

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Message of Greetings sent by President U Htin Kyaw on the occasion of the 97th Anniversary of National Day Celebrations (13 November 2017)

Dear Esteemed Nationals of the Union,

On this auspicious occasion of the 97th Anniversary of National Day which falls on the 10th Waning Day of Tazaungmone, ME 1397 (November 13), I wish to send my Message of Greetings and good wishes to all the ethnic national races and Union citizens for their auspiciousness, good health and happiness.

If we take a look back into history to understand why we have been celebrating our National Days annually, we may see that it originated from the fact that the university students from Rangoon University and Judson College began their strike on this day the 10th

Waning Day of Tazaungmone, ME 1282 (5 December 1920), to protest the promulgation of the University Act which placed restrictions on the right of Myanmar citizens to pursue university education. From this strike to protest the unlawful University Act, the students strike spread and reverberated to all parts of the country. As a consequence of this strike, the nationalistic spirit of the Myanmar people matured and national schools sprouted up all over the country. This students strike was not only confined to university education but finally emerged as a huge revolution which natured and mobilized our nationalistic spirit. The nationalistic spirit which was given birth by this

revolution developed and grew stronger and finally became strong enough for us to gain our Independence.

The ninth GCBA meeting which was held in Mandalay from 21 to 24 October 1921 began discussions to designate the 10th Waning Day of Tazaungmone, 1282, the day on which the first students strike began as National Day and the GCBA Special Meeting which began deliberations on 17 June 1922 decided and approved that this day should be designated as National Day. Starting from that day onwards to ensure that the spirit of nationalism would always be embedded in the hearts of the people, we have been celebrating National Day all over the

country with pomp and ceremony every year and this year marks the 97th year, moving closer towards our centenary year.

This is the time when all the people of the Union should show the strength of their unity and elevate it to the greatest height. At this time the Union Government, the people, the Tatmadaw, Hluttaw, political parties, community-based organizations, and ethnic armed groups are all on the path of national development in unity like never before. That is why all organizations should walk on this correct path steadfastly, together with the people, without wavering or losing balance while nurturing our unity to new levels of strength.

At the same time, today in Myanmar, we have been convening the Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panglong to establish a genuine Democratic Federal Union.

With firm aspirations, on this our National Day, as we work for the emergence of a Union based on democracy and federalism, I earnestly urge all the people to hold in highest esteem the following National Day objectives and work with the strength of national unity: -

- Perpetuation and strengthening of Nationalism
- Work for Union Peace
- All round development of all ethnic national races
- Emergence of a Democratic Federal Union

IPD issuing NVC and conducting NID recording in Rakhine State

A media team led by Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint was in northern Rakhine State where they are ensuring real time reporting of humanitarian aid distribution, rehabilitation and development undertakings in the area.

Accompanied by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, the team started its 50-nautical mile journey from Sittway to Buthidaung yesterday morning.

Hovercrafts with 100 passenger capacity are plying between on Mayu River between the two towns. The Union minister and the chief minister and party observed peace, stability and social progress in Buthidaung in a motorcade.

At a beach near Alethankyaw village in Maungtau Township, they inquired about the motive of some Bengalis of some villages in Yathedaung and Buthidaung townships preparing to leave for the other country.

Despite the food and security guarantee from the central government and the Rakhine State government assured by the Union minister and the chief minister, those Bengalis insisted on going to the other



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint presents aid to ethnic people. **PHOTO: MNA**

country.

At a meeting with villagers in Alethankyaw village, they looked into the requirements of restoring regional peace and stability.

They then inspected the temporary resettlement of Mro people of Kainggyi village who were terrorized out of the homes by extremist ARSA terrorist at a place near Thanda village and a new housing project near the village. The in-charge of the project, Daw Nilar Kyaw, Yangon Region Minister for Electricity, Industry and Transport, reported on

work progress.

Over 100 Mro households of Shwebaho, Seinpanmyaing and Kainggyi villages will be resettled at the new housing project which includes clean water and solar power supply system, one-storey brick houses and a village school.

At the briefing hall, they met the Mro people and gave words of encouragement. The Union minister presented K 2.3 million, K 5000 each for 46 households of the temporary residential area.

In the afternoon, they observed the electronic re-



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint and Chief Minister U Nyi Pu meet people of Islamic faith. **PHOTO: MNA**

cording of the national verification process at Shwezar village-tract in Maungtau township.

Immigration and Population Department has issued NVCs for 132 Hindus of Kyaunggyilan Ward in Sittway on 28 and 30 October and 1 November, 213 Hindus in Dan-yawady stadium from 1 to 5 November, conducted NID recording of 280 persons, issued NVC for 64 in Ngayantchaung village, Buthidaung township, and conducted NID recording of 65 persons on 1 and 2 November, issued NVC for 699 of

Shwezar village-tract and conducted NID recording of 737 from 12 October up to this date. NVC holders and non-holders have been recorded through NID and bio metric methods.

The Union minister, the chief minister and party observed the site where Kanyinchaung special economic zone will be set up and border fencing.

They also inspected the re-opened border gate in Maungtau and met with Hindus taking shelter at a school in Maungtau. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Distance University Students studying peacefully in Rakhine State

DUE to increasing number of higher level education students in Rakhine State, new classrooms, student's dormitories and departmental housings will be implemented in upcoming budget year according to the Department of Higher Education.

Intensive course and final examination are being held at Sittway sub department of Yangon University of Distance Education and First batch exam will be held in October 2017 while second and third batches exam in October and November, 2017 respectively.

"The third batch of the distance studies are being studied in Sittway University and Taunggye University. The Major courses are prescribed as Myanmar, History, Economics and Business Management studies in there. The students there are from first year to fourth year. In the third batch, there are 9,525 students in Sittway University and 5,488 students in Taunggye University. The University students of people of Islamic faith from Northern Rakhine State in Taunggye University are studying peacefully at a Distance Education Sub Department in Thandwe and University students from Southern Rakhine State are also being lectured at Thetkel Pyin Basic Education High School (BEHS). The two Major courses; History and Myanmar have being lectured in ThetkelPyin BEHS. There are seven University students in History Major. There is a large number of students with sufficient courses in Sittway University. Some lecturers from Sittway University have sent to sub department in Thandwe while some lecturers from Yangon University also came and aided in Thetkel Pyin.

"I'm now here to observe



Dr Thein Win.



Dr Win Naing.



Daw Moe Moe Aung.



Documentary photo taken with Chief Administrator Dr. Thein Win. **PHOTO: KAN TUN**

the current condition of studying students in the Universities. All the conditions are convenient as State Government is also aiding to the Universities known by the rector of Sittway University. We have also arranged 4 buses for the transportation of the students and lecturers. For more convenient of people of Islamic faith Students, we have launched such sub-departments. As numbers of matriculation passing students increase, demands of the Universities is bigger too. We will implement further new classrooms, student's dormito-

ries and departmental housings in coming budget year", said Director General of Higher Education Department, Dr. Thein Win.

"I want to say many thanks for providing education for us like that. At first I thought I cannot learn such a University Studies but I'm very happy now as many lecturers are coming to teach us here. I would like to welcome freshly passed matriculation students to apply for the University and I want to say let's learn together", said Maung Zaw Htet Aung from Sittway Thel Chaung rescue camp who is studying

Myanmar Major in first year of Thetkel Pyin Distance Education sub department.

"Firstly I want to express my gratitude for having opportunities to learn the higher education in our own places. We have not learned our studies for a period of time. I was even not expected to having such kind of opportunity. After graduation, I will serve as a lecturer in a University. I would like to urge other postponed students to join our University for our graduations as we can learn our higher studies independently", said Ma Htay

Htay Myint from Ohn Taw Gyi rescue camp who is studying Myanmar Major in first year of Thetkel Pyin Distance Education sub department.

"As I am the only one who taking History Major and I can learn directly with my teachers. As all my teachers consider me as their son, I believe I can pass my final examination. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all the officials for arranging such opportunity for us", said Maung Maung Hla from ThetkelPyin Village who is studying History Major in first year of ThetkelPyin Distance Education sub department.

Daw Moe Moe Aung, a lecturer from English Department from Dagon University who is teaching at ThetkelPyin Distance Education sub department said, "there are a total of eight students including seven Myanmar major students and one History Major student. We are teaching them by normal school schedule, 50 minutes for a period, ranging from 8 am to 1pm a day. We have no difficulty and we are teaching them as our former ordinary students".

Head Professor of Sittway University Dr. Win Naing said, "There is a Arts and Science university and degree college in Rakhine State. There are courses and exams held in Sittway-ThakelPyin Village for people of Islamic faith students who are unable to attend the university this year due to some difficulties.

There is another exam in Thandwe city as well. The Union Government has sent seven teachers from universities in Yangon to teach at these classes in ThakelPyin. I think if there are more educated people in the region then regional stability will follow." —Tin Tun (IPRD) ■



A class in session in Basic Education High School in Thetkel Pyin village. **PHOTO: MNA**



Chief Administrator Dr. Thein Win observes a class in session. **PHOTO: MNA**



Htay Htay Myint



Zaw Htet Aung

Union minister for Planning and Finance U Kyaw Win attends ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting

UNION Minister for Planning and Finance U Kyaw Win and party who arrived in Manila, the Philippine to attend 31st ASEAN Summit and related summits which will be held on 13 and 14 November attended the pre-coordination Meeting of ASEAN Economic Ministers, 15th ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Meeting, ASEAN-Japan Business Meeting and ministerial meeting for regional all sector economic cooperation which are held at Marriott Hotel yesterday.

ASEAN's economic ministers and representatives from China, Japan, Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand involved at regional all sector economic cooperation and ASEAN's Deputy General Secretary and repre-

sentatives attended the meetings.

To be able to sign the final draft agreement for ASEAN-Japan all sector economic cooperation in 2018, the businesses development which are carried out in priority during the term of the chairmanship of Philippine, the development processes of ASEAN Business Community in 2017, to finalize the coordination for regional all sector cooperation and upcoming works were discussed.

The report of ASEAN Business Community Council which submits to the national leaders during the ASEAN summit and the report which related to regional all sector economic development that included at the statement of 31st ASEAN Sum-



Union Minister U Kyaw Win poses with other representatives at the 15th ASEAN Economic Community Council Meeting in Manila, Philippines. **PHOTO: MNA**

mit were also confirmed. In the evening, the union minister attended the Forum on

Unleashing Women Economic Power and Human Capital Development which was held during

the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit at Solaire Hotel. — Myanmar news Agency ■

Foreign media interviews Muslims heading to Bangladesh

REPORTS say that many Muslims are leaving their villages in Rakhine State and heading to Bangladesh after the attacks by ARSA terrorists in the region.

Foreign media agencies in Yangon have travelled to Rakhine State to gather information on the reason for Muslims leaving for Bangladesh. Media representatives travelled to Alelthan Kyaw Village and met the 2,000 Muslims temporarily taking shelter along the coast and the media also met with the 70 Muslims currently living along the coast between Mhowin Creek and Gawdutharra Creek.

Afterwards, the Office of the Commander-in-Chief reports that the media representatives asked questions on regional security measures to Brig-Gen Aye Lwin, the Deputy Administrator of the Office for Public Relations and Psychological Warfare Operations under the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), and Deputy Police Commander Myint Kyaw, who is currently on duty as part of the security force in Rakhine. —MNA ■



Journalists from foreign media agencies interview Muslims planning to flee to Bangladesh from Rakhine. **PHOTO: MNA**



Many Muslims are taking temporary shelter near coastal areas before their planned departure to Bangladesh. **PHOTO: MNA**

Youth's day introduction ceremony in Rakhine State

YOUTH volunteers from all over Myanmar have volunteered to help in Maungdaw District in Rakhine State and a ceremony to introduce the volunteers and their work, titled "Youth for the people", was held in the regional government's office on 11 November.

At the ceremony, Deputy Minister U Soe Aung, from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, gave the opening address. Next, U Min Aung, Minister for Rakhine State Development Committee, explained the challenges that young volunteers may encounter and he also explained plans for supporting the volunteers.

Afterwards, Deputy Admin-

istrator U Aung Kyaw Moe, from Department of Social Welfare, explained the work plans and future plans for the 20 days of Youth for the people. A representative of the volunteers, Ma Yin Moe thanked the officials on behalf of the volunteers.

Ma Yin Moe said, "I am honored that we can work on this large scale philanthropic work hand in hand with support from government departments. We will help the people with no racial, religious discrimination from us and give it our all with a humanistic approach."

The Deputy Minister, U Soe Aung, then gave the closing speech. —Tin Htun (IPRD) ■



Youth volunteers and officials from Rakhine State meet at the "Youth for the people" ceremony held on 11 November. **PHOTO: MNA**

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

Paddy harvesting in Maungtaw region in progress

THE Department of Mechanized Farming, Ministry of Agriculture, livestock and Irrigation has been harvesting in Maungtaw region the ripened monsoon paddy which are now lacking ownership with the help of Union Government, State Government, related departments and administrative organizations. In 7 village groups of Maungtaw such as Myothugyi, ondaw, Alethangyaw, Kyaungtaung, Kanphu, Nwayontaung and Thandar rain rice paddies are reaped with the force of 32 machinery and it is learnt from the Department of Mechanized Farming that estimated 1261.29 acres have been finished and attained 49000 baskets of paddy. This year the paddy was grown over 70,000 acres in Maungtaw area.

News team interviewed the responsible personnel of State Government and the departments concerned who are taking care the harvesting of the rice paddy without much wastage.

U Kyaw Lwin
Rakhine State Minister
for Agriculture, Live-
stock, Forest and Mine

Question: : How would you manage accepting the harvested paddy?

Answer: : We are divided into groups. DMF is harvesting the rice paddy while the Agricultural Department is collecting the rice paddy and then we will sell them to the businessmen. The selling program has been already set during the Maungtaw visit of State chief minister.

Q: : Who will be included in the paddy-collecting team.

A: : There are also 7 groups to collect the harvested grains. Agriculture Department, Mechanized Farming Department and administrative and management teams are the main organizations in the collecting groups. Besides, persons from local administrative organization and other related departments will be consisted of.

Q: : In which way the paddy of no ownership will be sold.

A: : These are not ownerless paddy. These actually are ripened paddy without any harvester. Therefore, we are harvesting using harvesters procured by Rakhine State Government Fund and also by Union Government fund. Frankly speaking we have some difficulties in storing the harvested paddy. Therefore the harvested paddy will be sold and the earnings will be deposited at a bank opening an account number.



U Kyaw Lwin.
PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG



U Khin Zaw Ohn.
PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG



U Thein Wai.
PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG



U Maung Maung Kyaw.
PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG



Laborers hard at work carrying rice paddy and sorting out the grain in a farm in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG**

We are just helping by harvesting the ripe paddy which are going to become overripe and damaged.

U Khin Zaw Ohn
(Department Manager)
Department of
Mechanized Farming

Q: : With which departments are you cooperating in harvesting the paddy?

A: : The ripe rice paddies are reaped by harvester and the harvested rice are transported to the drying sites. The Agriculture Department collected the harvested rice and dry them and store them. Settlement and Land Record Department takes the detail statistics of the owner's name and number of acres. The Department of Agriculture advises on which field of paddy be given the priority of harvesting depending on the ripeness of the rice grains.

Q: : I would like to know the main intent of the harvesting the ownerless rice paddy.

A: : The rice paddies grown reach their mature stage and some fields show over ma-

ture stage. They are going to be damaged. In some places rice were damaged. Some fields were destroyed by strayed cows and buffaloes. We will harvest at the most of our capacity in man power and machine power under the guidance of Union Minister.

Q: : Let us know the difficulties you have faced in harvesting the rice.

A: : Untimely rain is a hindrance in harvesting process. The rice cannot be reaped immediately after it becomes wet by rain. The harvesters cannot drive well on the field wet with rain. So, it can't be finished in time. Though a machine can normally finish 5 acres, it cannot do it when the field is soaked by rain.

Q: : What do you have anything to say more.

A: : Here, workers are scarce. As a consequence the field cannot be reaped in time and the ripe rice fall on ground as wastage. That is the loss for individual owner and also for the country. That is why our department is helping in harvesting as



PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG

hard as possible.

U Thein Wai
Township Agriculture
Department

Q: : In harvesting the rice paddy how your department is cooperating?

A: : Our department is taking part in drying the rice paddy under the sun in the area where the spacious land is available like foot ball ground of Alethangyaw. The dried rice are put in heap in the nearest suitable places. For the time being rice paddies are still in the drying stage.

Q: : At what time the rice should be reaped and at what condition rice grains can encounter damaging?

A: : Every year most of the

rice fields have already been harvested in November. The rice in this area are late growers and they are still in good condition to be reaped. They can be reaped till December. During the time of terrorist attack, paddy fields were destroyed by the cattle.

Q: : In what way are you cooperating with?

A: : We are transporting the rice paddy harvested by Department of Mechanized Farming to the drying land. Then we managed to store the dried rice at the nearest places. For the time being closed schools are managed to store the dried rice paddy. The main place for storage now is Alethangyaw school.

SEE PAGE-12

Music concert for centennial Myanmar Scout anniversary

The music concert celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Myanmar Scouts Association was held in Thuwanna indoor stadium (1) in Yangon yesterday.

The concert was done with the purpose of promoting interest and encouragement from the public on the actions of the Myanmar scouts.

Attending the festival were Dr. Tin Myo Win, Chairman of the Union Peace Commission, U Phyo Min Thein, the Yangon Region Chief Minister, Dr. Tin Nyo, the Chairman of Myanmar Scouts Association and Chief of the Boy Scouts, Dr. Daw Tin Hla Kyi, Chief of the Girl Scouts, and other invited guests.

At the concert, scouts from basic education schools played their bugles and recited the three oaths for scouts. Some of



Left, officials observe the music festival for Myanmar Scouts while scout members and the audience, right, watch from below. **PHOTO: MNA**

the songs played at the concert include "Scout's Honor", "Ready for the people", "Messenger of Peace", "World Song" by the scouts. Artists performing at the concert include R-Zarni, Wai La,

Tha O, Phyo Pyae Sone, Htay Lin, Bo Bo Htut, Thar Nge, G Latt, Han Htun, Ni Ni Khin Zaw, Lhwan Yati Zaw, Sophia, Phyu Phyu Han, and Billy La Min Aye.

Afterwards, guests were

allowed to visit the exhibitions for boy scouts and girl scouts. The exhibitions showcased the scouts' objectives and their skills including tying knots, signaling, and sign language. The exhibi-

tion also showed photos of the world's scouts movements and books concerning them. Guests also bought souvenirs from small stores near the exhibition. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Fallen Commonwealth soldiers of world wars remembered

A memorial service for soldiers of Britain and Commonwealth countries who died in the line of duty during the world wars was held at a Commonwealth Cemetery near Hanthawady roundabout in Yangon.

The memorial service was attended by ambassadors and embassy staff and military attachés of the embassies in Yangon, officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, families of Commonwealth soldiers who

fell during the WWII, families of Myanmar citizens and invited guests. The British Ambassador delivered address at the service and a two-minute silence was observed in honour of the soldiers who died in the line of duty during the WWI and WWII.

Then the ambassador, officials and families laid wreath at the war memorial. The ceremony was sponsored by the British Embassy in Myanmar. —Zaw Gyi ■



A foreign ambassador and military officer pay respect to commonwealth soldiers who died in the line of duty during the work wars. **PHOTO: THURA**

Paddy harvesting ...

FROM PAGE-11

Q: : There are some damaged paddy fields. Why they are damaged?

A: : We also find those damaged fields. The damage is due to late harvesting. They could not be reaped in time when they are ripe. The heaps of rice are covered by tarpaulin cloth as a measure of protecting from untimely rain. Bringing the rice to the shelter in time is our priority.

U Maung Maung Kyaw Win (head of department) Land Management and land Record Department

Q: : How your department has cooperated in harvesting the

ripe rice?

A: : Our department has differentiated between rice paddy fields of ethnic people and those of no harvester. After harvesting the statistics regarding production amount of each field and number of field and the name of owner of respective fields are treated by our department. We have. As we levied the tax regularly we have the statistics who owns how much of the fields in the area.

Q: : How do you record the damaged fields and the rice field which cannot be reaped in time?

A: : If we list the harvested rice field, we can know the re-



Numerous piles of rice paddy are left to dry in the Sun after they've been reaped before they are spoiled. **PHOTO: PHOE HTAUNG**

maining are damaged and unable to be harvested.

Q: : Have you harvested the

rice fields of ethnic people?

A: : Now we are prioritizing the fields of no harvester.

We don't harvest the rice paddy fields which have their owners.

—Phoe Htaung ■