

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee holds coordination meeting

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee held a coordination meeting on the 2018 Union Tax Bill yesterday afternoon in the second-floor meeting hall of building D of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The coordination meeting was attended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker; Joint

Bill Committee and Public Account Joint Committee Chairman U Aye Tha Aung; the Joint Bill Committee and Public Account Joint Committee deputy chairmen, secretaries, joint secretaries and committee members; Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission members; and officials from the Min-

istry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Union Attorney General Office, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw office. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Supreme Court sits to pass judgment, hear (certiorari) civil cases

Chief Justice of the Union U Htun Htun Oo, along with Supreme Court judges U Mya Thein and U Myint Aung of the Special Appellate Bench, sat at the Union Supreme Court room number 1 yesterday morning and passed judgment on five (certiorari) civil cases and heard seven other (certiorari) civil cases. — Myanmar News Agency ■

“Burmese Photographers” now available in Myanmar language

Austrian born Lukas Birk, a photographer, has published a book, “Burmese Photographers”, featuring the works of generations of Myanmar photographers. The books are available in the Myanmar language in bookshops and libraries across Myanmar.

Birk, 35, spent five years searching for and collecting more than 10,000 photos by Myanmar photographers from earlier generations.

Now, with the help of the Goethe Institut, he has published these into a book that includes over 300 photographs from the ones he collected; these were originally taken by photographers such as Hasi Yone, U Kywet, Tayzar Aung, U San Aung and many others. In addition, the book will also contain essays by Nathalie

Johnston, founder and director of Myanm/art, and Christophe Loviny, a journalist who has worked in Burma and Asia for more than 40 years.

When asked about the publication, Birk said he got the idea when he noticed the lack of any documentation of photographers in Myanmar. “I wanted the people of Myanmar to know that these photographs and their history are something to be preserved,” said Birk.

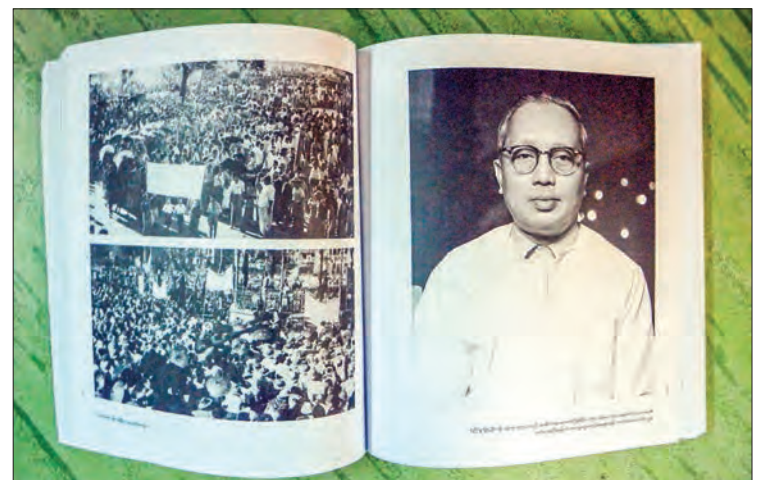
Because there were not many private collectors for these old photographs, Birk did not have any major challenges in acquiring them. “After one or two years I had made a lot of contacts and got to know so much about the history of photography here,” he said.

The book is first published in the Myanmar language so

that the people of Myanmar will get the chance to view their history first, and it will later be translated into English, German and other languages. Photographers and enthusiasts can find out more about Birk’s photo collection at www.myanmarphotoarchive.com.

A photo exhibition, also called “Burmese Photographers”, is open in the east wing of the Secretariat and exhibits over 400 photos Birk has collected. The exhibition will go on from 18 February to 11 March and will also have the books available for purchase.

The book contains photos taken during political transitions in Myanmar, but the publisher’s objective is to preserve the works of Myanmar photographers as a historical document. —Zaw Gyi (Pa Ni Ta) ■



Photographs in “Burmese Photographers” published by Australian Photographer. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

Officials take measures to ensure smooth conduct of entrance exams in Maungtaw

Hein Htet Zaw,
Thura Zaw

STUDENTS across Myanmar will take the university entrance examinations at their respective centres in their regions from 7 March. The news team asked education officials and security personnel in Maungtaw District about the steps they have taken to ensure students can take the examinations without any complications.

U Khin Aung (Township Education Officer, Temporary Head of District Education)

There are three examination centres in Maungtaw Township this year. Two are in B.E.H.S No (1), which is for ethnic students,



Police Major Thant Zaw Oo.
PHOTO: RAMANYA

and one is in B.E.H.S No (2), which is for Bengali students. Some 878 students will take the examinations this year, but there may be more, because some apply directly to the examination board, so we do not have their records.



U Khin Aung. **PHOTO: RAMANYA**

Schools were closed following the 25 August attacks, but city schools were reopened 20 days later on 19 September, and additional time was given to recover the lost days.

We have tried to make sure

that students and their home-room teachers do not get appointed to the same examination centre, so Maungtaw and Buthidaung swapped half their faculty. This means that half the teachers waiting at examination centres will be from Buthidaung, and the other half will be from Maungtaw at each examination centre in both townships.

We have sent requests to the Border Security Police Force, District Police Force and Township Police Force for added security during the examination period.

Police Major Thant Zaw Oo (Head of Maungtaw Police Station)

We are deploying police officers from our station and of-

ficers from Taungpyo Police Station too. We will provide security details during the transport of the examination question papers and the answer papers, as well. We will request the community to be mindful of making too much noise during the examination period, and we will have police patrolling the neighbourhoods too.

We will be under close supervision of the Head District Police Force and we are also pairing with the Fire Service Department and other departments to take preventive measures for possible problems.

Maungtaw Township’s Education office said the township’s entrance examination success percentage was 16.12 in 2016, but fell to 9.9 last year. ■