

President U Win Myint welcomed by Union cabinet members



President U Win Myint is welcomed by Union cabinet members at the Presidential Palace following his taking oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. **PHOTO: MNA**

A ceremony to welcome President U Win Myint was held at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

President U Win Myint and First Lady Daw Cho Cho were welcomed at the Presidential Palace by Vice President U Myint Swe and his wife Daw Khin Thet Htay. They were also welcomed by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

At the Hall for Envoys, Vice President U Myint Swe introduced President U Win Myint to Vice President U Henry Van Thio, Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw U T Khun Myat, Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than, Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior

General Soe Win, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Sein Win, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, U Kyaw Tint Swe, Dr. Pe Myint, Thura U Aung Ko, Dr. Aung Thu, U Thant Sin Maung, U Ohn Win, U Win Khaing, U Khin Maung Cho, Dr. Than Myint, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Dr. Myint Htwe, U Han Zaw, Dr. Win Myat Aye, U Ohn Maung, Nai Thet Lwin, U Kyaw Tin and Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo. In his greetings, President U Win Myint stressed the need to work with unity for the country and the people and to cooperate with each other.

U Win Myint, who was elected as a Vice President and Presidential candidate by the representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw, was elected as the President of Myanmar at the Presidential Election of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 28 March.—MNA



President U Win Myint is formally introduced to Vice President U Henry Van Thio, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw by Vice President U Myint Swe at the Presidential Palace yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Housing estate project launched for local people in Rakhine State

THE Department of Rural Development has undertaken a project to build houses for local people affected by natural disasters, such as flood, landslides and other related problems.

U Nyi Nyi Swe, an assistant director of the Department for Rural Development, said, "Priority is being given to people who are in need of houses because of these natural disasters."

During the 2017-2018 fiscal

year, more than 95 per cent of the construction projects, including 200 houses in 14 villages out of five townships, have been completed.

The government has allotted Ks1.4 billion, including Ks1.029 billion from the Pyidaungsu fund and Ks371 million from the State government fund, to build the housing projects in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

"As for our department, we

have constructed some 200 houses, including 47 houses in two villages of Maungdaw; 27 houses in one village of Buthedaung Township; 22 houses in three villages of Min Pya Township; 78 houses in five villages of Taung Coat Township and 26 houses in three villages of Gwa Township. "Furthermore, we have built some 100 houses, including 60 in four villages of Taung Coat Township and 40 in Tar Ye Village of Taung

Coat Township, by using Ks500 million, of which Ks350 million is from the Pyidaungsu fund and Ks150 million is from the State government's fund.

"Formerly, we had built houses worth Ks5 million, and now, we are building houses worth Ks7 million," he added.

These houses are one-storey brick buildings with a steel structure and zinc sheet roofing, and their width is some 468

square feet. Besides two bedrooms, there is a living room, a kitchen, a dining-room and a verandah as well. The toilet is outside the house.

"Our department expects to construct 300 houses in the 2018-2019 fiscal year by using the Union government's fund, and concerted efforts are being made to implement this project successfully," U Nyi Nyi Swe said.—Kyaw Thu Htet ■

U Henry Van Thio addresses Viet Nam's GMS Summit

Vice President U Henry Van Thio arrived in Hanoi, Viet Nam yesterday to attend the 6th Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Summit.

The Vice President was with Union Minister for Planning and Finance U Kyaw Win and other departmental officials, when they arrived at the National Convention Center (NCC) for the summit.

In his address, the Vice President said that the GMS countries have grown their economy and raised the income levels of their people to a point that cheap labour and reliance on natural resources are no longer viable as they once were, so now the countries must find new ways of sustainable development. He said only high-quality human resources and technological development can contribute to sustainable development goals (SDGs). He said Myanmar's economic policy focuses on developing the private sector so that job opportunities and SDGs grow along with them. He said basic infrastructure and buildings will be needed for Myanmar to collaborate with other GMS countries. He said Myanmar is



Vice President U Henry Van Thio's name is displayed on the screen as he answers questions from a panel session at the 6th GMS Summit in Viet Nam yesterday **PHOTO: MNA**

working on the five pillars of the private sector, which are the ethics following laws and rules and regulations, sustainable finance, improved trade and investment, the nation's role in businesses and services, and developing human resources and capabilities.

He said foreign investment was pivotal in developing the private sector and setting rules and guidelines to create com-

petitive markets and prioritizing the profits of the people will benefit the private sector. He said communications and technology related to it have direct consequences on the operation of governments and humanitarian organizations around the world. He said there are estimates that, due to increased usage of smartphones and the internet, Myanmar's GDP in relation to its ICT

sector will increase to US\$6.4 billion by 2030. He said mobile infrastructures were important for countries like Myanmar, where 70 per cent of its population lives in rural areas. With improved communications, rural residents will have greater access to healthcare such as contacting hospitals and emergency aid, conducting business transactions, and greater connectivity.

As such, the country was drafting the Myanmar Digital Economy Development Master Plan, said the Vice President.

Afterwards, the moderator in a panel session asked how Myanmar was going about its economic development and what strategies or plans have been implemented. Vice President U Henry Van Thio replied that Myanmar had just recently begun implementing the 2022 Development Assistance Framework and it had not been long since the country had become more transparent and open.

He said Myanmar had implemented new or amended investment laws and as such have seen better networking through regional to global business ventures.

He said they were working on strengthening the tax system, attracting new foreign investment, and securing the market for macro businesses and enterprises and as such have begun drafting the Myanmar Sustainable Development Strategic Plan.

Later in the night, the Vice President attended a dinner event at the NCC.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Local reporters gather news in Maungtaw

A GROUP of 14 reporters who are from local media houses arrived in Maungtaw region yesterday morning.

On arrival, they met Maungtaw District Commissioner U Ye Htut and gathered news regarding regional stability and development; repatriation process of displaced

persons; issuing Identity Card for National Verification; farming and agriculture; and other related matters.

In the afternoon, the group went to Ngan Chaung village where Muslims live and they inquired the status of socio-economic life of the region, stability of the village and displaced

persons. Afterwards, they went to Oohtein village where they met Mro ethnic races as well as Hindu villagers. There they asked the villagers their experience of terrorist attacks, stability condition of the region and observed the construction project of the local people. —Myanmar News Agency ■



A local resident of Maungtaw District answers to a local Myanmar reporter as a cameraman records him. **PHOTO: MNA**



Vice President U Henry Van Thio departs for GMS Summit in Viet Nam via Yangon International airport. **PHOTO: MNA**

Vice President U Henry Van Thio departs for 6th GMS Summit in Viet Nam

Vice President U Henry Van Thio left for Viet Nam from Yangon yesterday to attend the 6th Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) summit.

The Vice President was escorted by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung

Soe, Director-General of the Strategic Studies and Training Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Daw Kay Thi Soe, Viet Nam Ambassador to Myanmar Dr. Luan Thuy Duong, and other responsible officials at Yangon International Airport. —Myanmar News Agency ■