

Bangladesh Foreign Minister meets Myanmar Interfaith Group

MR. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, met with the Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group at the Sedona Hotel in Yangon yesterday morning. During the meeting, they discussed possible solutions to the issues concerning Rakhine State and the cooperation of every concerned entity in Rakhine State's rehabilitation and reintegration processes.

Attending the meeting were the Bangladesh Foreign Minister and his delegation,

Bangladesh Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Manjurul Karim Khan Chowdhury, Patron of the Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group Dr. Tin Hla, Chairperson U Thaung Htike, Vice-Chairs U Khin Maung Htay and U Nyunt Maung Shein, general secretary Dr. Thar Nyan and executive members, Director U Tun Nyunt of the Department of Religious Affairs, U Sein Maw, head of Yangon Region Religious Affairs Department, and other officials. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Mr. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, meets with the Myanmar Interfaith Dialogue Group in Sedona Hotel in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA



Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons



Myanmar Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day

13th September

**The entire public needs to participate,
Trafficking in persons to eliminate...**

2018 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day's Objectives

- ❖ To mobilize the participation of all citizens in combating human trafficking as a national duty;
- ❖ To have the public instilled with awareness about and knowledge of trafficking in persons;
- ❖ To protect and care trafficked victims with empathy; and
- ❖ To strengthen cooperation and coordination among all counter trafficking stakeholders – government agencies, civil society organizations, UN agencies, international organizations and general public.

Consumer goods up by \$135 million this FY

MYANAMR imported US\$1.698 billion worth of consumer goods in the present fiscal year, an increase in value by \$135 million than that of the same time last year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

From 1 April through 3 August this year, the public sector imported \$14.973 million worth of a wide range of consumer products, which showed a decrease by \$58 million from this time last FY. During the period, the private importers bought the same goods valued at \$1.683 billion, increasing by \$193 million against last FY.

At this time last fiscal year, the country's imports of consumer products were \$1.563 billion.

In the past four months of

this FY, the country imported capital goods worth \$2.355 billion and semi-finished goods worth \$2.593 billion.

Myanmar principally imports luxury products, personal goods, construction materials, chemicals, clothing and accessories, agricultural machinery, raw materials, household goods, food items and electronic devices from neighbouring countries.

The imports of consumer goods were valued at \$1.245 billion in the 2011-12 FY, \$1.4 billion in the 2012-13 FY, \$2.3 billion in the 2013-14 FY, \$2.9 billion in the 2014-15 FY, \$3.5 billion in the 2015-16 FY, more than \$4 billion in the 2016-17 FY and \$4.403 billion in the 2017-2018 FY.—Swe Nyein ■

Maungtaw border trade camp sees monthly increase in exports

THE export value at the Maungtaw border trade camp has been steadily increasing with each month with a noticeable rise in ginger (wet) exports, according to the border trade camp in Rakhine State, under the Department of Trade.

"Exports of ginger have seen the most increase in the Maungtaw border trade camp," said U Win Aye, assistant director and in-charge of the Maungtaw border trade camp. He continued, "The reason for the increase in exports is because they (Bangladesh) are approaching their festival periods and other merchants

tell me ginger is used in the soft drinks production, too. I'm not really sure how they use it in producing soft drinks. But this is why ginger exports have gone up. Freshwater fish from Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions have seen increased exports, too. This is the reason the Maungtaw border trade camp has reached its export quota. The export value has been increasing with each passing month."

The Maungtaw border trade camp has seen exports in the month of July of agricultural products such as rice, green gram, chickpea, tamarind, ginger (wet), jeng-

kol beans, turmeric and dried plum, fishery products such as hilsa, carp, anchovy and small dried fish, forestry products such as bamboo, industrial products such as packaged plum paste, quaker, longyi, perfume, pimple cream, thanakha blocks, candy and soap, and their combined export value has reached US\$ 808,907.167.

As of 10 August, the total export value in the border trade camp reached US\$ 357,330.384 for four types of agricultural products, four types of fishery products, one type of forestry product and one type of finished industrial goods. —Hein Htet Lin, Myo Thu Hein



Workers at the Maungtaw border trade camp load up a boat with bags of ginger, which has seen the most increase in export value in the current months, followed by exports of other agricultural products, fishery products, forestry products and industrial products. PHOTO: HEIN HTET LIN, MYO THU HEIN