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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrives back in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday after attending the two-day ASEAN-Australia Special Summit held in Sydney. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor returns from ASEAN summit in Australia

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrived back in Nay Pyi Taw at 7.30 pm yesterday after attending the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit in Australia.

She was welcomed at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, Chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Dr. Myo Aung, Deputy Minister U Min Thu and officials.

The State Counsellor left Canberra, Australia, by special

flight yesterday morning and arrived in Sydney at 10:20am.

The delegation led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi left for Singapore and arrived at Changi Airport at 5:05 pm, where they were welcomed by Myanmar Ambassador U Htay Aung and wife, Military Attaché Col. San Nyunt Oo and other officials. The delegation returned home by a special flight of Myanmar National Airlines.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Confirmation of more returnees

AFTER reviewing the names, photos and home villages of 8,032 displaced persons sent by Bangladesh, 193 more persons were identified as having lived in Myanmar as of 19 March, officials said.

A Myanmar-Bangladesh ministerial-level meeting was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of the Office

of the State Counsellor on 22 November 2017, and the two countries signed an arrangement for the return of displaced persons from Rakhine State.

The first meeting of the Joint Working Group on the repatriation of displaced Myanmar residents from

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'BEST BANK IN MYANMAR'

Awarded by EUROMONEY 2017

Vice President U Myint Swe meets Crans Montana Forum honorary chairman, founder



Vice President U Myint Swe meets with Ambassador Jean Paul Carteron in Morocco. **PHOTO: MNA**



Deputy Minister U Set Aung and Ambassador U Myint Lwin attend the Crans Montana Forum on Africa and South-South Cooperation maritime transport meeting in Morocco. **PHOTO: MNA**

Vice President U Myint Swe, who was in Morocco to attend the Crans Montana Forum on Africa and South-South Cooperation, met Ambassador Jean Paul Carteron, honorary chairman and founder of the Crans Montana Forum, in the meeting hall of the cruise ship Rhapsody

on 19 March.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to cooperation between the developing countries in Africa and Myanmar, as well as investment opportunities. They also exchanged views on the work programmes related to the Crans Montana Fo-

rum. Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung, Ambassador U Myint Lwin and other officials.

U Set Aung, who is a member of Vice President U Myint Swe's delegation, attended the Crans Montana Forum on Africa

and South-South Cooperation maritime transport and transport corridors meeting, on the afternoon of 18 March.

Similarly, the Deputy Minister attended the meeting to discuss plans to tackle climate change in small island developing states (SIDS), which

was held on the afternoon of 19 March.

The meetings were attended by ministers, deputy ministers, mayors, experts, technicians, members of parliaments and senior officials from the partner countries of Morocco. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Mayyu Mountain in Rakhine roads upgraded

By Kyaw Thu Htet

SIX miles of dirt roads in the Mayyu Mountains in Rakhine State have been upgraded to a hard surface using rocks, according to an official from the government construction team known as Special Road Group (17).

An earthen road that linked Kyaukpandu, Indin, and Zedipyin villages was built last year, and will soon be accessible to motor traffic because of the hard surfacing, officials said.

"Road axis was already formed and hard surfacing with rocks has been conducted and about six miles had been close to completion. In some places, box culverts will have to be constructed. Of the 46 box culverts that need to be constructed, about 30 were being constructed simultaneously", said Deputy Director U Aye Tun Maw of Special Road Group (17).

In the plains area, the road is 40 feet wide and on the mountains it is 34 feet wide. It will be constructed to a two-lane macadam road first and it will be upgraded to a concrete one



The construction site of the roads in Mayyu Mountains in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: HAN LIN NAING**

next year.

"There'll be 14 bridges that are 50 feet and above and 10 feet and above, which was not included in the initial plan. In this year's budget, 50 feet and above bridges were not included. Funds were also not provided to upgrade the

road up to a concrete one", said U Aye Tun Maw.

The road connects Zedipyin Village in Yathedaung Township with Kyaukpandu Village in Maungtau Township. It will also be the main road that connects the villages in eastern side

of Mayyu Mountain range with villages in the western side.

"The Kyaukpandu-Indin-Zedipyin road is 10 miles and 7 furlong long. As Rural Development Department had already constructed 1 mile 7 furlong, the newly built road is 9 miles long.

The road was being constructed to support regional development and stability. Mayyu Mountain range runs parallel to the Bay of Bengal in Maungtau, Buthidaung and Yathedaung districts of northern Rakhine State. Because of the mountain, it was difficult to travel from villages in the east to villages in the west. It is an obstacle to regional development and administration. That is why this road is being built", said U Aye Tun Maw.

In the past there was only one road from Buthidaung to Maungtau that went over the mountain. The present government is planning to build four more roads over the mountain and in fiscal year 2017-2018, Kyaukpandu-Indin-Zedipyin road and Kyeinchaung-Gopi road will be built. Two more roads, U Daung-Nyaung Chaung Road and That Kine Nya-Padaga Road, are being planned, it is learnt.

"The plan is for four roads. This is the plan. Two more roads are earmarked in the Ministry of Construction budget for fiscal year 2018-2019", said U Aye Tun Maw. ■

Page 1 of approved form to be filled out by
returnees.

Verification Form of Resident of Myanmar

Head OF Family Photo

Sr. No. _____
Date _____

Name Of The Head Of Family _____ 4. Other Name (if any) _____
Gender _____ 6. Age/Date Of Birth (Optional) _____
Place Of Birth _____ 8. Address In Myanmar _____
Father's Name _____ 10. Father's Address In Myanmar _____
Mother's Name _____ 12. Mother's Address In Myanmar _____
Spouse's Name _____ 14. Spouse's Address In Myanmar _____
5. Visible Mark (Optional) _____ 16. Occupation _____
7. Current Holding Card No. _____ 18. Number Of Family Member _____

Family Photo

Declaration:
I apply to return and live in Myanmar voluntarily without any threat or encouragement.
If permission is granted to me to enter Myanmar, I will abide by the existing laws of Myanmar.

Signature _____ Finger Print of Left Thumb _____ Finger Print of Right Thumb _____
Address In Bangladesh _____
Date For All Entry In Bangladesh _____

Page 2 of approved form to be filled out by
returnees.

List Of Family Member/ Dependents

1. (a) Full Name _____ (b) Father's Name _____ (c) Mother's Name _____ (d) Date Of Birth/Age _____ (e) Place Of Birth _____ (f) Gender _____ (g) Visible Mark (if any) _____ (h) Relationship _____ (i) Current Holding Card No. (if any) _____ (j) Document Information (if any) _____ (k) Other Documents (if any) _____

2. (a) Full Name _____ (b) Father's Name _____ (c) Mother's Name _____ (d) Date Of Birth/Age _____ (e) Place Of Birth _____ (f) Gender _____ (g) Visible Mark (if any) _____ (h) Relationship _____ (i) Current Holding Card No. (if any) _____ (j) Document Information (if any) _____ (k) Other Documents (if any) _____

3. (a) Full Name _____ (b) Father's Name _____ (c) Mother's Name _____ (d) Date Of Birth/Age _____ (e) Place Of Birth _____ (f) Gender _____ (g) Visible Mark (if any) _____ (h) Relationship _____ (i) Current Holding Card No. (if any) _____ (j) Document Information (if any) _____ (k) Other Documents (if any) _____

Page 3 of approved form to be filled out by
returnees.

List Of Family Member/ Dependents

4. (a) Full Name _____ (b) Father's Name _____ (c) Mother's Name _____ (d) Date Of Birth/Age _____ (e) Place Of Birth _____ (f) Gender _____ (g) Visible Mark (if any) _____ (h) Relationship _____ (i) Current Holding Card No. (if any) _____ (j) Document Information (if any) _____ (k) Other Documents (if any) _____

5. (a) Full Name _____ (b) Father's Name _____ (c) Mother's Name _____ (d) Date Of Birth/Age _____ (e) Place Of Birth _____ (f) Gender _____ (g) Visible Mark (if any) _____ (h) Relationship _____ (i) Current Holding Card No. (if any) _____ (j) Document Information (if any) _____ (k) Other Documents (if any) _____

6. (a) Full Name _____ (b) Father's Name _____ (c) Mother's Name _____ (d) Date Of Birth/Age _____ (e) Place Of Birth _____ (f) Gender _____ (g) Visible Mark (if any) _____ (h) Relationship _____ (i) Current Holding Card No. (if any) _____ (j) Document Information (if any) _____ (k) Other Documents (if any) _____

Page 4 of approved form to be filled out by
returnees.

List Of Family Member/ Dependents

7. (a) Full Name _____ (b) Father's Name _____ (c) Mother's Name _____ (d) Date Of Birth/Age _____ (e) Place Of Birth _____ (f) Gender _____ (g) Visible Mark (if any) _____ (h) Relationship _____ (i) Current Holding Card No. (if any) _____ (j) Document Information (if any) _____ (k) Other Documents (if any) _____

8. (a) Full Name _____ (b) Father's Name _____ (c) Mother's Name _____ (d) Date Of Birth/Age _____ (e) Place Of Birth _____ (f) Gender _____ (g) Visible Mark (if any) _____ (h) Relationship _____ (i) Current Holding Card No. (if any) _____ (j) Document Information (if any) _____ (k) Other Documents (if any) _____

9. (a) Full Name _____ (b) Father's Name _____ (c) Mother's Name _____ (d) Date Of Birth/Age _____ (e) Place Of Birth _____ (f) Gender _____ (g) Visible Mark (if any) _____ (h) Relationship _____ (i) Current Holding Card No. (if any) _____ (j) Document Information (if any) _____ (k) Other Documents (if any) _____

Page 5 of approved form to be filled out by
returnees.

10. (a) Full Name _____ **(b) Father's Name** _____ **(c) Mother's Name** _____ **(d) Date Of Birth/Age** _____ **(e) Place Of Birth** _____ **(f) Gender** _____ **(g) Visible Mark (if any)** _____ **(h) Relationship** _____ **(i) Current Holding Card No. (if any)** _____ **(j) Document Information (if any)** _____ **(k) Other Documents (if any)** _____

Board Of Verification In Myanmar

Signature _____ Name _____ Designation _____ Department _____

Signature _____ Name _____ Designation _____ Department _____

Notes _____

The unapproved form with facts sent from
Bangladesh

Family-wise list of Myanmar Residents taking shelter in Bangladesh after 09 October 2016 and 25 August 2017

DIP Reg. No. 1602071212113802

01. Name of the Head of Family: **FATAN** 06. Gender: **MALE**
02. Address in Myanmar (a) Township: **MAUNGDAW** 07. Camp Name/Number: **CHCH-IPPRO**
(b) Village (Local): **KATIR** 08. Date of arrival: **03/08/2017**
03. Place of Birth: **MYA-SHAR** 09. Age/Date of Birth: **55**
04. Father's Name: **MAUNG** 10. Number of Family Members: **06**
05. Mother's Name: **BODUAL** 11. Family Counting Number: **249267**

Sl. No.	Name of family members present in the camp	DIP Registration No.	Father's Name	Relation to Head	Sex	Date/Year of Birth
1	NAURAHAD	1602071212113802	MAUNGDAW	WIFE	02	45
2	MO: AYUB	1602071212113802	MAUNGDAW	SON	01	25
3	MO: AYAS	1602071212113802	MAUNGDAW	SON	07	17
4	RATJ	1602071212113802	MAUNGDAW	SON	01	16
5	RATIR	1602071212113802	MAUNGDAW	SON	01	14
6						
7						

Confirmation of more returnees from Bangladesh

FROM PAGE-1

Bangladesh was held on 15 January 2018 in the office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the physical arrangement for the repatriation of displaced Myanmar residents from Bangladesh, under the return of displaced persons from Rakhine State agreement, was signed.

According to the agreement, Myanmar will receive returnees arriving through land routes at the Taung Pyo Letwe Reception Centre, and those who return through the river routes will be received at the Nga Khu Ya Reception Centre. The Hla Pho Khaung Transit Centre has also been opened, and each camp will accept returnees five days a week. Bangladesh began sending a list of returnees in the prescribed forms on 23 January 2018.

Initially, some 508 Hindus and 750 Muslims who were already reviewed, totalling 1,258, were sent to Myanmar through Bangladesh. The 508 Hindus included in this list wished to return and the Myanmar government was informed about this by Hindu religious leaders. The Bang-

ladesh side sent a list of the first group of returnees who wanted to return, totalling 8,032, from 1,637 households.

However, through the particulars provided on the list, it could not be verified if the returnees were coming back of their own will, and the proposed returnees had not signed any agreements to follow the existing laws of Myanmar. The forms did not have a signature or a thumb print to validate the information provided about the person mentioned in the form. Serial numbers, form entry dates, and distinguishing marks or thumb prints of the head of households were absent. It did not mention if these persons held Myanmar cards and identities. There was no mention of the parents of the head of the household or their addresses, so it was not possible to verify who they were. A photograph of each household members was taken biometrically when they were in Myanmar, so the assessment could be made easily, but the photographs of the returnees provided were not of the quality required. The family list did not include the

father's name. Therefore, Bangladesh was requested to provide a detailed and complete list of the particulars of the 8,032 people wishing to return on 8 March 2018.

When the particulars of the 8,032 returnees that were sent without the prescribed papers were evaluated, only 363 persons were found to have lived in Myanmar. The assessment was continued, and as of 19 March, 193 more were found to have lived in Myanmar. Of the 8,032 persons in the list, only 556 were found to have lived in Myanmar.

Arrangements were made so that their photographs and thumb prints could be evaluated using computer software. However, the list provided did not have the required particulars, such as the photographs, thumb prints and addresses, and took considerable time to compare the available information.

The 556 who were already reviewed and checked will be accepted when Bangladesh sends them over.—Myanmar News Agency



Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing greeting with Tatmadaw members and families from Putao cantonment on 19 March. **PHOTO: MNA**

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met with officers, soldiers and families from Putao cantonment

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met with officers, soldiers and families from Putao cantonment at Bandoolla Hall, Putao cantonment, Kachin State, on 19 March.

At the meeting, the Senior General said that soldiers had joined the Tatmadaw out of their own free will to serve the nation. The duty of safeguarding the nation involves sacrificing lives and limbs, and personnel must be ready, whenever there is a requirement.

The political situations in the country have led to actions that created hatred towards the Tatmadaw. While striving to create political stability, attempts are being made to end ethnic armed conflicts. At the time when the Tatmadaw is attempting to achieve eternal peace and is marching towards

democracy, problems cannot be solved with arms. The Tatmadaw personnel must work to defend the country and develop it, said the Senior General.

Also, the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief and his wife presented the Tatmadaw officers, soldiers and families with images of Buddha, bibles and food. The Senior General's wife also presented the canton's maternal and child welfare association with cash, while the officials distributed books, journals, sports equipment and food.

Similarly, the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief met with Putao town folks, ethnic nationals, departmental personnel, veterans and people's militia members.

During the meeting, the Senior General said that transport was not difficult in Putao region during peacetime, but

when peace and stability deteriorate, ways and means must be developed to ensure regional food sufficiency. In emergency situations, when road links are disrupted, the Tatmadaw will prioritize assistance. The agricultural land area in the region must be increased, and the yield should also be increased for regional food sufficiency. Emphasis should be placed on making the area free of drugs. Later, the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief distributed food and clothing.

In the afternoon, the Tatmadaw Commander-in-Chief visited the northern command agriculture and livestock breeding station and inspected the Novogen Brown egg-laying chickens, dairy cows and the preparation and usage of natural fertilizers (super bokashi). — Myanmar News Agency ■

MNHRC issues statement on peaceful assembly law

FROM PAGE-2

The exercise of the rights provided for in paragraph 2 of this article carries with it special duties and responsibilities. It may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but these shall only be such as are provided by law and are necessary:

For respect of the rights or reputations of others;

For the protection of national security or of public order (ordre public), or of public health or morals.”

The statement also cites ICCPR-Article 20 subsection 2, “Any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law.”

The statement urged anyone discussing the Bill of Amendment of the Peaceful Assembly and Peaceful Procession Law to consider the aforementioned references to the UDHR and ICCPR. —Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (Unofficial Translation) ■



Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko leaves for Singapore yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko attends 19th ASCC meeting in Singapore

Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko left for Singapore yesterday to attend the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council (ASCC) meeting in Singapore.

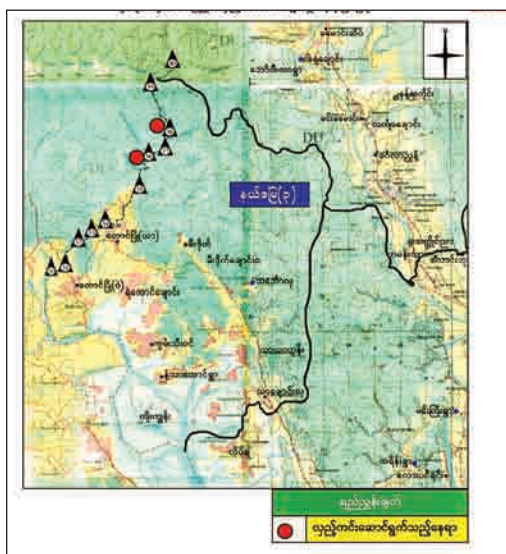
The ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) is committed to lifting the quality of life of its peoples through cooperative

activities that are people-oriented, people-centred, environmentally friendly, and geared towards the promotion of sustainable development to face new and emerging challenges in the ASEAN region. The meeting will be held in Singapore from 18-22 March, 2018. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Joint patrols along Myanmar-Bangladesh border

FOLLOWING coordination between the two countries, the Myanmar Border Police and Bangladesh Border Police forces conducted a joint patrol along the Myanmar-Bangladesh border fence, from border post 34 to 38, on the morning of 15 March and 18 March.

The security forces conducted a coordinated patrol 14 times from 4 to 26 February 2018, between border posts 42 to 55. Patrols were conducted on 11 March, 15 March and 18 March from border posts 31 to 34, 34 to 36 and 36 to 38. A total of 17 coordinated patrols were held along the land border, along with a coordinated naval patrol along the Naf River on 5 March. The countries will continue to hold coordinated patrols in the future. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Three Myanmar migrants die in road accident

THREE Myanmar migrant workers were killed, including two women, and nine others injured in a road accident in Sing Buri province, Thailand, on 17 March, according to the Bangkok Post.

The three workers were killed when the van they were travelling in crashed into an 18-wheel truck and caught fire on Asia Highway, between kilometre markers No. 32 and No. 77, in Tambon Ban Poaeng, Promburi district. The two women were

trapped in the front seats. Nine others from Myanmar and the van driver were injured. Eight of the injured were rushed to Sing Buri Hospital, while two were taken to Promburi Hospital. According to Thai police, the Myanmar migrant workers were headed to Chiang Rai from Bangkok after renewing their visas. Others were returning home after working in Bangkok. The Thai police are investigating the cause of the accident. —Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung) ■



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint visits book stalls where the festival to be held. PHOTO: MNA

Information Ministry to hold ethnic literature and cultural festival

The Ministry of Information has speeded up efforts for holding a festival of literature and culture of ethnic people in the country from the 21st to the 25th of March.

Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint held a meeting with relevant at the Shan State Information and Public Relations Department in Taunggyi yesterday over preparations for holding the festival.

Dr. Pe Myint expressed his hope that members of the country's ethnic groups would have opportunities to exchange literature and culture through

the festival, and that the unity of the indigenous peoples would be strengthened.

The festival is aimed at playing a part in making the peace process a success, and for emergence of a democratic federal republic, said the Union Minister.

At the meeting, Shan State Minister for Bamar Ethnic Affairs Dr. Aung Than Maung, in his capacity as chairman of the committee for holding a festival of literature and culture of ethnic peoples, reported to the Union Minister on arrange-

ments for holding the festival, as did secretaries of the work committees on preparations for the festival.

Also present at the meeting were Director-General of the Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Naing, Managing-Director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise U Kyaw Soe and other officials.

Following the meeting, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint and his entourage visited the Awaityar Konmyinthath grounds where the festival will be held.—Shan State IPRD ■

Independent media tour Maungtaw for 15th time



Independent journalists take photos in Maungtaw, Rakhine State. PHOTO: MNA

THE Union Government arranged media trips to Maungtaw, Rakhine State for local and foreign independent media to cover

the peace and development in Maungtaw following the armed attacks on 9th October 2016.

Members of the independ-

ent media visited Maungtaw once in 2016, eight times in 2017 and six times in 2018.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Netherlands experts to train SME entrepreneurs

HANMSAHUB Company has invited experts from the Netherlands to conduct a training course for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

“We are planning to provide the training course for the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises. We have already invited experts from the Netherlands Pun group to lead the training,” said U Thuta Aung, CEO of Hanmsahub Company.

The course syllabus will include the value of business and future business plans. Moreover, the company is planning to provide the training course to women entrepreneurs. Also, arrangements will be made for foreign investors to meet My-

anmar entrepreneurs.

Some 62,000 SMEs have registered for SME member cards with the Directorate of Industrial Supervision and Inspection. Recently, the Yangon region government issued smart cards to the SMEs.

“By registering for an SME member card, they can access technology, awareness programmes and training from us. In our country, most of the SMEs are not registered. Some do not get loans, as they do not have government recognition,” said Daw Aye Aye Win, Director General of the Directorate of Industrial Supervision and Inspection.

The registration fee for small enterprises is Ks5,000 and Ks10,000 for medium enterprises. SMEs need to renew their member cards every two years.—GNLM ■

Onion prices drop due to bulk supply

Onion prices have plunged in the market following a glut in supplies.

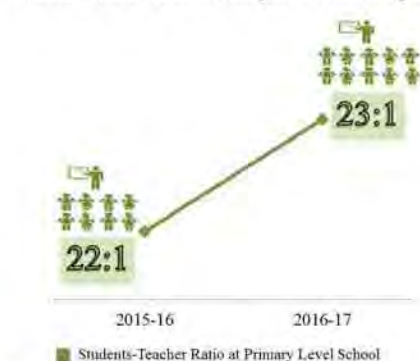
The prevailing prices of onions range from Ks550 to Ks1,350 per viss (1.6 kg), according to Bayintnaung market. Onion prices started soaring in July 2017. The prices, however, declined slightly in February this year. But with

the fresh supply of summer onions, prices dropped by half.

Onion prices hit a nine-month low of some Ks550 per viss this month. Earlier, the lowest registered price was Ks650 in July last year.

Onions are primarily cultivated in Pakokku, Myittha, Myingyan and Taungdwingyi townships.—Ko Khant ■

Students-Teacher Ratio at Primary Level School in Myanmar



Source: Ministry of Education
Information Unit: Central Statistical Organization

Correction

An article on Page 3 in the 19 March edition of The Global New Light of Myanmar contained some errors. In the story headlined “Dr Shwe Hlwan attends Myanmar-Japan scouts fund raising bazaar”, the headline should read, “Dr Shwe Hlwan attends Osaka scout and Myanmar Girl Guides fund raising bazaar.” Also in the article please read “Myanmar Scouts” as “Myanmar Girl Guides,” and Dr. Tin Hla Kyi’s title should be “Chief Commissioner of Myanmar Girl Guide Association.”—Ed