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Students and parents crowding the notice boards in Yangon in the small hours to check the exam results. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Matriculation exam results released

THE matriculation exam results for academic year 2017-2018 were released nationwide yesterday, and Maungtau Township in Rakhine State saw its passing rate double compared to previous year. Since early yesterday morning, high schools in the Nay Pyi Taw Council area were crowded with students seeking to learn of their exam results.

A total of 22,389 students sat for the matriculation exam at the

Nay Pyi Taw Council area exam centres, out of which 7,399, or 33.05 per cent, passed. Of these, 25 students received six distinctions, 71 had five distinctions, 96 were awarded four distinctions, 125 achieved three distinctions, 276 had two distinctions and 1,501 received one distinction.

Individual students receive recognition if they score well in a particular subject.

The percentage of those

passing declined compared to last year, when 19,348 students sat for the matriculation examination in Nay Pyi Taw Council area, out of which 6,710 passed, resulting in a passing percentage of 34.68 percent.

Pass percentage of matriculation exam doubles in Maungtau

Maungtau Township in Rakhine State doubled its pass

rate of the matriculation exam compared to last year, according to the exam results of Ministry of Education.

"The pass percentage of the 2017-2018 academic year in Maungtau Township improved by double compared to last year, increasing from 9 per cent to 18.12 per cent", said U Kyaw Nu, deputy head of the township education department.

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Workshop on National Strategy for Closure of IDP camps held

A WORKSHOP to discuss the drawing up of a strategy on closing internally displaced persons camps was held at the Mingala Thiri Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

"The prolonged existence of displaced persons camps was not desirable and plans have been drawn up to close them," said Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye in his address at the Workshop on National Strategy for the Closure of IDP Camps in Myanmar.

He continued to say that normal routine works were disrupted when people had to be resettled in displaced persons camps. Also, job opportunities were reduced.

Of note, the normal growth of children was harmed and their rights, education, and daily health care were decreased in the camps, while opportunities for youths to participate in their development were also lost, he said.

The most vulnerable group in the camps was the elderly, physically handicapped persons and expectant mothers.

It was also reported that people who had to stay in displaced persons camps due to social conflicts face adverse consequences, as those rights granted by law were too often violated.

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(Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30th March 2018)

No matter what kind of projects we implement, the main factor for success is collective endeavor.

I am firmly convinced that we can overcome any challenge— no matter how big or difficult— if we can set aside prejudices of organizations and select groups, and work without pointing fingers and if every one of us makes concerted efforts with goodwill, wisdom, and courage.

(Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2nd Anniversary of NLD Government on 1st April 2018)

Workshop on National Strategy for Closure of IDP camps

FROM PAGE-1

As they had to depend on the support and hand-outs of others, their abilities, competencies and capabilities were also reduced, said the Union Minister.

mine the plan and policy to close the displaced persons camps, and work procedures need to be setup so that the closing of the camps can be conducted based upon international norms, and inter-

There are more than 140 displaced persons camps, with a total population of more than 160,000 in 15 townships in four states.

There are more than 140 displaced persons camps, with a total population of more than 160,000 in 15 townships in four states. It is important to deter-

national cooperation is required. During the term of the incumbent government, work was begun to close down displaced persons camps starting in May 2016. The



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye delivers the speech at the workshop on National Strategy for the Closure of IDP Camps in Myanmar at Mingalar Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Central Committee for Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development in Rakhine State was formed and a work committee was created to conduct the closings.

In other states, the ministry was not only providing temporary relief, but also systematical-

ly creating work opportunities, conducting livelihood training courses, providing education, as well as capital, to restart work and businesses to fulfill the rights of those people avoiding conflicts.

Together with closing the displaced persons camps, education, health and job opportunities need

to be created, said the Union Minister. The work of closing the displaced persons camps would be conducted under the leadership of the State, so that the strategic plan to close the camps would be acceptable internationally, noted the Union Minister. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Kayin State Chief Minister opens Phe Ka Ta Bridge

KAYIN STATE Chief Minister Daw Nang Khin Htwe Myint opened the Phe Ka Ta Bridge in Phe Ka Ta Village, Hpa-An Township, and inspected the stone supports constructed to shore up the Thanlwin River bank yesterday morning.

The Phe Kat Ta Bridge opening ceremony was held in Phe Ka Ta Village, where Chief Minister Daw Nang Khin Htwe Myint, State Minister for Environment, Forestry and Road U Saw Pyi Thar, State Minister for Mon ethnic affairs U Min Tin Win and other officials cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the bridge and sprinkled scented waters on the stone pillar inscription commemorating the bridge opening.

The 100 ft. long, 18 ft. wide reinforced concrete Phe Kat Ta Bridge was constructed with technical support from the Ministry of Construction,



Kayin State Chief Minister Daw Nang Khin Htwe Myint and other officials cut ribbon to open Phe Ka Ta Bridge in Phe Ka Ta Village, Hpa-An Township, Kayin State yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Department of Rural Road Development. The total cost of the bridge was about Ks 72 million (Ks. 71,216,830), of which Ks 30

million was provided by the state government, Ks 20 million by donors and Ks 21,216,830 by the people.

The bridge opening ceremony was attended by the State Chief Minister, State High Court Chief Judge, state government

ministers, Hluttaw representatives, the bridge organizing committee and villagers.

Later, the State Chief Minister and party went to Tayote Hla Village and inspected the stone supports constructed to retain the Thanlwin River bank, where the head of the state directorate of water resources and improvement of river systems explained about the construction work.

Tayote Hla Village was on the bank of the Thanlwin River and river bank erosion was threatening the village.

In fiscal year 2017-2018, Ks. 161.26 million in national disaster management funding was used by the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems to build a 300 ft. long, 45 ft. high stone support, which was completed in 26 February 2018. —Saw Myo Min Thein (IPRD) ■

Rakhine chief minister inspects Maungtown security, development works

RAKHINE STATE Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, accompanied by state ministers and state-level officials, arrived in Buthidaung from Sittway by speedboat yesterday morning to inspect Maungtown region security and development works.

U Nyi Pu first inspected the construction of the 500-ton storage silo at Four Miles Ward in Maungtown Town.

Next, the State Chief Minister and party inspected a relief camp where Hindus are staying and enquired about the status of health, education and living conditions.

From there they proceeded to inspect the construction of an earth road at Kanyinchaung Economic Zone and also inspected the construction of houses

for Hindus.

Afterwards, they met with the local populace in Maungtown Town Thiri Mingala Hall. At the meeting, the State Chief Minister encouraged the people to openly discuss their views and suggestions on the strengths and weaknesses of the regional development work and, most importantly, to cooperate in the effort. He spoke of the importance of rule of law, administering according to the law and socio-economic development. Equally important is national reconciliation and internal peace but stability, peace and rule of law in Maungtown region is of the utmost importance. Only through peace, stability and co-operation of the people can the country develop, with the Gov-



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and officials inspect the construction of the 500-ton storage silo at Four Miles Ward in Maungtown Town yesterday. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

ernment giving special priority toward all-round development of Rakhine State, he said. The State Chief Minister urged all to discuss and suggest openly and in a positive manner.

Following this, Maungtown District deputy commissioner U Ye Htut explained the development works that have been completed and the future works

to be conducted for Maungtown region development.

The local populace in attendance then discussed the requirements for regional development and officials responded.

Later, the party led by the State Chief Minister went to Kyeinchaung Village Basic Education High School to meet with residents from the village

to enquire and coordinate on the matters raised.

The State Chief Minister and party then went on to Hla Phoe Khaung Transit Centre, where district commissioner U Ye Htut and CIFT project director U Thet Naing explained the transit centre and works conducted. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Matriculation exam results released

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A total of 690 students sat for the matriculation exam in Maungtown Township, out of which 125 passed. Of them, two achieved five distinctions, one achieved four distinctions, two achieved three distinctions, two achieved two distinctions and seven achieved one distinction.

Over 110 basic education schools in Maungtown Township will open this academic year (2018-2019), but over 60 schools remain unable to open because of various difficulties.

Last year and this year pass result comparison

A total of 789,845 students sat for the matriculation exam in all regions and states in the 2017-2018 academic year, out of which 259,191 students passed, a 32.82 per cent pass rate.

Nationwide, the pass percentage of the 2017-2018 academic year declined compared to last year.



Students and parents check the matriculation exam results at BEHS (6) in Zabuthiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**



Students and parents check the matriculation exam results in Maungtown. **PHOTO: MNA**

In the 2016-2017 academic year, 716, 188 students sat for the matriculation examination, out of which 242,736 passed,

achieving a pass percentage of 33.89 per cent. —Naing Lin Kyi, Zin Oo and Myanmar News Agency ■

21 passed with distinctions in Mandalay Central Prison

“There are 21 students from Mandalay central prison who passed the matriculation exam according to the exam results released today” said Deputy Director from Mandalay Central Prison U Cho Win Tun.

Out of 55 students who sat for the exams last March, four passed with three distinctions, four with two distinctions and 13 with a distinction.

“60 percent of students who appeared for the exam are those who committed theft, robbery and who are engaged in encouragement for murder.

There are six women for drug abuse and one for human trafficking. A ceremony to honor those who passed the exams will be held” he added.

Mandalay central prison started to make arrangements for inmates to sit for the matriculation exams

last year.

There were only seven inmate students who sat for the exams last year but there were 55 who did so this year.

“The jailed students have no chance to continue their studies.

We planned them to sit for the exam so that they can continue their studies at the University when their imprisonment is over” he added.

Last academic year, all seven students who took part in the exam and got through, of which four passed with a distinction and one passed with three distinctions. Meanwhile, arrangements have been made for the remaining young inmates to attend the University of Distance Education.

There are over 8,000 prisoners in the Mandalay Central Prison.—Myanmar Digital News ■