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“Most western news media portray the Myanmar issue as if the Myanmar government has neglected those issues. But in reality, there have been attacks on Myanmar government forces by the ARSA extremist terrorist group, who is trained by IS,” said a protestor, referring to the Islamic State terrorist group.

The protestors also said they opposed campaigners, lobbyists and the media for turning what they see as a migration issue into a refugee and religious crisis.

The Myanmar government has said it has been working on the issue as a top priority and have formed a dedicated committee to implement Dr Kofi Annan’s recommendations. Kofi Annan chaired a Rakhine Commission that submitted its recommendations last month.

The protestors also sent a letter to Mr. Johnson, urging him to maintain existing support to the Myanmar government and increase the support to areas where it’s needed.

In the letter, they pointed out that the opinion of the Foreign Secretary does not represent a fair view of the Rakhine issue and diminishes the Arakanese people who have suffered equally in the same environment, the demonstrators said.—GNLM ■