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National Security Advisor U Thaung Tun (Left) takes part in the Asia Security Summit / The IISS Shangri-La Dialogue held in Singapore. **PHOTO: MNA**

National Security Advisor calls on int'l community to see situation in Rakhine more objectively

Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government and National Security Advisor U Thaung Tun took part in the Asia Security Summit / The IISS Shangri-La Dialogue held in Singapore from 1 to 3 June, 2018.

At the Special Session "The Security and Humanitarian Crisis in Myanmar's Rakhine State", he underscored that terrorism was the main cause of

the recent outbreak of violence in Rakhine and that the premeditated and brutal killings of village heads and civilians by the self-styled ARSA terrorist group caused Islamic community and ethnic minorities to flee the area.

He said "The situation was exacerbated as a result of an unscrupulous propaganda campaign by ARSA. There is no denying that the Islamic com-

munity in the Rakhine State has suffered. But the Buddhists Rakhine, Hindu and other ethnic minorities have suffered no less."

He called on the international community to see the situation in Rakhine more objectively. He said naming and shaming can only further inflame the current tension and it is antithetical to a peaceful

and durable resolution of the crisis. He added "Unhelpful pressure is inflaming the discourse and detracting from the essential pursuit of a peaceful and diplomatic solution. Worse still, a prejudiced propaganda campaign and exploitation of the plight of refugees are being used by terrorists to achieve their aims."— Myanmar News Agency ■

Rakhine Chief Minister invites advice for development

RAKHINE STATE Chief Minister U Nyi Pu met with ward/village administrators in Rakhine State in Buthidaung yesterday, inviting constructive suggestions on the socio-economic development, peace and stability and the rule of law in the state.

As he explained the performance of the Rakhine State Government in the two-year period, the Chief Minister pledged to carry on works for the progress, peace and stability of Rakhine State.

"I make this visit to explain the endeavours of the Rakhine State government in the two-year period, and to invite frank suggestions on the disadvantages and advantages of the endeavours and the ongoing projects," said U Nyi Pu.

People are now enjoying the fruits of regional development undertakings, he added.

The chief minister was accompanied by his cabinet members.

He also stressed the need to develop infrastructure for the health, education and farming sectors for regional progress.

Further, the chief minister discussed important matters such as the rule of law, socio-economic progress, national reconciliation and internal peace, as only regional peace could bring regional development.

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Our country is still in poverty with necessities in every sector; which is why we need to carry on our struggle and work hard in all sectors. In the international arena, we are facing pressure, criticisms and misunderstandings. The challenges and difficulties our country and our people are facing today are many. Although every issue cannot be solved easily, we will have to make utmost efforts to solve these issues according to each priority sector.

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

Let me solemnly thank all our friends at home and abroad, who have helped us and are still helping us; organizations, business entrepreneurs, people from academia and professionals, and especially our people who have supported and assisted us with understanding and empathy. Those who have helped us once, we should never forget. Those who have helped us again and again are our real friends; they bring fulfillment to our lives.

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



Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Nyi Pu meets village/ward administrators and local elders at U Ottama Hall in Buthidaung Township, Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Rakhine Chief Minister invites advice for development

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All-out efforts are required to establish a Democratic Federal Republic, he noted, adding that the task can be realised only through public participation, as efforts by a single or-

ganisation or a person alone are not enough. There should be mutual respect, trust and cooperation between organisations and groups, said U Nyi Pu.

Buthidaung Township administrator U Kyaw Min Tun reported on the facts, current

undertakings and future programmes of the township.

Rakhine State Ministers Col Hpone Tint, U Kyaw Lwin, Dr Chan Tha and other officials looked into the requirements for region development presented by the locals. The chief minister

arranged coordinated responses for the requirements.

At Thonhse-tabon pagoda in Sangoetaung Village, the chief minister and his delegation presented cash donations.

They also coordinated to fulfil the regional requirements

at the meeting with locals in the village.

The Chief Minister inspected the project to construct an entrance road for Ponnyoleik Village and a primary school in Thayetpyin Village.—Myanmar News Agency ■

River-crossing gas pipe project in progress

UNION MINISTER for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing inspected the laying of a new gas pipeline across Sittaung river between Kyaikto Township in Mon State and Waw township in the Bago Region yesterday.

Accompanied by Deputy Minister Dr Tun Naing and officials, the union minister arrived at the project site to replace a 12-inch pipe facing gradual damage with a new 20-inch pipe.

Later, the union minister and his delegation visited the 230-KV main sub-power station in Kyaikto, where he heard

a report on the salient points of the station, the erection of transformers, power distribution, ongoing programmes, and the improvements made to the power supply system in Kyaikto, presented by the deputy minister and officials.

At the control room of the station, the union minister inspected the power distribution works and functions of the switchyard, gave instructions on power supply system safety, stable flow of electricity and prevention of power interruptions. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing inspects laying of the new gas pipeline across the Sittaung river. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**