

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye holds talks with Danish Minister, officials from UNHCR, WFP and USIP

The Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye received a delegation led by the Danish Minister for Development Cooperation Ms. Ulla Toernaes yesterday at the ministry.

During the meeting, they discussed implementation of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD), cooperation and knowledge sharing between the government of Myanmar and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for the repatriation of the refugees and to hold the Workshop on Voluntary Repatriation.

The Union Minister also received a delegation led by Assistant High Commissioner for Protection Mr. Volker Turk



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye holds talks with Danish Minister Ms. Ulla Toernaes at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw on 1 November 2017. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

from UNHCR at May Khalar Hall in the ministry.

During the meeting, they discussed aid and assistance for

refugees to be repatriated and the negotiated agreement on repatriation processes between Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Next, Union Minister also received a delegation led by Regional Director for Asia and The Pacific Mr. David Kaartud from

the World Food Programme (WFP) and discussed social welfare processes, assistance for Rakhine State and the people to be repatriated, a solution for refugees in Rakhine and UEHRD, implementation processes for quick access of national identity cards for people in Rakhine and financial support by WFP for education and nutritional plans in the State.

After that, Union Minister received Ms. Nancy Lindborg from the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) and talked about the history of the USIP and peace making processes, the processes between UEHRD and other committees from Myanmar for Rakhine affairs and solutions for sustainable peace in the region and the holding of a Diversity Management Forum. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Dr. Win Myat Aye receives donation for UEHRD

To implement the works of Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD), the vice chairman of the enterprise as well as the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye received the

following donation and presented certificates of honour to the donors.

Ks13.495 million, equal to US\$10,000, was donated by Community and Family Services International (CFSI) on Tuesday. Also accepted were donations of Ks10 million by

Daw Tin Moe Lwin, Ks1 million by Bago Thathana Region, Ks1 million by Thuwanna Yangon Thit Church and Ks3 million by Myanmar Baptist Christian Church. The donations and presentations were made yesterday at the ministry hall. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Coalition launched in response ...

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Elephants are typically shot with poisoned darts or high-velocity rifles, and die a prolonged and painful death before being skinned, environmental officials said. Their skin, teeth, tusks and other parts are sold locally and

overseas.

Elephant skin has long been part of the illegal wildlife trade, but never at these levels, conservation experts said. In 2016, 18 wild elephants were killed, according to the ministry, but by August, NGOs working

in the field put the figure of poached and skinned elephants at “at least 30”, averaging one per week. Official estimates put the wild elephant population in Myanmar at 1,400 to 2,000 but the actual figure could be far lower. ■

Thura U Shwe Mann receives several groups from Kachin Christian delegation

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission Chairman Thura U Shwe Mann yesterday morning received multiple groups from the Kachin Christian delegation at the Hluttaw



Thura U Shwe Mann meets with multiple groups of the Kachin Christian delegation in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Building (I-1) in Nay Pyi Taw. During the meeting, drug threats that occurred in Kachin State, the condition of youths taking drugs,

social problems encountered were discussed and suggestions made for laws to prevent future occurrences. —MNA ■



Two electric sub-power stations will be opened in Pawkaw and Myebon Townships in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Two sub-power stations launched in Rakhine State

Two sub-stations that will provide electricity to about 50 townships in Rakhine State were officially opened today in Pawkaw and Myebon townships.

The sub-station in Pawkaw Township was built starting on 21 November 2015 and finished on 20 March 2016 and has been supplying electricity round the clock to 976 households in the Township from 2 October 2017.

The sub-station can supply electricity to households in Pawkaw and an additional 30 townships nearby, according to Rakhine State’s electricity department.

The electricity from that sub-station will supply elec-

tricity to 3,082 households in Pawkaw Town and 31 villages in Rakhine State.

The power station in Myebon Township was built starting on 15 September 2015 and finished on 20 March 2016 and has been supplying electricity round the clock to 1,165 households in the township since 31 March.

The sub-station in Myebon Township can supply electricity to households in Myebon and an additional 20 neighbouring, according to Rakhine State’s Electricity Department.

The electricity from that sub-station will supply electricity to 2,628 households in Myebon Town and 20 villages in Rakhine State.—Maw Si ■

Residents in Maungtaw get NV cards

MOBILE immigration teams have been working on issuing National Verification Cards to residents in Shwezar Village-tract in Maungtaw Township in northern Rakhine since 12th October.

The team at the Shwezar Village has issued so far more than 160 villagers and took records from 33 with the biometric method.

The other teams have issued the NV cards to more than 2,600 people from Shwezar (North), (West) and (Middle) villagers in mid-October and provided mosquito nets and food to the villagers.— Myanmar News Agency ■



Mobile immigration officials conducting national verification process to the villagers in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Short-term priority projects in northern Rakhine underway

NOW that Rakhine State has started to regain regional security and stability after the terrorist attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) in northern Rakhine State, relevant ministries are implementing short-term priority projects in multiple sectors, it was learnt.

Starting from 5th September, there were no longer military operations in northern Rakhine State, according to the Union government. Out of the security forces which are launching measures for the rule of law, some columns of the Tatmadaw were made to withdraw from Buthidaung and Maungtaw conflict areas to be reformed as reserve forces and stationed on standby, officials said.

On 17 October, the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development (UEHRD) was officially formed for effective performance of long-term project of freedom from conflicts.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement said it has been performing the tasks of providing rice provisions for half a million people, subsidizing Ks100,000 each for 1,500 families, giving out monetary aid to disabled persons at Ks20,000 each, Ks30,000 each for every pregnant women and children under two, Ks20,000 each for every person over the age of 60, Ks100,000 each for every injured person, Ks50,000 each for children who are in need of hygienic aid and other necessities, and Ks10,000 per month for those aged above 90. Giving necessi-

ties to the disabled according to categories, building weaving machines and sewing factories for creation of job opportunities and supporting of needed properties to conflict-affected people depending upon their necessities are being implemented under the Red Cross Movement Programme.

The Ministry of Industry said it is performing the tasks of supporting 500 bags of 18 kinds of supplies, 250 sets of 20-watt solar home lighting systems and 150 sets of solar home lighting systems and opening mobile industrial and vocational trainings.

For the time being, the Union information committee said, the Ministry of Health and Sports are performing the tasks of providing medical care and treatment of malnutrition, giving teacher training in seven townships in Sittway, Thandwe, Kyaukpyu, Minbya, Maungtaw, Buthidaung and Yathedaung, providing nutritious ground-nut snacks, implementing projects for promotion of preliminary hygienic care in Buthidaung and Maungtaw townships and carrying out three health projects in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population is performing the task of the national verification process, the government information committee said. Also, the Ministry of Border Affairs is making arrangements for building up to 50 low-cost housing estates in Kainggyi (Mro), and 50 similar houses in Nant Thar Taung Vil-

lage. In building roads, 6/1 mile at Mee Dike junction-Mee Dike camp up to milestone 37, 2/5 mile up to Leit Ya junction-Leit Ya camp, 3/3 mile up to Kyun pauk junction-Kyun Pauk and 2/5 mile up to Ngakhura-Sabai Pinyin outpost, the committee said.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation is making lakes, ponds, and irrigation channels. And it is helping local farmers in harvesting and distributing pedigree seeds plus giving drugs for animal husbandry and veterinary services. Linking with local and foreign associations to perform the tasks of expanding livestock breeding and dairy products, building 200 low-cost housing estates are underway, the committee said.

The Ministry of Construction is performing the tasks of building roads and bridges, and the Ministry of Home Affairs is making arrangements for fencing the remaining part of the Myanmar-Bangladesh border area — 39.217 miles and 107 remaining outposts and purchasing 48 meter-long patrol motor boats under the General Agreement Plan, officials said.

The Ministry of Transport and Communications is making arrangements for changing the mobile phone numbers of MPT and other telephone operators' SIM cards of their own accord and upgrading other communication systems.

The Ministry of Education is also making arrangements to build five schools in Maungtaw, according to the Information Committee. —MNA ■

PRESS RELEASE

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of H.E. Mr. Tom D. Kijiner as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, with residence in Tokyo.

H.E. Mr. Tom D. Kijiner was born on 29 August 1945 in Likiep, Marshall Islands and studied General Education at the University of Guam and University of Hawaii from 1965 to 1973. He served as Member of Parliament (Nitijela), Minister for Education, Minister for Finance, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Minister for Health and Environment and Ambassador-at-Large from 1974 to 2009. Currently, H.E. Mr. Tom D. Kijiner is accredited as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Marshall Islands to Japan since 2012 and concurrently accredited to Vietnam, Singapore, Brunei, the Philippines, India, Thailand, Mongolia and Indonesia. He speaks Marshallese, English and is married with seven children.—Ministry of Foreign Affairs ■

Plans for University of Fish underway

By Ko Moe

PLANS are underway to establish the University of Fish by 2018, as the fishery sector is of vital importance in growing the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), according to the Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF).

"The project for founding the University of Fish in the next year is underway. The project is being implemented as quickly as possible depending on human resources acquired.

Now, the teachers who instruct subjects related are being gathered", said Dr. Toe Nandar Tin, vice chairperson of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

The University of Fish will be founded and operated using international standards. After the founding the university, an academic institution of a high standard will be created, not a so-called "degree mill", Dr. Toe Nandar Tin said. To be able to establish the university, negotiations are being made with related ministries for cooperation, she added.

Founding the Universi-

ty of Fish is necessary, even though the Department of Fisheries currently conducts training in cooperation with local and international organisations, Dr. Toe Nandar Tin said.

"Classes such as quality control, production and catching methods conducted by the Fisheries Department in the past were stopped for various reasons. Now classes and training need to be conducted by a university and vocational schools related with water resources", said U Myo Nyunt, secretary of Myanmar Fishery products Processors & Exporters Association.

At present, fish breeding in Myanmar is mostly done with a type of fish that needs a long time to reach full maturity. Technical assistance is needed to switch the breeding method.

The Yangon Region Government has said that the activities for the development of the fishery sector in Yangon will be carried out at the end of the rainy season this year.

In fiscal year 2016-2017, Myanmar aquatic products exported abroad were valued at US\$600 million. ■

Rakhine State affair and cooperation

By Khin Maung Oo

IT was said there has been a growing concern among the global community that resurgent nationalism would appear in Myanmar concerning the Rakhine State affair. They are worried rising waves of nationalism will appear among social communities as a result of resurgent nationalism and thence become obstacles on Myanmar's road to reforms and democracy.

A strong sense of nationalism did not occur in the minds of the people without rhyme or reason. Based on the false allegations that ethnic cleansing was being committed in Rakhine State, nationalistic spirit welled up in the hearts of the Myanmar people as the said accusations affected the national dignity and image of the country. The Myanmar people felt deeply hurt because they believed that the international community had decided to neglect the dangerous threats

on Myanmar's national sovereignty by swallowing lock, stock and barrel the propaganda lines churned out by the numerous channels with dubious names but with one definite single intent – to bring shame to the Myanmar people, discredit our leaders and hurl continuous baseless accusations against the Myanmar Armed Forces. The ease at which the international community has fallen prey to the sight of crying babies or tales of human rights abuses, brings into focus the power of the internet, Face Book and other mass communications tools to sway public opinion towards a certain cause. Perhaps they did not find time to read the news reports in detail which stated that the border police outposts were surrounded not by a few dozen militants but by a host of villages armed with sticks and knives. This being the case, it seems natural that these same villages would have immediately decided to flee once they heard the

Myanmar Armed Forces entering the area to conduct clearance operations. It certainly does not take a legal expert to come to the conclusion that all those villages who took part in the raids are also punishable under the anti-terrorism law. This fact may perhaps explain why nearly half a million people decided to cross over to the Bangladesh side of the border. At least this may be one of the many reasons. The other reasons could be the lure of easy money in the refugee camps and perhaps the hope of getting refugee status in a third country for economic reasons.

Actually the problems in the Rakhine State could be best solved by taking an objective look at the situation without being overwhelmed by feelings of emotions. This is because the problems require careful study and deep understanding of the underlying causes which cannot be analyzed in simplistic terms. It needs a willingness to approach the complex problem from

many viewpoints – such as historic, political, social, economic, communal and religious. It has been clearly publicized that those who will comply with rules and laws will be granted citizenship rights after undergoing a strict and careful process of scrutinizing Bengalis said to have fled into Bangladesh. Every nation, institution and individual desirous of solving the Rakhine State affair with unadulterated minds are required to enthusiastically take part in implementing the process successfully. And they must collectively help by taking part in launching development projects in Rakhine State, as backwardness in economic development is one of the reasons which caused the current problem. We therefore humbly urge the international community to collectively solve the problem hand in hand with the Union Government in a spirit of cooperation, sincerity and genuine good intentions to alleviate the suffering of all communities in the Rakhine State. ■

MINDFULNESS is of paramount importance to achieve any goals and targets in our lives. Always be meditative, youthful, altruistic, nimble, munificent, astute and reliable. Knowledge (wisdom) is power and wish-to-do, work-hard (effort) and will (mind) are also powers for achieving our individual vision and missions as well as our global sustainable development goals by 2030. Enduring patience is the austere practice for all of us living in this planet.

Myanmar is rich with land and its scenic beauties (natural resources), labour (human resources) and famous with its abundant and unexploited resources; the capital (financial resources), machineries and equipment (physical resources) and technology (technological resources) yet need to be developed and improved. Youth population in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is of great importance and more productive for the implementation of the goals and targets of sustainable development agenda 2030. All the leaders who know the way, go the way, show the way and lead the way need to work together in order to achieve the democracy with the people, for the people, of the people and by the people. No one is above the law and every citizen must abide by the rule of law in order to build a peaceful, harmonious, stable, prosperous and just planet. Man is not perfect; man makes mistakes; you make mistakes, he makes mistakes, she makes mistakes, they make mistakes, I make mistake and we all make mistakes; but practice makes perfect through insight meditation with the eightfold noble path. Aim high act local; all communities of the Union of Myanmar must think about community

Make Myanmar More Mindful

Htun Tin Htun

security and alert to strengthen the solidarity for the sovereignty; for that we must pool our resources available within the community through the saving schemes both in cash and in kind in order to make self-defence and help other needy communities in case of emergency. Right understanding, right thinking (thought), right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness and right concentration are eight in one noble path for the cessation of sorrows and sufferings in this world and the next.

Man matters most, money matters most, mind matters most and materials matters most; in practice man is the architect of the world to make just, peace and prosperity or to make conflicts/ violence/ war; money (capital/investment) makes many things but not everything; mind precedes all mental states, mind is their chief, they are all mind-wrought; mind leads the matter (body), inner peace of the body is most important for the outer peace; materials development makes the people to feel more comfortable. One by one, moment by moment, little by little, drops by drops filled the drum/ tank/ pot and we all Myanmar people must learn and get lessons from the history and forgive the past but not forget the invaders near and far with

greed, hatred and delusion and we must strive on with diligence and vigilance to protect and safeguard the country with our might and means. Right resource mobilization in Myanmar's abundant resources is of great importance for the posterity and future of the Union of Myanmar and Balance Sheet Reading (how to read a balance sheet) is badly and deeply needed in State Economic Enterprises for public disclosure and there should be only one budget for the entire country. Efficiency is the ratio of input and output and maximum output using minimum input makes an enterprise to be thriving and boosting so that Myanmar people need to put and double their concerted efforts relentlessly in all economic sectors in order to reach the desired targets and goals. Ever grows the glory of him who is energetic, mindful and pure in conduct, discerning and self-controlled, righteous and heedful; by effort and heedfulness, discipline and self-mastery, let the wise one make for himself an island on which no flood can overwhelm.

Most of Myanmar people are Buddhists who are the last defenders for the Theravada Buddhism in this planet and our active, bright, courageous, disciplined, equable, fast and generous people of the Union of Myanmar must

protect ourselves and our religion and must safeguard our sovereignty and must defend our territorial integrity International community are warmly and friendly requested to learn more about Myanmar history, geo-politics, her richness of resources and most of Myanmar people are smiling always and famous for their generosity/charity/ philanthropic activities and we are easy to forgive and forget though we dare to fight for our sovereignty, peace and independence. Neither in the sky nor in mid-ocean, nor by entering into mountain clefts, nowhere in the world is there a place where one may escape from the results of evil deeds. Do not give way to heedlessness; do not indulge in sensual pleasure; only the heedful and meditative attain great happiness; the foolish and ignorant indulge in heedlessness but the wise one keeps his heedfulness as his best treasure. Follow not the vulgar way; live not in heedlessness; hold not false views; linger not long in worldly existence; arise! Do not be heedless! Lead a righteous life; the righteous live happily both in this world and the next. Understanding clearly the excellence of heedfulness which is the path to the Deathless and the heedful die not; the wise exult therein and enjoy the resort of the Noble Ones. Let a man guard himself against irritability in thought, speech and bodily action; let him be controlled in mind, speech and deed; abandoning mental misconduct, verbal misconduct and bodily misconduct, let him practice good conduct in thought, speech and deed.

May all Myanmar People be free from all dangers, sufferings and enmity, be happy, healthy, prosperous and peaceful!!! ■

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

ACTING CHIEF EDITOR

Aye Min Soe,
ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

EXPATRIATE CONSULTANT EDITOR

Mark Angeles,
markrangeles@gmail.com

SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORS

Khin Maung Oo,
editor2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Khin Maung Win (Chief Proof Reader),
Zaw Min, zawmin.gnlm@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR

Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

LOCAL NEWS EDITORS

Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com

TRANSLATORS

Khaing Thanda Lwin,
Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Zaw Htet Oo
Kyaw Zin Lin
Sandar Soe
Kyaw Zin Tun

REPORTERS

May Thet Hnin,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
mayreporter.mmm@gmail.com
Tun Aung Kyaw,
reporter2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

PHOTOGRAPHER

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAM

Tun Zaw (Chief of Computer Team),
Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,
Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Zu Zin Hnin

EDITORIAL SECTION

(+95) (01)8604529,
Fax – (+95) (01) 8604305

CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION

San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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gnlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
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Indawgyi Biosphere Reserve Inauguration held last Tuesday near Indawgyi Lake

INDAWGYI Biosphere Reserve Inauguration was held last Tuesday at the Indaw religious building and Indawgyi Lake, the country's largest freshwater lake in Mohnyin District, Kachin State was recognised as UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve on 15 June.

At the ceremony, Union Minister U Ohn Win for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation said that biodiversity helps develop the eco-system. On the other hand, the destruction of biodiversity leads to many challenges such as climate change, water scarcity, natural disasters and insufficient energy. In an attempt to reduce the loss of biodiversity and environmental degradation, natural sites are being established across the globe.

To preserve the eco-system in Myanmar, the country is also focusing on setting up natural sites. Ten per cent of the area of the country has been set as natural sites and forty sites have been established.

Setting Indawgyi Lake area as a Biosphere Reserve is a great opportunity for sustainable development of natural resource maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem. It is the third largest lake in South East Asia. The



Union Minister U Ohn Win, German Ambassador and representatives from NGO, INGO, CBO and ASEAN center for Biodiversity, officials observed and toured Indawgyi Lake with boats. **PHOTO: MNA**



lake surrounding wetlands and forest is home to globally threatened water birds, turtle species, endemic fish, mammals, reptiles and primates. In addition to government and international assistance, the cooperation of the local residents plays a vital role to maintain the biodiversity and eco system. However, it takes time to develop the region, he added.

Union Minister and State Chief Minister Dr Khat Aung signed an inauguration record after recognition of Indawgyi Lake area as UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve.

H.E. Ms Dorothee Janetzke Wenzel, German Ambassador to

Myanmar delivered a speech. Chairman of Germany UNESCO Biosphere explained about international partner organizations and Mr. Matthew Walpole from Fauna & Flora Myanmar introduced about Biosphere Reserve.

Director of the natural resources and wildlife conservation division and director of Germany Biosphere Reserve signed a partnership agreement. Director-General of the Forest Department and Mr Matthew Walpole from Fauna & Flora Myanmar signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

Union Minister, State Chief Minister and ministers, the German Ambassador to Myanmar

and her husband, Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar, officials and representatives from Biosphere Reserve network, ASEAN center for Biodiversity, representatives from NGO, INGO, CBO toured Indawgyi Lake with boats.

There are 669 Biosphere Reserve sites in 120 countries. Myanmar's Inlay Lake and Indawgyi Lake have been recognised as Biosphere Reserves.

The lake was an ASEAN Heritage Park due to its rich biodiversity. It was also designated as a Ramsar Site in early 2016 and as a Man and Biosphere Reserve (MAB) in 2017.—IPRD (Kachin State) ■

Six Yangon townships to get modern sewage system by 2040

A modern sewage system in six townships in Yangon will be completed by 2040, said Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung Soe yesterday.

He made the remark in his answer to a question raised by Yangon Region MP Daw Kyi Pyar at the Yangon Region Parliament on whether the Yangon City Development Committee

has plans to use modern machinery for the sewage systems in the six townships.

"We are cooperating with international organisations to modernise Yangon City, including the sewage system in six townships with future populations in mind. We have drawn the master plan for that," said U Maung Maung Soe.

Regarding the plan, the YCDC is working together with international organisations such as the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the World Bank to receive technical and monetary assistance.

Meanwhile, the YCDC has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with Sumitomo Corporation to construct a sew-

age water treatment plant and to lay pipes in the city

"At present, the YCDC is working its best on the sewage systems with the use of compressors and manpower," said the mayor. The current sewage system in six townships including Kyauktada, Pabedan and Latha have been in use for more than 100 years.—Ko Moe ■



Security members found one gun, bullet cartridge and revolver yesterday. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

Two guns lost during ARSA attacks recovered

One BA-94 automatic rifle, one bullet cartridge and one revolver were seized yesterday morning at Adula Kane's house in Myin Lut Ywar Thit village, Maungtau Township, Rakhine State.

While a combined team comprised of security members and immigration department authorities was conducting a survey for drawing a village map and record-

ing buildings at Myin Lut Ywar Thit Village, two guns in bag that were buried in the back of Adula Kane's house were discovered. No one is currently living at the house, authorities said.

It was learnt that the seized guns were lost by the Myin Lut Police Station during the violent terrorist attacks of 25 August.—Myanmar News Agency ■