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A nurse looks after Ma Kaw Marlar in Buthidaung General Hospital. **PHOTO: MNA**



Hindu women and children escape from terrorists

By Ye Kaung Nyunt

In a ward in Buthidaung General Hospital, a 25 year old Hindu woman lies in bed with a 50 year old woman and a 3 year old child sitting by her bedside. Her name is Ma Kaw Marlar.

Two nurses help Ma Kaw Marlar sit up to answer questions to some news reporters.

"I lost my family," said Ma Kaw Marlar. "My husband, my child, my brother and his wife, six of them were killed. I managed to escape despite some injuries."

She was speaking in Hindi but one of the nurses helped with translating her words.

Around 11 am on 26 August, Ma Kaw Marlar and ten Hindu

family members were returning to Maungtau city from Myinlut city when they walked into a terrorist attack near Myothugyi village. They hid themselves in an unfinished Maungtau District court building in the village. However, there were ARSA members in the building who upon seeing Ma Kaw Marlar and her family shot and killed

two men, one woman and three children.

Ma Kaw Marlar and another woman and two children managed to escape but she received serious injuries.

"There were over 100 terrorists in that unfinished building and they shot at us when we went in," said Ma Kaw Marlar.

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သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်



Union Minister encourages to ethnic people from the nearby villages taking shelter at the No 1 border gurad police force commander's office. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister visits displaced persons in Rakhine

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe visited No 1 border guard police force commander's office (Kyeeganpyin) in northern Rakhine State and gave words of encouragement to ethnic people of the surrounding villages taking shelter there and police members and

families of the office. The Union minister also provided cash assistance to families of fallen and wounded police members. He was accompanied by acting chief of Myanmar Police Force and the border guard police force commander.

During his visit to Sittway

People's Hospital, the Union minister consoled wounded police members and a health staff and also gave them cash assistance. He then paid respects to Bhaddanta Dr Ariyavamsa of Alodawpyae monastery and presented cash donations.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Rakhine State government provides provisions for Maungdaw locals

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu travelled aboard a military helicopter to Maungdaw District, Rakhine, yesterday, to personally provide provisions to internally displaced people.

The Chief Minister has since Thursday organized shipments of rice, cooking oil, onions and potatoes and medical supplies to Maungdaw residents who fled their homes due to attacks by ARSA (Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army) extremist terrorists on 25 August.

The attacks by ARSA terrorists have caused local residents and farmers to give up their live-

lihoods and band together in villages or flee to nearby cities like Buthidaung and Sittway.

In yesterday's expedition, the Chief Minister travelled to Ywatnyotaung, Tamahn-tar and Laungtone villages in Maungdaw to provide food and healthcare. There are 43 houses in Ywatnyotaung Village with diverse ethnicities, 115 houses in Tamahn-tar Village with Rakhine, Daingnet, Thet and Hindu ethnicities and 105 houses in Laungtone Village with Myo, Thet, Daingnet, Burmese and Rakhine ethnicities coexisting together.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Provisions being handed over to local residents in Ywatnyotaung Village. **PHOTO: MNA**

Schools in Maungdaw Township closed due to violence attacks

The Rakhine State Education Department announced that in light of the violent attacks on 25 August by ARSA (Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army) extremist terrorists, 418 schools across Maungdaw District have been temporarily closed.

"We have temporarily closed schools in Maungdaw because of these terrorist attacks," said U Aung Kyaw Htun, head of Rakhine State Education Department. "We are following orders from the state government to close these schools."

School closures number 183 schools in Maungdaw Township, 212 in Buthidaung Township and 23 in Yathedaung Township. Over 80,000 students enrolled in the Maungdaw District this academic year.

The department has plans to supplement the days the schools have been closed after tension in the area has decreased and



One of the schools in Buthidaung Township temporarily closed due to violent attacks in Maungdaw District. **PHOTO: HLA KYAW (IPRD)**

schools are reopened.

U Kyaw Aye Maung, a parent from Buthidaung 4th ward said, "My daughter was attending 6th grade this year but I'm worried about her education since the schools are closed now."

Our schools are frequently being closed whenever a violent attack happens in the

area. This is not good for the children's education in the long run."

After the violent attacks in October 2016, a handful of schools were temporarily closed for a week in Maungdaw District but this time all the schools in the district have been closed.—Tin Maung Lwin, Min Htet Aung ■

More aids for temporary relief camps

Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Nyi Pu on 2 September visited relief camps in Sittway and gave words of encouragement to victims of the terrorist attacks from Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships who were taking shelter there.

Accompanied by Rakhine State Social Affairs Minister Dr Chan Tha and officials, the chief minister first arrived at the temporary relief camp opened at Pyigyimandaing monastery

in Setmusu Ward in the town, consoled the displaced persons and provided K 500,000 for them.

At the relief camp in Lanmadaw monastery in North Lanmadaw Ward, the chief minister visited displaced persons.

More aids will be sent for the displaced persons taking shelter at temporary relief camps run by the local government in Sittway to ensure continuous flow of food and constant health care.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Nyi Pu gives words of encouragement to victims at the relief camps in Sittway. **PHOTO: MNA**

Minister of State U Kyaw Tin attends FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting and Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Busan

Myanmar delegation led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin attended the 8th Forum for East Asia and Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) Foreign Ministers' Meeting held on 31st August 2017 in Busan, the Republic of Korea. The forum was inaugurated by the opening address by Mr. Moon Jae-In, President of the Republic of Korea and attended by Ministerial delegates from 36 member-countries of East Asia and Latin America.

The forum was co-chaired by Ms. Kang Kyung-Wha, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and Mr. Herbert Estuardo Meneses, Ambassador of the Republic of Guatemala to the Republic of Korea. The forum adopted Busan Declaration and new FEALAC Action Plan and agreed to establish the FEALAC Trust fund in order to further enhance the implementation of the cooperation projects between the two regions.

At the meeting, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin took part in the debate on making FEALAC more dynamic and stressed the need for the two regions to cooperate in the areas of education, culture, trade, climate change, transnational



7th Mekong-Rok Foreign Ministers' Meeting in progress. PHOTO: MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

crimes, and fight against terrorism, cyber security and cyber abuse in the social media.

FEALAC was established in 1999 with 16 countries from East Asia and 20 countries from Latin America to cooperate between the two regions on various areas including trade, economy and investment. FEALAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting has been held every 2 years alternately in each

region. The Minister of State also attended the 7th Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Busan on 1st September 2017. The meeting was attended by Ministerial delegates from the Republic of Korea, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam and was co-chaired by Ms. Kang Kyung-Wha, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and Mr. Saleumxay

Kommasith, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

The meeting endorsed the Mekong-Korea new Plan of Action 2017-2020 and issued a Co-Chairs' statement. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin apprised the meeting of the progress on projects being implemented in Myanmar under Mekong-Korea cooperation

framework. Under Mekong-Korea new Plan of Action 2017-2020, the meeting approved 5 new projects for the Mekong countries including Preservation and Digitization of the Bagan Photographic Archive project, Strengthening Capacity in the areas of Culture, Education and Tourism project, and Project on the Study of Use of Wind Energy for the rural development.

In the morning of 1 September 2017, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin attended the opening ceremony of the ASEAN Culture House in Busan together with other delegates from ASEAN member countries. While in Busan, Minister of State also met with Ms. Patti Londono, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia on 30 August 2017 at a bilateral meeting, and discussed matters on promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation, including signing of MOU on Foreign Office Consultations between the two Foreign Ministries, providing Spanish language training course for Myanmar nationals, and sharing Colombia's experiences on peace building and peace making to Myanmar. —Ministry of Foreign Affairs ■

Aid delivered to displaced people and security forces in Sittway

Supporting aids distributing ceremony was held yesterday morning at Alotawpyae Monastery in Sittway Township.

Provisions were given to the displaced people suffered by ARSA extremist terrorist attacks occurred in northern Rakhine State on 25 August and security forces' members from Maung-taw, Buthidaung and Yethadaung townships in Rakhine State.

Led by Alotawpyae Sayadaw Ariyavamsa and layman supporters, Thandwe Charity Foundation, Tha Bu Chaing offshore motorboats group, Min Zar Ni Co., Ltd family, Lay Kyun Thu Foundation (Yangon), Nyaung U Township's Alotawpyae Sayadaw and supporters and well-wishers aided with the provisions. Captain Hla Myint Soe of Maung-taw Region accepted the provisions

and gave Certificates of Honour to the contributors. "To ease the problems of displaced people, we are giving the relief aids with our national spirits. Then, we were collecting funds in Yangon and provisions are being transported by Tatmataw's helicopters to the victims from the edges of Maung-taw Region. We provided the foods and goods today for the displaced people in Maung-taw, Buthidaung

and Yethadaung townships," said Alotawpyae Sayadaw. "Tatmataw and government are responding their best to ARSA extremist terrorist attacks in northern Rakhine State while we are also involving as a part to help our national ethnic victim people. Moreover, security forces taking their duties in Maung-taw Region were also contributed readymade foods. At today ceremony, over Ks80 million

worth provisions were distributed by well-wishers and donors," said U Thein Htay a donor of today supporting aids distribution ceremony. Over 350 displaced people are now in Alotawpyae Monastery. The Presiding Sayadaw of Alotawpyae monastery is looking after them and State government aided with rice and other provisions. —Tin Maung Lwin/ Min Htet Aung ■

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ARSA extremist terrorists destroy border fence

ARSA extremist terrorists were making movements after tearing the border fence apart, cutting off the heads of Buddha statues of a pagoda in Nantthataung village and burning down a monastery, a Buddhist school and homes in Maungtaw Township.

Security forces while on their area clearance and anti-terrorist operations in the surrounding areas of Nantthataung village in the township on 1 September found two damaged sections of the fence -- one 120-foot long and

the other 32-feet long -- between Meetaikchaungwa outpost and Kunthebinchaungwa outpost. The ARSA extremist terrorists were easily crossing the border through the damaged parts and moving along the mouths of the creeks.

The security forces found that the terrorists cut off all the heads of the Buddha statues of the pagoda and burnt down a monastery, a Buddhist school and 37 homes. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Photo shows the damage caused by ARSA extremist terrorists. **PHOTO: INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

Interview with the family members of the villagers slain by ARSA extremist terrorists

Rakhine State Chief Minister and responsible personnel went to Wailar Taung village where the remaining families of the 5 Daingnets killed by ARSA attacks were taking temporary refuge and supplied the monetary assistance to them. The Rakhine State government donated Ks. 200,000 each and total Ks. 1,000,000 and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement gave Ks.300,000 each and total Ks. 1,500,000.

In that journey, the interview with the remaining family members of the 5 Daingnets killed by ARSA extremist terrorist attacks were made and hereby presented.

U Thar Hla (Daingnet, Yankar Zedi village)

Our village is consisted of 10 households. All the inhabitants are Daingnets. All the villagers fled the village when terrorist attacks broke out.

The five families fled to new land territory. We fled to Wailar Taung village. Our group consisted of 22 people and at about half way about 100 terrorists attacked us with knives and swords. 5 villagers were killed and some were wounded. My wife, daughter-in law, my son and my grandchild were killed.

The bodies of my wife and grandchild were recovered



U Thar Hla (Daingnet, Yankar Zedi village).

thanks to the help of security forces. The bodies of my wife and son still remained undiscovered. The government had supported Ks.500,000 each for my deceased family members.



Maung Ba Maung (Daingnet, Aungzan village).

Maung Ba Maung (Daingnet, Aungzan village)

The deceased due to the attack of terrorists is my cousin brother Maung Thein Hla. He was killed on the roadside near

Anobali village while he was on his way to Khamaukseik on 25 August. Though I wished to search for the body of my brother I dared not go on security ground. Now, people from Aung Zan village and Thet village came to the monastery of Waila Taung village to take refuge. Meals are going well here as the government sent the food for the displaced people. Police are deployed here for the security.

This is the time for all people to unite and cooperate in wiping out the ARSA terrorists from the land of Myanmar. This interview is written to let the people know about the heart-rending incidents of Daingnet people. ■

Hindu women and children escape from terrorists

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Ma Kaw Marlar gestured slowly with her injured right arm while telling the reporters that the terrorists were mostly dressed in black pants, shirts and masks while a few of them had normal attire on. "Some were armed with sticks and swords and some were armed with guns," she said.

Ma Kaw Marlar witnessed her husband, child and relatives shot and slashed to death and herself shot. The terrorists left, thinking she was dead but Ma Kaw Marlar and the three other survivors later hid themselves

inside a barrel.

"I was shot on the left side of my chest," said Ma Kaw Marlar. "They thought I was dead and left. Another women and two children were hiding in a barrel and I joined them. Now I, this child, and the other two are the only ones who survived," said Ma Kaw Marlar as she gestured to the three-year old boy by her bedside.

Although she survived, Ma Kaw Marlar lost her family in the attack.

The doctor looking after Ma Kaw Marlar said that the bullet to her chest ripped off some of her left breast and they are

transferring her to Sittway's hospital for better treatment.

The unfinished two-storied court building stands silently as armed policeman are stationed nearby. A red Surf vehicle is parked in front of the building with all its windows smashed, littering glass onto the concrete road.

Dr. Kyaw Maung Maung Thein, a senior medical staff of Maungtaw General Hospital, was part of a group who carried the bodies of the Hindu family that were killed in the attack on 26 August.

"There were children among the six Hindu family

members that were killed," said Dr. Kyaw Maung Maung Thein. "It's very sad. They were children around the ages of 5, 7 and 9 years. It's very cruel," he said.

Up till 25 August, Maungtaw city was full of people of diverse races and languages living peacefully. ARSA terrorists led a coordinated attack on 25 August and invaded 30 security posts and police outposts in Maungtaw, Buthidaung and Yathedaung townships and Taungbazar village, killing security personnel, an immigration officer and innocent civilians.

ARSA terrorists had disrupted the peace that was slowly building in Rakhine.

Counter-terrorism is a global concern for the United Nations, international organizations and international governments and is equally important for everybody to oppose it.

Now is the time for us to collaborate to push back the terrorists not only in Rakhine State but in other states across the country as well.

Ma Kaw Marlar lays down on a bed in the outpatient ward. Her eyes are resting upon her three-year old son, her only family left. ■