

State Counsellor receives Executive Director of Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, received a delegation led by Mr. Mark Dybul, Executive Director of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria based in Geneva, Switzerland, at 5pm at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they discussed matters relating to the fundings and programs of the Global Fund in Myanmar,

strengthening cooperation between Myanmar and the Global Fund and utilizing health as a tool to promote national reconciliation process in a country.

Also present at the call were Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Zeya and responsible officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Health and Sports.—*Myanmar News Agency*



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with Mr. Mark Dybul. PHOTO: MNA

Workers refute accusations of Chinese factory owner

CHINESE factory workers refuted Chinese media reports, saying incorrect information was disseminated over the dispute between them and the factory owner.

At a press conference in Yangon yesterday, representatives of the workers denied the accusations mentioned by the Chinese Xinhua News Agency and China Daily and accused the employer of the Yangon factory of providing incorrect information to Chinese diplomats in Yangon that included details of a destructive 23-24 February attack at the factory. The Chinese embassy issued a paper that was carried by Xinhua News agency and China Daily that alleged the workers "stole personal belongings," of Chinese staff, strikers said.

The Chinese embassy in Myanmar has lodged a protest with authorities.

Although chairs and a car mirror were destroyed, workers said at the press conference, "We did not destroy any products nor machinery," at which photos of the attack were displayed.

It is believed that the attack on the factory was carried out by hundreds of striking workers angered by the sacking of a colleague last week. The Confederation of Trade Unions of Myanmar arranged the press conference for the workers because they have the right of reply, said U Maung Maung, Chairman of the CTUM.

"We have the law to settle the dispute between the employers and employees and tribunal bodies. Time and space should be given first to tribunal bodies instead of lodging a complaint to the Union Government through diplomatic channels," said U Maung Maung.—*GNLM*

Don't rely on leader for success: UCSB Chairman

CIVIL servants are required to constantly pursue lifelong learning to improve their capacity to serve the public interests and actively participate in the task of nation-building, said Dr Win Thein, Chairman of Union Civil Service Board at the closing of 8th batch of senior-level officials management course.

At the concluding of the eight-week course attended by 58 trainees from various government departments held at Central Institute of Civil Service (Phaunggyi) in Hlegu Township, Yangon Re-

gion yesterday morning, Dr Win Thein said the government has been undertaking reform processes for emergence of outstanding civil servants to offer better services to the public. He highlighted that UCSB also has been focusing on the motto "Cooperation of the Civil Service and Public Creates a Nation" to implement the goals laid down by the government in joining hands with the people. To achieve success, people should not rely on a leader and need to be professionals in their respective areas,

he added.

The trainees were presented with certificates of completion by officials concerned. During the course, the trainees were given lectures by the directors-general and deputy directors-general from governmental organizations and the scholars from Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), UNDP, EU (GOPA), UN APCICT), EDS Business School/Akamal University USA, YCTC Business Institute and Business Innovation Facilitator.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Peace Commission, DPN reach agreement on nine points

>> FROM PAGE 1

and members of DPN Khu Oo Ral, Dr Naing Shwe Thein, Nai Aung Mangae, U Min Tun and Tar Nyi Lu were present at the meeting. After the meeting, a press release was issued. The Peace Commission (PC) and DPN discussed nine

points proposed by UNFC at the NRPC in Yangon. Both sides discussed nine points in a transparent manner and reached an agreement in principle. Both sides agreed to discuss Proposal No (3) at the meeting on reviewing political dialogue framework and Proposal No

(5) at the meeting of Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC). Both sides also decided to urge all ethnic armed groups to take part in peace process and to attend Union Peace Conference—21st Panglong Peace Conference, according to the press release.

Int'l community urged to take more positive approach to help resolve rights issues

MINISTER of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin attended the High-level Segment of the 34th Session of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 27 February to 1 March 2017, and delivered a statement on 28 February 2017. In his statement, U Kyaw Tin underscored that the Human Rights Council should be promoting and protecting of the rights of all peoples in a manner of impartiality and the interest of all states. Any deviation from such inclusive, equal, and non-discriminatory approach will affect the confidence in the work of the Council by the member states of the United Nations. He also apprised the Council on matters pertaining to the Government's new approach of engagement and cooperation on the promotion of protection of human rights, the Government's priorities, peace process, the Government's effort for finding sustainable solu-

tion of the issue of Rakhine State including establishment of domestic mechanisms. He also pointed out that at a time when the Government's such efforts were gaining momentum, the coordinated armed attacks against three police outpost took place in northern Rakhine State on 9 October 2016. He briefed the Council of such attacks, conduct of area clearance operation to arrest the perpetrators and to retreat arms and ammunition taken away by the armed attackers and ongoing investigation through a national investigation commission on allegations of human rights abuses. The Minister of State also stressed that any action by the HRC must be a cure and part of the solution, not part of the problem; the Council's focus must be on resolving, not inflaming, the very evident tensions in the Rakhine State and on helping us bring the communities together instead of



Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin. PHOTO: MOFA

driving them further apart. He also asked the international community to take a more positive approach to help resolve the issues, rather than focusing on condemnation, punishment and resentment.

On the sidelines of the High-level Segment, the Minister of State met with Mr. Alok Shama, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of

State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom, Mr. Stavros Lambrinidis, Special Representative on Human Rights of the European Union, Mr. Scott Busby, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labour of the United States Department of State, and Ms. Marit Berger Rosland, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway separately. During the meetings, they exchanged views on matters relating to the national reconciliation and peace process in Myanmar, development in Rakhine State and sustainable solution of the issue in Rakhine State, promotion and protection of human rights, understanding and cooperation extended to Myanmar while discussing the human rights situation in Myanmar in the Human Rights Council.

The Minister of State attended the working lunch hosted by

the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations in New York, on 27 February 2017 in Geneva. During the working lunch, the Minister of State briefed them on the Myanmar Government's utmost efforts for peace and reconciliation and for development of the Rakhine State and sustainable resolution of the issue. U Htin Lynn, Permanent Representative/Ambassador of Myanmar to the United Nations in Geneva also accompanied the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs at the abovementioned meetings.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs attended the dinner hosted by Permanent Representative/Ambassador U Htin Lynn on 1 March 2017 at Kempinski Hotel in Geneva, in honour of former UN Secretary-General Dr. Kofi Annan and members of the Advisory Commission on the Rakhine State.—*Myanmar News Agency*