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Local and foreign journalists were taken to several areas in northern Rakhine where villagers were attacked by terrorists recently. The 18-member journalists will end their five-day visit today. **PHOTO: MNA**

Independent journalists visit troubled areas in Maungtaw

Myanmar and foreign journalists visited troubled areas in northern Rakhine yesterday, where people were attacked by armed attackers.

The independent journalists were taken to several areas including Maung-hnama Village, Yinma Chaung Taung Village and Kyar Gaung Taung

Village.

They were taken to Kyar Gaung Taung, one of three settlements requested by the journalists. More than 50 villagers

from the village were arrested on suspicion of involvement in violent attacks in November last year.

SEE PAGE-2

Three dead, one hurt in IED explosion in Maungtaw Tsp

An IED suspected to be planted by terrorists exploded between Pyaung Pike Village and Nga Sar Kyuu Village in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State yesterday morning, killing three people and injuring one.

The explosion occurred while four men were resting on a hill after working on a farm

at the foot of the hill. Security forces immediately went to the area and found Swe Yauk Dula dead and Pe Yan, Oosman and Kiman Hussun injured. The

three injured were transported to Maungtaw hospital for treatment where Pe Yan and Oosman later succumbed to their injuries.—Myanmar News Agency■

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SUNDAY SPECIAL

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The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

SELFIE: PROS & CONS

Today's issue contains an 8-Page special pull-out supplement.



NATIONAL

Vice President U Henry Van Thio attends Shwe Nantha fair-cost housing estate opening ceremony

PAGE-3



LOCAL BUSINESS

Over 200 hotel rooms to be added in Myeik Archipelago for coming high season

PAGE-5



NATIONAL

Sri Lanka secures rice stocks from Myanmar and Pakistan

PAGE-9

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Ms. Yanghee Lee arrives back to Yangon from Lashio

MS. YANGHEE LEE, Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar arrived back to Yangon by air from Lashio yesterday.

Earlier in the morning, she met with officials of UN organizations and civil society organisations at Golden Hill Hotel, Lashio.

Later in the afternoon, she paid homage to Thiri Mingalar Mansu Shan Monastery Sayadaw and donated offertories after which she left for Yangon by air.

—IPRD ■



Ms Yanghee Lee leaves Lashio for Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

Eight arrested in Yathedaung Township on suspicion of terrorist links

SECURITY forces recently arrested a terrorist suspect and seven others suspected of being linked to terrorists in Yathedaung Township it is learnt.

Based on information received on individuals who may have associations with terrorists, attended terrorist training or participated in terrorist acts, security forces arrested Mahmot Norul in Chin Village, Yathedaung Township on the

morning of 11 July. He was interrogated in Nyaung Chaung Police Station and a case was opened against him on 13 July in Zedipyin Police Station. An investigation revealed another terrorist suspect, Mawni Rahmok of Chin Village, who was arrested together with seven men suspected of links to terrorists on the morning of 14 July. Investigations into all the suspects continue.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Gov't prepares to counter flooding

NATIONAL Natural Disaster Management Committee Vice-Chairman and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye met with Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung yesterday morning at the Mandalay Region government office in Mandalay to discuss flooding in the Mandalay region last year and preparation for this year, where there will be cooperation between Union and regional governments in the prevention, response and reconstruction to natural disasters.

Next, the Union Minister provided Ks11 million to the Chief Minister to purchase five fiberglass motorboats for use in disaster management works

and for safe transport of basic education school teachers and students of Patheingyi Township during the rainy season.

The Union Minister then visited Gaw Wein Jetty in Mahaaungmyay Township to view the water inflow situation in the rainy season and went on to Nyaungzin village, Hanthawaddy village tract, Tada-U Township to inspect the preparation of sandbags for preventing the overflowing of Dotawadi River and coordinated long term arrangements. Afterward, the Union Minister visited the old city area in Sinkyone Village, Meethwetike Village Tract, Tada-U Township, where flood waters were flowing. The Union Minister coordinated on restoring the old city wall without affecting the

historic architecture. The old city area is a place of frequent flooding during every rainy season. In the afternoon, the Union Minister visited a drug addicts rehabilitation centre in Mandalay and discussed in detail with officials on upgrading the work of the centre in cooperation with the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation so that the centre could become a model rehabilitation centre.

The Union Minister then met with officials of the Byamaso Social Association, Chanmyathitsa, Chanthukha, 36 Parahita and Seinpan Ward social associations to discuss cooperation among government, townspeople and social associations in preparing and responding to natural disasters.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Maungtaw markets again bustling with shoppers

DESPITE the existence of a curfew instituted after the violent attacks of October 2016, the security situation in Maungtaw town seems to be returning to normal, with the markets in Maungtaw crowded with shoppers and sellers until early in the evening.

Government offices, schools, hospitals, clinics, markets, banks as well as private shops selling various items, barber shops, tailors and tea shops operating normally.

Three border police outposts were attacked by terrorists in October 2016, resulting

in the deaths of nine border policemen and months of security clearance operations.

Due to tightened security immediately after the terrorist incident, the shops were allowed to operate only in the morning, but are now open the whole day with a 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew.

Transport and communication between Maungtaw and Buthidaung has also improved with more buses and cars carrying people and goods while travel to nearby villages with motorcycles and motor tricycles had also increased.—Myint Maung Soe, Aung Kyaw Oo ■



Maungtaw Market. PHOTO: THAKKA

Independent journalists visit troubled areas...

FROM PAGE-1

The 18-Myanmar nationals and foreigners will end their five-day visit today.

They arrived in Rakhine State on 12 July, with a pledge

from the government not to impose any restrictions on the reporters visiting the troubled areas that have been the site of violence since October.

“There are no restrictions

regarding the areas that you can report from,” said U Thet Swe, a director of the Ministry of Information, to the reporters at the beginning of the trip.—

GNLM ■

Transport Co eyes Myanmar links

TRANSPORT CO, Thailand's state-owned public interprovincial bus service provider, plans to expand its routes to link Myanmar and India, according to the Bangkok Post.

Managing director Jirasak Yaowatchasakul said the plan was part of the company's bid

to expand to Asean, especially Myanmar, where tourism was booming, according to a Manager Online report.

The planned route will link Thailand with Myanmar and India – from Mae Sot in Tak province to Myawady and India's border town of Morey, the Bangkok

Post reported yesterday.

Vietnam is also on the company's radar, with the planned route running from Hue to Danang. In the South, it hopes to operate from southern provinces to Malaysia and perhaps to Singapore. “New services will need to be approved by third countries.

Safety will be a major factor in the consideration as some countries have minority groups. We're now discussing the plans with the Land Transport Department before sending them to the Foreign Ministry and the Transport Ministry for approval,” he said.

Some 15%, or 187 million

baht, of the company's 3.7-billion-baht revenue comes from services linked with neighbouring countries, with Laos being the largest market. Transport Co now has 15 routes linking to neighbouring countries, 13 of which are connected to Laos.—Bangkok Post and GNLM ■