Workshop held for acquiring books for IPRD libraries

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint leads a workshop on promoting community IPRD libraries. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint attended a workshop at the Department of Printing and Publications on Theinphyu Street in Yangon yesterday.

The workshop focused on the public libraries opened by the Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) and their book reviews and purchase reports. The Director General of IPRD U Ye Naing presented the book review and purchase report.

Next, the Union Minister gave instructions on opening and managing the community centers and community libraries. He said the libraries should include more than just the classics and add in books that will attract casual readers. He also encouraged the formation of book clubs to develop reading habits for the people. He advised adding books written by authors local to their respective regions to rouse interest from the local people.

Afterwards, the attendants gave presentations engaged in discussions on many topics. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Substitute Development Task in Shan State

THE Chairman of Substitute Development Tasks, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Than Htut, accompanied by State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Naing Win Aung and Chairman of the Leading Body of PaO Self-administered Zone U Khun San Lwin inspected the substitute development task in Popinn, Hmwepyin, Pinkhin and Lwelmot village tracts in Naungtaya region in Southern Shan State, along with development throughout the region.

The Deputy Minister and party met local ethnic people, officials, and those from the PaO Self-administered Zone's leading body and departmental staff. In their meeting, the Deputy Minister explained about coordinating meetings of management committees on substitute development tasks, to be held in Nay Pyi Taw.

He said, members of the management committee and representatives from departments selected Popinn, Hmwepyin, Pinkhin and Lwelmot village tracts of Naungtaya region in Southern Shan State as pilot project areas. The three-year project, running from 2017 to 2020, is based on surveys of representatives from departments involved in the progress.

The Deputy Minister urged the local ethnic people to report their requirements and matters that are important for them, and to provide assistance for the success of the project.

Also, work done in 2017-2018 FY, future programmes in the coming FY were discussed by officials the concerned and the Deputy Minister.

Next, the Deputy Minister and party inspected the power line from Popinn Village to Tykwe Village, Naungtaya, Pinlong Township and the construction of the Phayapyu-Saungnaing-Khanwe earthen road. They also inspected construction of Khanwe-Hgnatpyawpin-Kaungwine-Lwetaung earthen road (7/0 mile) and met with local residents, representatives of parliament, members of leading bodies and departmental staff.

Later, they inspected construction of the 4.4-mile Lwetaung-Kapatain-Nyaungchin(South)- Nyaungchin(East) earthen road.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Deputy Minster Maj-Gen Than Htut inspects 4 mile stretch of road from Lwetaung to Nyaungchin. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor to visit India near future

AT the invitation of His Excellency Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will leave for the Republic of India to attend the 25th Anniversary of ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit and the Celebration of 69th Republic Day of India.—MOFA ■

Public talk in Kawhmu held called "Youth and character"

A public talk under the title "Youth and character" was held in Kawhmu township's community centre yesterday. The public talk was done with collaboration between the Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) and the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation. The public talk was attended by U Zaw Min Aung, Hluttaw representative of Kawhmu Constituency (2), National liiterature award winning author Ko Kar (Kungyangon), Dr. Than Htay, township medical officer, Daw Yi Yi Lwin, the Head of Southern Yangon District's IPRD, and other interested guests. Daw Yi Yi Lwin led the public talk with a speech on the importance of building character and nurturing morally responsible youths. She said young people should be encouraged to read more to broaden their knowledge and to avoid 'toxic' books which may hinder moral development. Ko Kar, winner of the 2017 National Literature Award, said he has seen increased interest by young people in public talks these years. He said he notices an increase in discipline an interest among the young people. He said he instructed the youths to develop their knowledge and skills. U Zaw Min Aung and Dr. Than Htay talked about what kind of topics young people should pursue as well the effects of social media. This was followed by participants asking question and engaging in the public talk. Community centers across the country hold public talks to foster compassion and build character among the citizens.—Naing Lin Kyaw, Kyaw Thura ■

A public talk to promote and develop character was held in Kawhmu Township. **PHOTO: MNA**

Four civilians hurt in mine blasts near Tanai

FOUR civilians sustained serious injuries in mine explosions near Tanai, a township in Myitkyina District of Kachin State, on 19 and 20 January.

Ko Htar Mee Woo, 30, a resident of Ponekhon Ward in Tanai Town, suffered serious injuries on his right leg following the mine explosion on Friday. Ko Htar Mee Woo had gone fishing in Nwanhaung Lake. U Gam Aung, 36, lost the lower part of his left leg in another mine explosion that occurred seven miles from the town on the following day. Two other men, including a teenager, sustained serious wounds in the explosion. The injured civilians were taken to Tanai Hospital for emergency treatment. — Win Naing (Kachinmyay) ■

Healthcare services ready for returnees in Rakhine

Interviewer: Tin Tun (IPRD)

Officials inspecting a healthcare services for returnees. **PHOTO: KAN TUN (HANTAR MYAY)**

THE Ministry of Health and Sports will provide healthcare services at camps that will start scrutinising and accepting displaced persons from 23 January, under an agreement between Myanmar and Bangladesh, according to Director General Dr Tha Tun Kyaw of the Public Health Department.

The director general said the ministry had already finalised its healthcare programme that will be provided at the repatriation camps. The repatriation programme involves officials of the department and its partners, such as the WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNOPS of the UN. These officials have arrived here to introduce management functions.

Currently, there are two repatriation camps – Taungpyoletwe camp and Ngakhuya camp. The immigration department is currently adopting repatriation procedures, while the health sector has already formed 11-member teams led by a doctor.

The teams will conduct medical check-ups of the returnees to determine if they are suffering from any infectious diseases. The vaccination programme for them will depend on the kind of vaccine they were given in Bangladesh. The teams will give each person 11 kinds of vaccinations. They will also measure the height, weight and health condition of the returnees.

The teams will also examine elderly persons to determine if they have incommunicable diseases such as heart disorder, hypertension and diabetes. Pregnancy care programmes will also be made available to the returnees, which will provide the necessary vaccines to expectant mothers. Both repatriation camps will provide the same healthcare programmes.

If a returnee is found to be suffering from any severe illness, the ambulances on standby at the camps will take them to the hospital in Maungtaw.

The Hla Poe Khuang camp, which will accept returnees transferred from the two repatriation camps, already has 12-member health teams led by a doctor. The team will also provide anti-worm drugs, especially to children, as well as medical check-ups and treatment for incommunicable diseases. The camp can give up to 11 kinds of vaccines. All the repatriation camps will have an adequate supply of medical equipment and medicines. According to WHO, a few returnees are suffering from certain kinds of infectious diseases contracted in Bangladesh. So, the teams will provide extra healthcare and treatment services to prevent the occurrence of an epidemic among the returnees. The department will use staff from Buthidaung and Maungtaw in Rakhine State in the initial stage. However, in the long run, health staff from other parts of the state will join in the programme as part-time workers. If the programme takes longer, it will be reinforced with health staff from other regions and states. Each camp will accept 150 returnees daily, which makes it 300 returnees per day. The health teams are expected to handle this number. Arrangements have also been made to ensure there are no shortages in healthcare services provided to ethnic people of other regions and states. ■

Social workers deliver humanitarian aid to Maungtaw and Buthidaung

File photo shows the scene of young social workers providing foodstuff to the local ethnic people. **PHOTO: AUNG MIN**

The fourth wave of young social workers have arrived in Maungtaw and Buthidaung townships yesterday to aid the UEHRD (Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Developments in Rakhine) efforts there.

U Than Kyaw Htay, a member of the Department for Relief and Resettlement, said that the social workers went around the two towns to distribute rice, oil, salt, sardine cans, onions, potatoes and baby milk powders to families living in the area.

"We will survey which villages haven't received aid yet and carry out the tasks soon," said U Than Kyaw Htay. "We will be performing our tasks for the UEHRD until 30 January."

The social workers had divided into two groups to assist the townships respectively. U Than Kyaw Htay said future tasks will include delivering aid to villages that have yet to receive them and that this will be accomplished with help from the Rakhine Government and generous donors from around the country. Social workers have delivered aid to Maungtaw and Buthidaung since November 2017 and provided humanitarian aid to around 35,408 people in 84 villages.—Aung Ye Thwin, Ko Min ■

Myanmar Daily Weather Report
Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 21st January, 2018

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS RECORDED : During the past (24) hours, light rain has been isolated in Taninthayi Region, weather has been partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State and generally fair in the remaining regions and states. Night temperature was (2°C) above January average temperature in Upper Sagaing Region and about January average temperatures in the remaining Regions and States. The significant night temperatures were (-2°C) in Hakha, (2°C) each in Pinlaung and Heho, (4°C) each in Namsam and Loilin, (5°C) each in PyinOoLwin and Mogoke, (6°C) each in Thipaw, Lashio, Nyaungcho, Naungshwe and Tiddim. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded was Kawthoung (0.04)inch.

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 22nd JANUARY, 2018: Light rain will be isolated in Taninthayi Region. Degree of certainly is (80%). Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin, Kayin and Mon states and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

STATE OF THE SEA: Seas will be slight in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (2 - 4) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Decrease of night temperatures in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin and Rakhine states.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 22nd JANUARY, 2018: Generally fair weather.