

Rescue teams ready as severe weather enters Rakhine State

RESCUE teams are on alert before and while the deep weather depression over the Bay of Bengal approaches landfall on the Rakhine Coast near Ann Town, according to Rakhine State Fire Services Department.

Rescue groups are ready in 17 townships in Rakhine State following the storm warning of the Department of Meteorological and Hydrology.

"We made a storm warning and announced over loudspeakers to the people in the townships of Buthidaung and Maungdaw this morning. Over 100 members including rescue teams are also formed and on alert at the fire service departments in the district. Rescue activities will be carried out depending on the weather conditions," said U Thant Zin Head of Maungdaw Fire Services Department.

Officials led by assistant heads of the offices of township fire service departments in Maungdaw and Buthidaung towns announced yesterday storm warnings in Maungdaw Town as well as in Buthidaung Town. The tropical weather depression has been classified as



Firefighters perform mandatory inspection as they prepare for impending severe weather and potential storm in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: THIHA SITHU**

being in the red stage, the most severe type of storm.

Red Cross volunteers in Sittway and Manaung townships have been carrying out preparedness for the safety of the local people, with educational signboards and storm warning flags.

"Officials suspended the waterway of Angumaw-Sittway

for three days from today. When the weather condition is good, the transportations will run back to normal," said a travel agent Ko Aung Ko working in Sittway-Maungdaw route.

The weather forecast for the next 12 hours is for a deep depression to cross Rakhine Coasts near Ann Town and weaken after

making landfall. As the depression crosses near Ann Town, the maximum wind speed is forecast to about (45-50) miles. When the depression cross the Coast, storm surge will be about (7-9) feet in the Coasts of Manaung, Kyaukphyu and Sittway and (3) feet in Ayeyawady Coasts.

The low-pressure weather

system will result in fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Mon states. From 30 May to 31 May, there will be isolated and regionally heavy rainfall.

The amount of rain is expected to exceed 77mm (3 inches) in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin, Rakhine and Mon states over the next 24 hours and 38mm (1.5 inches) and above in Nay Pyi Taw, Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions.

Frequent squalls with rough to very rough seas will be experienced off and along the Myanmar coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 45 m.p.h. Wave heights will range from 10 to 16 feet along the coast.

The weather bureau advises that residents should be aware of strong wind, heavy rain, flash floods and landslides in the hilly areas and near small rivers. Caution is also given to those on board domestic flight, trawlers, vessels and ships off and along Myanmar coasts. —Thiha Sithu ■

Strong winds devastate over 500 households in Shwepyitha Tsp

RESIDENTIAL buildings and stores in Shwepyitha Township in the Yangon Region were damaged by strong winds at about 3:10 a.m. yesterday. There were no reports of any casualties.

U Kyaw Din, who lives in Ward (20), said the wind sounded like a passing airplane.

"The wind blew for just three minutes, but it knocked down trees and destroyed many houses," he said. "The power was out too, so we had to observe from a safe place. When it stopped, we saw that the surroundings were badly damaged. There hasn't been any report of casualties yet."

Torrential rain lashed Shwepyitha Township, while strong winds blew down trees and caused more than 500 buildings in wards (8), (9), (11), (13), (19), (20), (23) to either have their roofs blown off or completely collapse.

Authorities including firefighters, Red Cross members, YCDC staff, military personnel, police officers, and civil socie-

ty organisations cleared up the debris from the destroyed buildings. "We will provide the people who suffered from the strong wind with cash assistance depending on the damages," said Yangon Region Social Affairs Minister U Naing Ngan Lin.

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Phyo Min Thein also visited the area hit by the strong wind and made arrangements for clearing debris and restoring electricity.

The Disaster Management

Committee provided aid to the victims.

U Win Shwe, Director of Yangon Region's branch of the Department of Disaster Management, said each individual household affected by the natural disaster would be provided support. "We will immediately provide clothing, utensils, and food after we have compiled a complete list of all the affected households," he said.

The most damage seemed to occur in ward (20). Tempo-



Strong winds completely knock down small residential houses and trees, blowing debris all over the area. **PHOTO: PE ZAW**

rary shelters are being set up to accommodate families who no longer have houses.

Similarly, heavy rain and

strong winds blew off tree branches in Hmawbi, Dagon Myothit (North), and other townships. —Zaw Gyi ■



YCDC staff clean up fallen branches in Shwepyitha Twsp. **PHOTO: PE ZAW**



Aid from the the Department of Disaster Management. **PHOTO: PE ZAW**

Dr. Win Myat Aye travels to Hla Pho Khaung transit centre

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Re-settlement Dr. Win Myat Aye visited the Hla Pho Khaung transit centre to meet returnees who had returned home voluntarily in Maungtwaw Township yesterday.

Accompanying the union minister were Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, Deputy Ministers U Soe Aung and U Kyaw Lin, and other officials. The union minister and his entourage first travelled from Sittway to Buthidaung in a launch and then to the transit centre in motor vehicles.

The union minister told the returnees the repatriation process would be carried out systematically, in accordance with the agreements made between Myanmar and Bangladesh. Returnees who initially had homes

in Myanmar will be sent back to their homes swiftly and those whose houses were burnt down will have a house built in their original place or somewhere close. The houses will be rebuilt through the cash-for-work system, he said.

The union minister told the returnees they need to be loyal to Myanmar, and the union government had followed the rules and regulations for the repatriation process. He added they must abide by the nation's law and learn to communicate effectively in Myanmar would help build mutual understanding among the people.

All the returnees have voluntarily applied for citizenship and the first step was getting a national verification card (NVC). The officials concerned have explained to the returnees



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye meets returnees at Hla Pho Khaung transit centre in Maungtwaw Township. **PHOTO: MNA**

the benefits and responsibilities of holding an NVC, said the union minister. He added that everyone must cooperate for the present and long-term benefits, and opportunities for education, healthcare, and employment would soon

be within their reach.

Later, Chief Minister U Nyi Pu spoke about the job opportunities and resettling processes. He told the returnees to openly speak their minds and asked them not to do anything without notifying the

officials at the transit centre, where they can stay safely. He added that the authorities were working for the returnees to contact their remaining family members in Bangladesh.

The union minister and his delegation then

verified the information provided by the returnees, listened to them and helped them solve difficulties at the transit centre, and provided them with support for the required administration tasks.—Myanmar News Agency

Opening ceremony of engineering refresher training course held in Nay Pyi Taw

The opening ceremony of the engineering refresher training course (1/2018) by the Ministry of Electricity and Energy was held at the central school of Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Nay Pyi Taw, on 28 May.

At the ceremony, the Electricity and Energy Union Minister gave an opening speech about how the ministry always supported the development of the staffs' human resources. "This engineering training is provided with the aim of creating a qualified new generation of engineers in the electric sector for the development of the country and ensuring professionalism in the implementation of a power plant, electricity power line and substation and distribution

electricity," he said.

The engineering refresher training course will teach some 18 subjects, including four subjects related to electricity production, 13 subjects related to electricity distribution, and one subject related to basic civil engineering. During the training, experts from the Siemens, GE, UREC and Hendrix companies will discuss knowledge information. Trainees have to follow the rules and regulations of the training and learn all the subjects.

The union minister and his officials observed the training rooms and teaching equipment. The training was attended by some 30 trainees from the department, enterprises and the Ministry of Electricity and Energy.—MNA ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V UNI AUC ONE VOY. NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V UNI AUC ONE VOY. NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of SPW-4 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MARINE & SHIPPING
PTE LTD SINGAPORE.**

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SIMA PERFECT VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SIMA PERFECT VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V ARCA VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ARCA VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/TMT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V SINAR BIMA VOY. NO. (408N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V SINAR BIMA VOY. NO. (408N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30-5-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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