

U Win Myint receives MRCS chair



Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Win Myint holds talks with Dr. Daw Mya Thu, Chair of the Myanmar Red Cross Society. **PHOTO: MNA**

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Win Myint received Professor Dr. Daw Mya Thu, Chair of the Myanmar Red Cross Society

(MRCS) and party at the Pyithu-Hluttaw's guest room in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon. During the meeting, matters

relating to works conducted and humanitarian assistance provided by the MRCS were discussed. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Red Cross Movement provides cash and utensils to returning local people

In a ceremony held in Sittway yesterday afternoon, Red Cross Movement provided cash assistance and utensils to local ethnic nationals who are returning home.

In the ceremony, volunteers from (Rakhine) State Red Cross Society, Yangon Region Red Cross Society, township Red Cross Society and well-wishers led by Rakhine State Red Cross Executive Committee chair U Ko Lay provided cash and utensils to local ethnic nationals.

People who were displaced by the attacks of ARSA

extremist terrorists in Maung-taw region were returning to their villages as the area is now stabilized.

A total of 2,877 persons were each provided with personal hygiene items, mosquito nets, blankets, cans, dried noodles and kitchen utensils and Ks 45,000. From 29 September until 13 October, Ks 129.4 million were presented to returning people at Buthidaung port, said U Kyaw Myint Wai, head of Buthidaung Township Red Cross Society.—Win Min Soe (IPRD) ■

Opening Ceremony for Children's Literature Festival in Monywa

An opening ceremony for a children's literature festival that includes an exhibition of children's literature and a book fair was held at the Multi-Purpose Hall of Monywa University yesterday under the co-sponsorship of the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Education and Sagaing Region Cabinet.

The ceremony was opened with a ribbon-cutting by Dr. Pe Myint, Union Minister for Information, Dr Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Health and Sports, Nai Thet Lwin, Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs, Dr Myint Naing, Chief Minister of Sagaing Region Cabinet and students.

At the opening ceremony, children from basic educational schools performed a concert by singing a theme song of the festival for children's literature.

"Festivals for children's literature are being held with the aim of developing reading habits



A book shop is crowded with students and visitors. **PHOTO: AUNG MIN HAN**

in children with enjoyment. In other words, it aims to nurture children with a view to bringing up children to be conceived with the spirits of good citizens who are greatly interested in social activities, and thence to becoming well-qualified adults through

erudite learning forever; that is, to producing excellent citizens in the future and well-qualified countrymen", said Dr. Pe Myint.

Afterward, Union Ministers Dr. Myint Htwe and Nai Thet Lwin made speeches, followed by words of thanks from Dr. Myint

Naing, Chief Minister.

A variety of performances were presented by students — "Ah Pyo Daw Yein," by three schoolgirls from Parami Private School, "Mingalar bar" a song by eight schoolgirls from SHS 3 Monywa, "Sagaing Thu

Ah Hla Ba Yin Ma," a song by 16 school-girls from Chinzu SMS (Branch), "Shwebo Thanakha," a song by nine schoolgirls from SPS Nyaungbin Zay, "Doo Bat Wine," a song by schoolboys from Katoegone SMS (Branch) and "Byaw," a song by school-girls from SHS 2 Monywa. Union Ministers, the Chief Minister and party then inspected the book selling shops and children's literature showrooms, encouraging children and students who were in attendance. The Festival for Children's Literature in Monywa and the book fair will be held till 14 October, in which performance programmes, competition for poem recitation, story-telling contests, impromptu speech contests, origami contests, painting competitions, game matches and literary talk shows plus a workshop on speed reading are to be included, it was learnt.—Aung Min Han ■



School Children participate in outdoor activity. **PHOTO: AUNG MIN HAN**



Experts demonstrate traditional Martial Art. **PHOTO: AUNG MIN HAN**

Free health care given to locals in Yathedaung, Rakhine

By Myint Maung Swe and
Aung Kyaw Oo

A mobile medical team from the Rakhine State Health Department has toured northern Rakhine, providing free health care services to local people.

"We provide not only health care but also nutrition to the local people," said Dr U Kyi Lwin, the leader of the medical team which gave health care to people in Mazay Kyun area in Yathedaung Township.

There are about 26 villages in the Mazay Kyun which is separately located from Yathedaung and Sittway.

At the Kutaung Station Hospital there, the medical team provided health care to 261 out-patients, nutrition care to 20 villager, health care to 10 pregnant women and gave educative talks to 73.

At the village of Anaukpyin Bengali Village, 206 patients



The medical team provides health care to locals in Yathedaung. **PHOTO: THAKKA**

received medical check-ups, 57 children aged under five received vaccination and 26 women were given vaccination.

The team delivered nutrition to 100 villagers and car-

ried out educative talks to 88 and transferred one patient to Sittway Hospital. The team comprising six doctors and five nurses will go to Buthidaung and Maungtaw to provide health care to locals. ■

Live broadcast of ceremony commemorating second anniversary of NCA signing

A ceremony commemorating the second anniversary of the signing of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) will be held at 10 am on Sunday, 15 October at the Myanmar International Convention Center-1 (MICC-1) Nay Pyi Taw.

The ceremony will be broadcasted live starting from 9:45 am on MRTV and Myanmar Radio and live-streamed from the MRTV Facebook page.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Public talk in Kawhmu Township

Public Talk with a title "Youth and Social Media" will be held in Kawhmu Township Community Center from 1 to 3 p.m. on 15 October.

Thingangyun Township Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Nay Phone Latt, Kawhmu Township Pyithu Hluttaw

representative U Kyaw Swe Win, Information and Public Relations Department Deputy Director General Dr. Daw Thida Tin and Ma Thinza Shun Le Yi of Yangon Youth Network will participate in the Public Talk and interested person can come to listen. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Displaced people return home in Buthidaung and Maungtaw

By Myint Maung Soe,
Aung Kyaw Oo

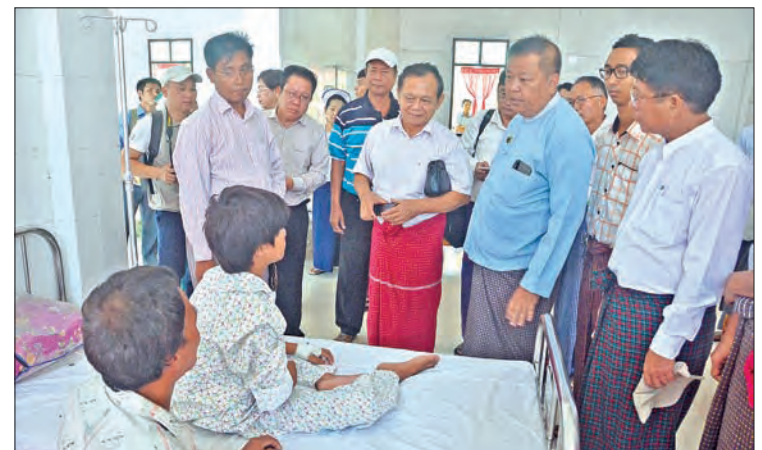
Due to restoration of peace and stability, local nationals who were displaced because of ARSA extremist terrorists' attacks are now beginning to go back home.

One of the military officials

in the region said, "Now that regional stability had been regained, people who abandoned their locations due to terrorism start to return to their former places.

Today, displaced people taking shelter at Mrauk-U conventional rescue camp are going to return to Buthidaung

and Maungtaw regions." Those people are being transported by Tatmadaw-owned vehicles to jetties in Sittway. On Friday, 45 from Lawka Man Aung rescue camp in Mrauk-U, 30 from Tein Nyo rescue camp and 39 from Pauk Taw Pyin rescue camp—a total of 114, left for their places, it was learnt. ■



Rakhine State Social Affairs Minister Dr Chan Tha comforts patients receiving treatment at Buthidaung Hospital. **PHOTO: THANT ZIN WIN**

Union Minister U Thein Swe receives US Ambassador

UNION Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe received Mr. Scot Marciel, Ambassador of the United States to Myanmar and party at the Ministry office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday at 3:45 pm.

During the meeting, matters relating to step by step implementation for peace, stability, reconstruction and development in Rakhine State, negotiation between Myanmar and Bangladesh to repatriate people who



Union Minister U Thein Swe holds talks with US Ambassador and party yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

were in Bangladesh, scrutinizing and repatriation work process by setting up repatriation camps based on 1993 repatriation experience, implementation of issuing NV cards and national verification work

based on report of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State and status of United States of America cooperating and assisting in these works were discussed.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Rakhine State Social Affairs Minister, UNA meet locals in Buthidaung

Dr Chan Tha, Rakhine State Minister for Social Affairs and UNA United National Alliance met with local residents from Maungtaw at Buthidaung yesterday morning, giving words of encouragement.

Dr Chan Tha and UNA Group met with displaced local nationals taking shelter at Mingalar Myo Oo monastery and patients taking medical treatment at Buthidaung hospital, cordially speaking with them.

Afterward, Dr Chan Tha and party discussed with Maungtaw district administrator matters about events of extremist terror-

ists' attacks and rehabilitation of Maungtaw region. Then they went to no 1 border guard police control office (Kyikanpyin) and discussed with Myint Toe situations of security.

U Mahn Kyaw Nyein, general secretary of Karen National Party, a member of UNA said, "UNA has political parties such as Rakhine Party, Mro Party and others in this region. So they had sympathy for local nationals and came here to give encouragement. As regard this, UNA has programs to give aids they can." —Naing Lin Kyi and Thant Zin Win ■

We can overcome challenges with strength of our unity

By Aye Min Soe

While the international community and biased media are using the terms “ethnic cleansing” and “genocide” recklessly and irresponsibly regarding the issue in northern Rakhine State without first undertaking a proper and thorough legal analysis and making a judicial determination, Myanmar has announced the launching of a sustainable solution that would lead to peace, stability, development and the return of displaced communities to their homes.

Undeniably, Myanmar is facing a challenging situation caused by terrorist attacks launched by ARSA in Rakhine State and has had to deal with the consequences of actions by other actors.

Myanmar is a country where people with different faiths and belief systems are living in harmony. But situations have changed a lot after the deadly attacks by ARSA extremist terrorists in the northern region of Rakhine State.

To address the situation, the international community must refrain from taking measures that exacerbate, rather than alleviate, the situation.

“We need to understand international opinion. However, just as no one can fully understand the situation of our country the way we do, no one can desire peace and development for our country more than us,” said State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in her televised speech to the people on Thursday.

Rather than rebutting criticism and allegations with words, we will show the world by our actions and our deeds, she said, prioritizing three main tasks for putting the country’s conflict ridden region back on the road to

normalcy.

“The Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine” has been established, allowing the Union Government and all local and international organizations to work in all sectors of the economy and all strata of society.

The Government and the people are ready and willing to cooperate with any kind of organization that wishes to work for resettlement and rehabilitation of people of all faiths in Rakhine State. We will work not only for repatriation of refugees who fled to Bangladesh, but also for the very small groups of ethnic people such as Daing-net, Mro and Hindus. The majority of those affected by the attacks were ethnic nationals, who were the minority (in the region).

Myanmar is currently at a turning point in its history. With the power of our nationals within and without, we can make this enterprise a milestone in our history. Now is the time to systematically use the generous nature of our people in terms of helping the enterprise with truth and purity.

Joining hands, we will tackle all the challenges we are facing using the strength of our unity.

Let's work hand in hand with the government

By Khin Maung Myint

Early last night, after listening to a short, but very emotional and passionate address to the nation by the State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, I was greatly moved. Her speech was noticeably packed with sincerity, thoughtfulness and compassion, which she has on all the people of Myanmar, irrespective of race and religion. Above all there was no sign of anger, hatred or animosity towards any individual or

no power which can compare with the support of the people, trust of the people and the unity of the people and called for the people to be united to overcome all the difficulties the country was facing. I agree with her unreservedly. United we will overcome all difficulties and challenges, however extreme and serious they may be.

She clearly outlined the steps the government has planned to undertake in repatriation of those who had crossed over to Bangladesh and

help those returning from Bangladesh, she also had in mind, the welfare of the minority ethnic races of Rakhine, such as the Daing-nets, Mros, and also the Rakhine nationals and Hindus of those areas who suffered during the terrorist attacks.

She had also requested the Myanmar people who are famous as being the most generous people in the world, who are fond of meritorious donations to help the needy, and to come to the aid of the government in the rehabilitation process. All the Myanmar nationals at home and abroad, who can afford should help the government as the State Counsellor had requested, in such a time of need, by donating in cash or kind. Your donations will mean a lot to those destitute people and also greatly relieve the burdens on the Government too.

She expressed her appreciation for the local entrepreneurs, the CSOs, the NGOs, and the international community who had expressed their desires to give assistance in the various tasks in the resettlements, rehabilitations, developments, and the enhancements of the living conditions of the people of the Rakhine State. She also mentioned that, as it was a matter of national importance, the Union Government and the State/Region Governments would take the leading roles in implementing the resettlement, the rehabilitation and the development programmes. Thus the Union Government would give due regard and serious consideration to the sincere offers made at home and abroad. She also invited the people, the private sector, local

effective provision of humanitarian assistance, the resettlements and rehabilitation for those people, and the development programmes and establishing of durable peace in that region. Those are the most important and urgently needed remedies to bring absolute normalcy to that region. In my view, there was nothing that needs addressing left out in her report.

While making arrangements to



People hold State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi photos during the ceremony of interfaith praying in Yangon on 10 October 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

NGOs, CSOs, friendly countries, the various UN agencies and INGOs to work together with the Union Government.

Also the fact that she herself would chair the Union Enterprise

“The report to the people was very clear, precise, sincere and honest, and free of anger or animosity against anyone. There was no blaming or condemning any individual or organization or country.”

for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlements and Developments in Rakhine was a clear indication of the importance and the priority she placed on the tasks at hand. All in all, her report to the people or the address to the nation, concerning the plans that the Union Government had formulated, reflects the sincere intentions and priorities it had placed on the welfare of the people.

Here I would like to mention my experience from yesterday morning. After my regular morning walk to the Kandawgyi, I went to a roadside eatery where I frequented, to have breakfast. It is situated in a Muslim residential quarter. I usually went there, not just to have

breakfast, but to have discussion with those who care to listen to my explanations about the non-existent race who claimed, at first to be recognized as an ethnic race and when that failed, they claimed to have the right for citizenship. I managed to convince some who were liberal minded to accept my explanations.

While I was having breakfast yesterday morning, a Myanmar Muslim, an acquaintance of mine, who usually discussed with me about the developments in the Northern Rakhine, entered the shop on seeing me. As soon as he was within arm’s reach of me, he shook my hand heartily, a gesture he had never done before. At first I was dumbfounded by his actions, but I was greatly moved by his remarks. He was full of praise for the State Counsellor. He told me that he was very pleased with her report to the people and that he believed every word she said and that she was very sincere.

I would like to conclude that the report to the people was very clear, precise, sincere and honest, and free of anger or animosity against anyone. There was no blaming or condemning any individual or organization or country. It was filled with empathy, compassion, love, and consideration towards the people without any discrimination whatsoever. Thus I would like to earnestly request all the people of Myanmar, irrespective of race or religion to be united and rally behind our leader and work hand in and with the government to bring about peace and harmony in Rakhine and elsewhere in the country.

POEM

Why not?

Leave hand to hand days
Heave hand in hand ways;

We were comrades in the fights
For our freedom and rights;

But we were painted difference colours
Divide and rule made us splinters;

In the mist of power struggle entity,
We're lost martyrs in anger of brutality

Under the iron heels and bayonet blade,
Fore-fathers gave up their lives for the country's sake;

It is beyond the bloody days
Seek the national reconciliation in different ways;

Leave the policy of hand to hand
Why not we stand hand in hand!!

UTA (Yangon University)

Sweet-smelling Truth

Sweet-smelling Truth will never lose
Her pervading fragrance of a rose
No matter foul slanders in blunders are thrown,
No matter filthy fake stories
with all sorts of distortions are in the air
Because Truth always collaborates with Time.

Sweet-smelling Truth will never be blown away
For her full blown petals of a rose
Have been forged, like a gladius,
from flaming blooms of steel,
Ever fresh, and delicate, yet stern and firm,
that never bow to the winds and weather!

Zaw Tun

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their works to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to **dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com** with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Real name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.). – Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office