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Community policing gives rise to public safety issues in Kayin State: residents

COMMUNITY-based policing across Kayin State is allowing people to help reduce fear of crimes and other nuisances such as drunks, gangs, and disorderly and obstreperous people on the streets, residents say.

To promote rules of law and provide effective protection to individuals against crimes, the community-based policing programme is being implemented in Kayin State, a programme in which police raise their level of cooperation with the local community through public safety efforts.

“Continuous efforts for public safety have been made throughout the region systematically. We extend a helping hand to the public by offering a wide range of social services including participation in collective sanitation activities in public areas, road



Police directs traffic on the street to provide public safety under the community-based policing programme being implemented in Kayin State. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

safety arrangements especially before and after school hours and organising some meetings with town's elders to discuss further arrangements with regard to rule of law”, a police officer said. One of the officers said that

a new police patrol schedule puts more police members on the streets at the most needed times, encouraging residents to ask them for help at any time.

“I think this close cooperation between police and res-

idents increases the positive image of police. As a member of the general public, I warmly welcome the police's safety enhancement services,” a local said.—Min Thu/Tun Tun Htwe (Hpa-an) ■

Hovercraft services available in Ngwehsaung Beach

ARRANGED by the Directorate of Hotels and Tourims (Ngwehsaung), hovercraft services are now available in Ngwehsaung Beach, a popular beach resort located about five and half-hours drive from Yangon, according to a report of the Myawady Daily's Saturday edition.

The launching of hovercraft

transport services is expected to make travel to popular areas easier for visitors. Thanks to the new services, travelers may easily visit not only Ngwehsaung Beach but nearby destinations including Chaungtha Beach, Gawyingyi Island and other areas, said a spokesperson of the department. After the Ngweh-

saung Hovercraft Association was founded this month, the hovercraft service launched its operations along the beach to transport visitors to sites where they can enjoy beautiful landscapes and observe the lifestyles of local fishermen and activities in the beach area by hovercraft.

According to official statis-

tics, Ngwehsaung Beach hosted over 100,000 holidaymakers including 25,000 foreign travelers between January and October of this year. The figures increased by 16 per cent from the same period of last year. There are 29 hotels and guesthouses with 1,300 rooms in Ngwehsaung Beach.—GNLM ■

Waste-to-fuel plant in Monywa's Butalin Tsp nearly complete

CONSTRUCTION of a waste-to-fuel plant in Butalin Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Region, is nearly complete, according to a report of the Myawady Daily's Friday edition.

U Thant Zin Tun from Chindwin Chemical Engineering project said that the project

is currently 90 per cent complete and is expected to finalise within the time frame.

The project is an example of green economy in action, transforming the town's rubbish into fuel. A gasification process will turn waste into high quality diesel.

“This is part of efforts to develop mechanised farming in the region. We plan to distribute the high quality diesel to local farmers at a fair price. The price for a barrel of diesel is estimated to be worth Ks200,000,” said U Thant Zin Tun.

He added, “The plant needs

around 1,200 tonnes of garbage to produce 100 gallons of fuel on a daily basis. We plan to buy plastic waste from Monywa Town if we are unable to collect sufficient raw materials here.”

The new plant is expected to start operation in early December.—GNLM ■

Yaba pills worth Ks1.95 billion seized in Maungtaw

TWO men in the Maungtaw area in Rakhine State have been arrested by police after they were found in possession of a cache of yaba pills worth more than Ks1.95 billion on Friday afternoon.

Acting on a tip-off, an anti-drug squad searched a betel quid shop of Anna Taw Tula, 25,

and discovered 292,500 WY and R brand yaba pills worth over Ks580 million in the shop.

As a result of follow-up investigations, police searched a warehouse in Ashekin Village in the same township, where police confiscated 682,500 yaba pills worth over Ks360 million.

Investigators say that a

yaba tablet is sold for Ks2,000 in the local market. An investigation is being made by local authorities in an effort to arrest others involved in the case.

The two suspects have been charged with drug trafficking under Section 15/19 (a) and 20 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

The Ministry of Home Affairs is exerting sustained efforts to reduce drug-related crimes in the country and prevent the spread of stimulant substances among the general public, especially among students and young people, through various programmes.—Khin Ko (Kyaukdaga) ■

Write for us

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish “Letter to the Editor” that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

8th Model ASEM 2017 discusses partnership, peace and development



The 8th Model ASEM members take place roundtable discussions meeting in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

ISSUES based on discussions and roundtable discussions of task forces of the 8th Model ASEM 2017 were held at the Myanmar International Convention Center-2 (MICC-2) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the discussion, they discussed three main headings

— partnership, peace and sustainable development. They discussed creativity, information technology, education, skills, Asia-Europe's youth sector, anti-terrorism cooperation, economic migrant challenges and opportunities, an end to poverty, renewable energy and climate

change. After discussions of the 8th Model ASEM youths, the results released by each discussion group were confirmed.

Present at the meeting were 98 youths from Asia-Europe nations and 56 Myanmar youths. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Delegations to ASEM FMM 13 arrive in Nay Pyi Taw

DEPUTY foreign ministers from Poland, Latvia and the Philippines and the Ambassador of Kazakhstan arrived at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport yesterday evening to attend the 13th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting (ASEM FMM13).

They were welcomed at the airport by U Than Htwe, Deputy Director-General of Protocol Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other officials. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Delegations arrive at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport to attend the 13th ASEM Foreign Minister's Meeting. **PHOTO: MNA**

Ks448 million donated for UEHRD

A cash donation ceremony for the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State (UEHRD) was held yesterday morning at the hall of the Rakhine State Government Office.

Bago Region Chief Minister

U Win Thein and party handed over Ks448 million to Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, state cabinet ministers and officials, who in turn presented certificates of honour.

The cash was donated for the Mro ethnic people in Kyainggyi-

gyun, Maungdaw region to build 64 houses, with the money to be divided, using Ks7 million per house. Present at the meeting were Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein and officials. —Win Min Soe (IPRD) ■

Ministry of Health's notification on Japanese encephalitis vaccinations

THE Ministry of Health and Sports issued a notification yesterday on Japanese encephalitis vaccinations, it is learnt.

According to World Health Organization (WHO), the Japanese encephalitis virus infects 3,000 to 6,000 people in Myanmar annually, but that number is likely to be much higher. Ninety per cent of those infected are children aged 15 years and below. Of those infected, 30 per cent are fatal, while many survivors continue to have long-term neurologic, psychiatric, or cognitive problems.

Therefore, the Ministry of Health and Sports is arranging to vaccinate children between the ages of 9 months and 15 years all over the country in cooperation with donor organisations Gavi, the vaccine alliance, WHO, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

For the vaccination programme to be safe, a year of preparations were made using WHO's estimate on possible post-vaccination problems, preventive measures and treatment processes included in the guidelines, experienced health personnel trained, required medications prepared for all vaccination teams and close observation work for post vaccination problems were set in place.

Countrywide vaccinations of 14 million children between the ages of 9 months and 15 years was started on 15 November, and 17 November vaccinating more than 5 million children.

Three children showed signs of severe post-vaccination symptoms and two recovered after being given preliminary treatments.

A 13-year-old child in Pinlaung Township, Shan State who showed signs of severe post-vaccination symptoms was given preliminary treatment in the township hospital and was transferred to Taunggyi Women and Children Hospital, but died on 16 November. A project manager and a field team from the central vaccination programme immediately went to find out the cause of the death and to see whether there was any connection to the vaccination. They are conducting laboratory tests with Shan State Health Department officials and specialists.

On 18 November, experts from the Ministry of Health, the Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) Management Committee, and the advisory committee on national-level immunisation work held a meeting to review the findings submitted by the field team. On 19 November, officials from the Ministry of Health, specialists, and officials from WHO and UNICEF will conduct a field visit and issue an announcement.

Japanese encephalitis vaccination work is being continued and additional measures were put in place to prevent and reduce occurrence of similar post-vaccination problems, according to the notification.

Enquiries on Japanese encephalitis vaccination work can be made to

(1) Dr. Than Tun Aung, Deputy Director General, Phone 095408973 and

(2) Dr. Htar Htar Lin, Project Manager, Phone 09428188188 it is learnt. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Opening ceremony of ASEM FMM 13 to be broadcast live

THE opening ceremony of the 13th ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting (ASEM FMM 13) will be held at 9am on 20 November at Myanmar International Convention Center-1 (MICC-1).

Myanmar Television (MRTV), Myanmar Radio and the MRTV Facebook page will broadcast live starting from 8:40am. —Myanmar News Agency ■

RAKHINE State is Situated on the western coast, it is bordered by Chin State to the north, Magway Region, Bago Region and Ayeyarwady Region to the east, the Bay of Bengal to the west, and the Chittagong Division of Bangladesh to the northwest.

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The Mro ethnic people in Rakhine's hilly areas are farmers living peacefully until ARSA terrorists burned their homes. Now their homes in Kone Tine Village are destroyed, and devoid of people.

The attack on their village happened, four days after ARSA's attack in the Maung-taw Region on 25 August, and displaced the 247 villagers. About 500 terrorists armed

with guns, machetes and sticks raided the village, killing villagers and burning their homes.

In the attacks, most of the villagers were able to escape because the village sentry sounded the alarm on time. Those who couldn't flee in time were killed by the terrorists.

U Maung Hla said he will never forget the images of his villagers beaten and killed as the terrorists surrounded their village and cut off all ways to escape. Three elderly people, two men and a five year old boy were killed and seven people received incised wounds.

The Kone Tine villagers say

they fled towards the east of Mayu Mountain and arrived at Pansay Village (Mro ethnic residence) in Buthidaung Township around 8pm. They stayed in Pansay for twenty days and arrived in Laung-done Village (another Mro ethnic residence) in Maungtaw Township on 17 September.

Horrible experiences of Mro villagers

"I don't want to come back here, it hurts my heart," said U Maung Hla, the leader of the Khon Tine Village, to foreign Diplomats comprising of Ambassadors to Myanmar, members of UNRC, UNHCR, WFP, World Bank (Myanmar) visited Maungtaw Region on 2 October who visited there to assess the situation after the terrorist attacks.

Another ethnic villagers who were attacked by ARSA terrorists are from Kaing Gyi Village. On 3 August, armed terrorists entered Kaing Gyi (Mro village) in Maungtaw Township and attacked the local Mro ethnic farmers, killing 7 and one person is currently missing.

Atrocities by terrorists forgotten by international media

Mro people have been working happily in the woods for generations. They have never experienced such kind of terrorist attacks. The farmers of Kaing Gyi Village were attacked by terrorists on 3 August while working in the farm.

"My youngest brother, Linn Kyat, and my eldest son, Kone Paing, were killed in those attacks," said U San Htun from the Mro village.

Suffering of Rakhine's Mro ethnic people

By Nay Htet Khaung



Two Mro ethnic women return home after collecting firewood in the forest. PHOTO: NAY LIN



Two Mro ethnic women from Khaing Gyi Village. PHOTO: NAY LIN

There's a hut near the farms where we sharpen our mattocks and machetes. There were three men and three women in the hut when the attacks happened. U San Htun and other farmers rushed to the hut when they heard gunshots and found some bodies there.

When security forces arrived they tried to find the missing farmers. They searched the area three times and discovered one body, but two are still missing.

"We suspect the terrorists threw the other body into the river to erase their traces," Said U San Htun

"We say it was a terrorist attack based on the evidence we found there. There is a terrorist camp in the Mayu Mountains and we heard it has tunnels. We heard the military destroyed their camp. Our village is the only village around here so they may have tried to kill us thinking we can point out their locations."

Another man who lost a son and a daughter-in-law in the August 3 terrorist attacks is U Mahn Mine from Khaing Gyi (Mro village). The victims, also

a couple, left behind a one year old child.

"We couldn't bring anything with us. Some of us moved to Khaing Gyi from Chaungphyar two years ago. We were farmers but now we don't know what to do," said U Mahn Mine. About 25 families from my village fled to Maungtaw while the rest fled to Khaing Gyi (Rakhine village).

Several days after the terrorists killed five Mro ethnic women and three men, the villagers heard that the terrorists later attacked police outposts.

"We were too scared to continue staying there. It's been three days since we got here (in Sittway). We had a primary school with 42 students in our village. It was self-made, not opened by the government," said U Zaw Naing Oo from Khaing Gyi Village's primary school teacher.

The Mro people mostly live in the northern parts of Maungtaw Township and also in the southern parts in Seinpan Myaing, Shwe Baho and Khaing Gyi (Mro village).



Mro ethnic women from Kone Tine Village perform traditional dance accompanied to traditional musical troupe as they welcome visitors in Maungtaw Township, northern Rakhine State. PHOTO: MNA



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