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**SUNDAY
SPECIAL**



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Rice in Maungtaw harvested

THE Agricultural Mechanization Department launched rice harvesting efforts yesterday on more than 45,000 acres in Maungtaw using machinery, assisting local farmers who are facing difficulties in reaping the crop.

“When we harvest rice in the fields which are abandoned by owners, we have made records for the outputs per acre with the names of farmers who own the land,” said Head of Rakhine State Agricultural Mechanization Department U Phyu Hla.

Out of more than 70,000 acres of rice in rain-fed fields in Maungtaw Township, 45,186 acres saw no signs of being harvested by owners. The effort kicked off on 1,200 acres in the Alethankyaw Village, one the villages in Maungtaw Township that was affected in the latest terrorist attacks in August.

The Agricultural Mechanization Department said it would use more than 32 harvesters, with 14 harvesters currently in operation in the fields.

The authorities arranged opening seven bases in Kye-ichaung, Chanpyin, Laymile, Mawyawady, Indin, Khamaung-seik and Taungpyo villages to harvest the rice. Maungtaw Township provides 65 per cent of the food supply. —Maung Maung Htwe and Maw Si



A harvester in a paddy field in Myothugyi Village in Maungtaw, Rakhine State on 28 October 2017. **PHOTO: MAUNG MAUNG HTWE AND MAW SI**



LOCAL NEWS

City authorities draft new car import policy on issuance of car license in Yangon

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NV process is first step towards citizenship

AUTHORITIES have asked local people in Rakhine State to cooperate in the National Verification process, explaining the benefits of the National Verification Card (NVC).

The process is the first step before the scrutinisation of citizenship, in accordance with the 1982 Citizenship Law.

“In our mobile field trip to villagers, a few people came to us to get the National Verification cards. So, we have to clarify to the villagers about the benefits of the NV cards and advised them to hold NV cards as long as they live in Myanmar,” said U Aung Min, Director of the Rakhine State

immigration and population department.

“Regarding the NV card, we have to explain to the villagers that they can live following the rules of the 1949 Union Citizenship Act and the 1951 Union Citizenship Act,” he added.

In accordance with the two acts, actions can be taken

against those who were denied to give their necessary facts for national scrutinisation, he said.

“We hope more villagers will come to get the NV cards when they understand the benefits of the process,” said the officer.

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Aid flows into Buthidaung, N-Rakhine

A PARTY including Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, deputy minister U Soe Aung, State cabinet ministers, permanent secretary of Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing and Chief Coordinator of UEHRD Dr. Aung Htun Thet handed over aid from the AHA centre, clothes donated from Yangon Lions Club Aid, and instant dried noodles donated from the CSR social fund association to Rakhine ethnic people and Hindus of Taungbazar Village in Buthidaung Township, Rakhine State.

The Union Minister and party then went to Nga Yant Chaung Village and met with local residents of Nga Yant Chaung, Kyun Pauk and Goupee villages. During the meeting, local residents explained the reasons for returning to the villages. They said most of the villagers fled to the neighbouring country when the terrorist attacks occurred in August, and they moved and stayed in Taung



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye presents assistance commodities to Rakhine ethnic people and Hindus in Buthidaung in northern Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

Dakar Village as they don't dare to stay in their own villages which were under siege. Now that the region has returned to stability and they don't want to stay in other places and only want to stay their villages, they

returned to the region. There are some difficulties right now, however, it is believed they will be eased soon. While the problems of the villagers were learnt, the union minister and party discussed their requests

and gave 57 pieces of men's nether garments, 62 pieces of women's nether garments and 119 T-shirts. Ks 2.1 million for 21 households was also provided. One-hundred and three villagers from the villages of Nga

Yant Chaung, Kyun Pauk and Goupee attended the meeting.

Then, Union Minister and party went to Taungpyo Let-wei and viewed the Taungpyo Bridge and border gate on the border of Myanmar and Bangladesh.

The reception centre, the place to stay temporarily and the situation of repairing buildings were also viewed.

Then, the party viewed the situation of issuing National Verification Cards (NVCs) to the villagers by the department of Immigration and National Registration and the situation of loading and unloading goods at Ka Nyin Chaung Wharf in Ka Nyin Chaung economic zone. Upgrading roads and constructing infrastructure buildings in the zone were also discussed.

During the tour, Dar Gyi Zar Village, which was planned for the resettlement of people who left for other countries, and places to be constructed in Alae Than Kyaw resort beach were also viewed by helicopter. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee Secretariat meeting held

A UNION Peace Dialogue Joint Committee (UPDJC) Secretariat meeting was held at National Reconciliation and Peace Centre in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

At the meeting, matters relating to Union agreement section 1, holding of national-level political discussions, reviewing and redrawing of political dialogue framework and work processes, determining points to be discussed in Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong 3rd meeting, drawing up UPDJC proposals and UPDJC related points in Liaison office Terms of Reference (Lo To R) were discussed.

Secretariat member Dr. Hlyan Hmon Zarkhaung said: "Today's meeting is to prepare for the UPDJC meeting. After the preparation, we will submit to UPDJC what ought to be done so that things can be done with ease once the decisions are made. At the previous Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) anniversary, the State Counsellor stated her wish to hold the Union Peace Confer-



The meeting of Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee held in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 October. **PHOTO: MNA**

ence before the end of this year, and today's meeting reviewed matters related to this. The difficulties we found were whether to hold national-level political discussion in every place as usual or to hold it in places like the RCSS (Restoration Council of Shan State) and ALP (Arakan Liberation Party) areas, where it was not conducted. If this is not possible, we discussed on how it should be done."

"Secondly, what is to be discussed in Union Peace Conference? Subjects need to be determined. The subjects are

two points that were unable to be decided in the last Peace Conference, which are self determination and federalism. Before the last conference, national-level political dialogues were held in six places. Many proposals submitted at those six national-level political dialogues were not submitted to the last conference. Those were being collected and it includes six on federalism, four on self determination and nine others remaining. All will not be submitted, but a selected one will be submitted", he added.

"The third point handled was preparing on how to submit to the Hluttaw and how to approve the agreements reached at the last Union Peace Conference. Preparations were made for UPDJC meetings to be held on 30th and 31st. While this was done, we face some difficulties. Especially the difficulty of not getting permission to hold national level peace dialogues in RCSS and ALP area", said Dr. Hlyan Hmon Zarkhaung.

"During the 2nd Panglong meeting, national-level political dialogues were held in six plac-

es. In the 3rd we are trying to hold it in four places. The Peace Commission is trying to hold it in two signed places. In Mon State, if it is held according to ethnic national or region-wise in the 3rd, the congress will be a peace process that is engulfing the whole country stage by stage. If the process of holding the Panglong 3rd meeting in December is viewed, there is a time constraint to hold political dialogues in four places. For the country's good image, there should be step-by-step progress. We will try to make the 3rd conference more complete than the 2nd" said secretariat member U Aung Soe about yesterday's meeting

The meeting was attended by UPDJC member Lt-Gen Tin Maung Win, UPDJC secretariat members U Aung Soe, U Zaw Htay, U Naing Ngan Lin, Dr. Tar Hla Pe, Dr. Hlyan Hmon Zarkhaung, U Myo Win, U Khun Myint Tun, U Sai Ngin, Daw Saw Mya Yar Zar Lin, U Sai Kyaw Nyunt and U Min Kyaw Zaya Oo.—Myo Myint (Myanmar News Agency) ■

22nd International Police Band Concert (2017) held in Yangon

Zaw Gyi

22nd International Police Band Concert (2017) was held in Myanmar for the first time in Yangon yesterday morning.

The event was held at the junction of Strand Road and Sule Pagoda Road in Kyauktada Township. Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe in his opening speech said “Our Myanmar Police Force is formed with ethnic nationals living in the country and had the four aims of safekeeping peace and tranquillity, rule of law, preventing the danger of narcotics and conducting what is good for the people. It is striving to help the people according to the law and the international police band concert was held to show peace and unity and will also give the opportunity to show the world of our country’s peacefulness and unity. Furthermore it will increase the trust and friendship between our police force and the people. It will also increase the friendship among police bands of Singapore, Viet Nam, Japan and Myanmar.

The Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Tateshi Hi-



Myanmar Police personnel in Police band performing at 22nd International Police Band Concert 2017 on Sule Pagoda road in Kyauktada Township, Yangon on 28 October 2017. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

guchi and The Mainichi Newspaper executive director Mr. Hi-orta Katsumi delivered opening remarks.

Afterwards, the Union Minister for Home Affairs, the Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar, The Mainichi Newspaper exec-

utive director and the Myanmar Police Chief opened the event by cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

A total of 276 police personnel in police bands from Myanmar, Singapore, Viet Nam and Japan marched along the road while playing for the approxi-

mately 30,000 people viewing the parade from both sides of the road. The event was jointly held by the Myanmar Police Force and Japan’s Mainichi Newspaper to promote security and peace and to increase friendship among participating international po-

lice forces as well as to increase friendship between the people and the police force. The event was attended by the Ambassador of Viet Nam to Myanmar H.E. Mrs. Luan Thuy Duong, Ambassador of Singapore to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Robert Chua, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun, Deputy Speaker U Lin Naing Myint, Yangon region government ministers, hluttaw representatives, directors general of the correctional department, Bureau of Special Investigation, Myanmar fire services department, high ranking officers of the Myanmar Police Force and invited guests.

The first Police Band Concert was held in Japan in 1996. The concert is held annually and was held in Japan eight times. The event was held in Paris twice, and in Seoul, Berlin, Rome, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Ho Chi Minh and New York City once each.

On the evening of 29 October, police bands from the four countries will entertain at the Myanmar Convention Center, Mayangone Township, Yangon. People can attend free of charge, it is learnt.

The first survey for micronutrient and dietary status to be taken in Myanmar

The first survey for micronutrient and dietary status will be taken in Myanmar, said Dr Chan Tha, the Rakhine State Minister for Social Welfare, at the educational workshop held yesterday afternoon at the hall of the Rakhine State Cabinet.

In the workshop, the state minister said that the first survey for micronutrient and dietary status will be taken with the aim of redrawing the projects which will effectively prevent and treat the problems of nutrition deficiency and excess nutrition, to promote the public nutrition status by choosing balanced diets, to review the effects of the current nutrient development processes and to ascertain the public nutrient status and dietary habits.

Dr. Lwin Mar Hlaing, assistant director of nutrition and research branch of the Public Health Department (Head quarters) explained the plans for the survey of micronutrients and nutritional status and discussed questions relating

to the situation of villages and townships where this survey will be taken and the plans to be cooperated by respective departments which are posed by the attended ministers and state departmental officials.

“As all our health staff and people know that there is false news about our country’s nutrition, putting our nation’s image down among the international countries. Our chiefs are also annoyed about this. That is the performances of organisations who were reached in the State. They said that they will take a survey.

But, they don’t take any survey and say that they reviewed and then they release to the international countries that the nutritional status in our country is very bad. Actually, the photos they used are not the photos taken in our country. The photos they used are from other countries. We surveyed at Buthidaung and Maungtau. There are no nutritionally deficient children there. Only nor-

mal children who are healthy. Therefore, we take the survey to respond to them” said Dr Chan Tha.

“We will take the first survey for micronutrient and dietary status nationwide. The current ceremony was made here to show the related departments in Rakhine State what we will do. Many sectors will include in our survey such as body weight measurement, height measurement and etc. This survey will made in next month, November.

Every state and region will be taking the survey, dividing into 30 groups of places each. Estimated survey period for each state and region will be four months”, said Dr. Lwin Mar Hlaing.

Present at the workshop were state ministers, state chief judge, state chief audit, officials from the Ministry of Health and Sports, state departmental officials and health department’s staff.—Tin Tun (IPRD) ■



Rakhine State immigration officials conducting the national verification process in Maungtau Township, Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

NV process is first step towards ...

FROM PAGE-1

The mobile teams of the Rakhine State immigration and population department have conducted the NV process in Shwezar Village-tract in Maungtau Township since 12 October, issuing the cards to more than 100 villagers.

More than 7,000 cards have been issued to villagers in Rakhine State.

Immigration and Population officials in Rakhine State have stepped up the national verification process, which is one of the recommendations of the advisory

commission on Rakhine State.

The work was suspended due to most recent terrorist attacks on 25th August, and resumed on 1 October in the areas which have returned to normalcy.

“We recorded the villagers with biometric methods for the National ID system, and so far, 70 men and 22 women from Shwezar Village-tract have been issued the National Verification card up to 25th October,” said an official who is a member of the mobile team of the immigration and population department.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Medical instruments donated to Sittway General Hospital



Professor Dr Aung Thein Htay hands over medical instruments to head of State Medical Services Department in Sittway, Rakhine. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

A humanitarian assistance group in the United States donated medical instruments to Sittway General Hospital yesterday.

Professor Dr. Aung Thien Htay, an orthopaedic surgeon of University of Medicine 1, said that medical instruments are required for hospitals and

effectively supports patients in surgery.

As it was requested by the humanitarian assistance group for him to donate on their behalf, he presented the medical devices to Sittway General Hospital while he was in Maungtau region giving medical treatment, the

professor said.

The State Social Affairs Minister then gave words of thanks for the donations, and after that, Dr. Aung Thien Htay presented medical instruments to the head of the State Medical Services Department and officials. —Tin Tun (IPRD) ■

New school buildings hand over in Letpadan Township

NEW school buildings donated by Japanese people handed over to responsible personnel at Basic Education Primary School Nyaungdon (1) and Keechaung in Letpadan Township, Thayawady District, Bago Region on 27 October.

The construction of new school buildings was a mark of cooperation and friendship between Japan and Myanmar with resettlement project for schools which affected by flood.

The Japan International Cooperation System (JICS)'s

in-charge, the Township Project officer, the deputy head of Township education office and the deputy head of Township general administrative department opened the new buildings by cutting ribbons.

Thereafter, responsible personnel spoke remarks followed by presenting data of new buildings from the JICS's in-charge to the deputy head of Township education office.

Eleven schools in flood-hit Letpadan Township were donated from Japanese people, it was learnt. —GNLM ■



Ceremony of new school building donated by Japanese people launched in Letpadan Township, Bago Region. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Taiwan Excellence with New Technologies Bring Excellent Lifestyles

TAIWAN Excellence Launching campaign, sponsored by the Bureau of Foreign Trade of Taiwan and organized by the Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA), recently introduced feature products and technologies that have been distinguished with "Taiwan Excellence Award" covering multifaceted fields, ranging from smart home appliances, smart transportation, high technology ICT communication, and cutting-edge machinery to Myanmar consumers.

Taiwan Excellence Award represents the innovative and technological Taiwan's products that provide tremendous value to users worldwide. All products carrying this symbol have been selected as winners of specific Taiwan Excellence Awards based on outstanding R&D, design, quality, marketing, and Made-in-Taiwan merits.

Throughout 4 years' promoting Taiwanese prestigious brands in Myanmar, Taiwan Excellence has comprehensively



Taiwan Excellence launching campaign at Tatmadaw Exhibition hall in Yangon. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

reinforced and intensified the cooperation relationship between Myanmar and Taiwan.

Taiwan Excellence 2017 brings new technologies that will impress people and enhance all aspects of lifestyles. Taiwan Excellence has set up an exclusive pavilion at Tatmadaw Exhibition Hall

from 28th September to 1st October at the AUTO EXPO Myanmar, POWER EXPO Myanmar and Expo Taiwan 2017 in Yangon, which will showcase a group of 33 brands with 65 Taiwan Excellence Award winning products.

The campaign will give people the opportunity to per-

sonally experience Taiwan's superior quality products. Among the featured brands of Taiwan Excellence 2017 which pre-launched today include Tatung waterless Fusion Cooker, Transcend Dash Camera and Wearable Video Camera which will become Your most Trustworthy Eyewitness, Uni-

Max manufactures a complete set of advanced automotive products presenting the automotive trend IVI System, AVer introduces its professional auto tracking camera which will make learning without urban and rural gap, DJE is a leading welding equipment manufacturer represents high-end 3 Phase Inverter Seam Welder to Create Safe & Clean stainless Water Storage. From 28th September to 1st October at Tatmadaw Exhibition Hall, Yangon, the Taiwan Excellence pavilion has partnered with world-class ICT brands like AAEON, Adata, ASUS, AVer, Brickcom, BXB, Plustek, Silicon Power, TEAM, Thermaltake, µHandy; Machinery brands like Chin Fong, CHMER, TATUNG (motor), TECO, DJE, TSHS; Automotive Parts & Accessories related brands like COMEUP, Orange, Transcend, UniMax, Lof Solar; home appliances brands like ALYA, Carol, FECA, Heartway, Just Power, KSS, Sakura, TaDa®, TATUNG, Tokuyo, Vin-aera, Weplay. —GNLM ■

“Sometimes I think there is too much fear about each other (in Rakhine) and that is not good”: Italian Ambassador

A wide-ranging interview with Italian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Pier Giorgio Aliberti by the Global New Light of Myanmar and MRTV touched upon democratic and economic reform, peace process and bilateral relations between Italy and Myanmar.

Q: Our diplomatic relations have been established since the 1950s so can you elaborate on the progress of our relations?

A: Mingalabar and thank you for this opportunity. Yes, we are one of the few European embassies that never stopped and we have been here during difficult times and better times. There is a special link between the two countries and the people. There are people from Italy who want to come here because they are fascinated by the country.

Q: What is your impression on our democratization process?

A: Well I arrived here in June 2015 so I have witnessed the transition and also the elections in November 2015, I was an observer. I could see the people queuing up so early in the morning and there was so much enthusiasm. I think the expectations were extremely high not only in the country but also abroad. Also I think we are realizing that democracy is a long path. At the same time there are many issues if you talk about federalization because it's basically how to share power. This is a universal issue where you have to share power between the center and the periphery. Of course here there is a little bit of history and that's why it's a little bit more difficult. I think the government was right in putting the peace process as a priority because this is linked to how to share power and how to share resources. It will take time.

Q: Could you tell us about Italy's contribution to the peace process?

A: We consider peace an essential part of the transformation of a country which is why the three main sectors for us are governance, state building and peace. We are in a Joint Peace Fund because Myanmar is one of the three Asian countries which are a priority for us. We have been supportive of the ongoing peace process and the NCA (Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement) was a stepping stone. I think some ethnic groups have some differing views but when you want to participate in a process and like a train if its running you got to catch it. I think more ethnic organizations should be part of the process and be ready to discuss and have political dialogue that will lead to federalism.



Italian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Pier Giorgio Aliberti speaks during the interview with GNLM and MRTV at the Embassy of Italy in Yangon. **PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR**

Many institutions have been established like the JMC (Joint Monitoring Committee) and although it's a good start it's still a bit weak. I have visited many JMC offices at the state level around the country. We still have a long way to go and I think we need to be patient not only from Myanmar but also from abroad.

Q: Can you tell us some feedback about your recent trip to Rakhine State?

A: I think Rakhine is one issue among many other issues and the international community has always been very focused on this because it's a special situation. Myanmar has been doing a fantastic job to get out of isolation after 50 years of it. The international community has difficult issues such as the coexistence of different races, different people, and different ethnicities. Myanmar is a good example of this as you have more than 135 different races to organize. But there are other people who have, for whatever reason, been living in Rakhine and sometimes I think there is too much fear about each other and that is not good. I think the most recent speech by the State Counsellor was very instructive and she was mentioning compassion and kindness and I think we need to be more compassionate about how people suffer there. I think something more could be done in terms of favoring coexistence. We have the same issue in Europe and in Italy we have people coming in from North Africa and Libya and people are scared that they can have terrorists there. For peaceful coexistence we have to create opportunities for livelihoods because if people go fishing and go to the market then they are not thinking about becoming

terrorists so I think if there is a more equal society then coexistence is possible there.

When I visited northern Rakhine, there are some areas where people lived together easily and when I go to downtown Yangon you have mosques and people live together so religion is not a problem. I think we have to move forward and find a way to ensure coexistence. I think fear is the main reason why some people don't accept coexistence and not hatred or racial attitude like some people say.

Q: How so you think we can handle immigration and such things near the border?

A: Well that's a one million dollar question. We are grappling with these ourselves so it is not so easy. In Italy we are trying to limit...

Q: Italy is rich but Myanmar has a weak monitoring for immigration.

A: Of course now I feel bad that the government reinforced the agreement to Bangladesh to close the border and that of course can be part of the solution.

Q: But it also costs a lot?

A: Of course it costs a lot but I think you can get the support of the international community provided that it's not about closing the border but helping people living together. The idea basically is trying to give a chance to people by providing more jobs so that maybe they can live peacefully and they can be integrated. In Italy in the last 40-50 years there have been a lot of changes because we didn't have immigrants

When I visited northern Rakhine, there are some areas where people lived together easily and when I go to downtown Yangon you have mosques and people live together so religion is not a problem.

before but now we have plenty and they are people who are contributing a lot to our economy so it's an important part of a country's development to accept diversity.

Q: Could you tell us more about Italy and Myanmar's cooperation in areas like economy?

A: We are focusing on three main areas. First is rural development, second is governance and third is support to the private sector.

For rural development we are working specifically with the World Bank to meet community needs in rural areas because in many countries we see that if you do a top-down approach, it doesn't work. So I think it's better to listen to people for what they need, a bottom-up approach. We tend to focus more on the poorer states like Chin and Rakhine.

The second aspect is governance which is peace building and the Joint Peace Fund, which is about 100 million dollars to contribute to this. We are also trying to help in terms of better coordination donors with the government.

The third part is support for the private sector because we believe it is essential to the economy of the country. There we are focused more on one specific sector which is cultural heritage and tourism. We in Italy have rich natural heritage and we see that it is important not only for our cultural heritage but also in terms of economic development because it's linked to tourism. In Italy 10 per cent of GDP comes from tourism. We are working with the government and Yangon Heritage Trust to first of all restore old buildings and then to have rules to protect these buildings.