

NATIONAL

State Counsellor: Historical duty of establishing a democratic federal union for future generations now resting on our shoulders



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Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong begins

State Counsellor invites non-signatories to NCA to join in peace effort

THE Third Session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong was opened with a ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The opening ceremony was attended by President U Win Myint, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Vice-Presidents U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U T Khun Myat, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than, Chief Justice of the Union U Htun Htun Oo, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal U Myo Nyunt, Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Hla Thein, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Deputy Speakers of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, the Chairman of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, Union Ministers, the Union Attorney-General, the Union Auditor-General, the Chairman of the Union Civil Service Selection Board, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung, Chief Ministers of regions and states, the Chairman of the Peace Commission, Chief of Staff (Army, Navy and Air), senior military officers, chairmen of Hluttaw committees, representatives of the government, Hluttaw and the Tatmadaw, representatives of the Ethnic Armed Organisations (EAOs), chairmen and representatives of political parties, representatives of the signatories to the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), including the Chin National Front (CNF), All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF), Arakan Liberation Party (ALP) Restoration Council of Shan State (RCSS), Karen National Union (KNU), Karen National Union/Karen National Liberation Army (Peace Council) (KNU/KNLA [PC]), Democratic Karen Benevolent Army (DKBA), Pa-O Na-



President U Win Myint, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Commander-in-Chief Senior-General Min Aung Hlaing and Saw Mutu Sae Poe, Chairman of KNU at the 21st Century Panglong. PHOTO: MNA

tional Liberation Organization (PNLO), New Mon State Party (NMSP) and Lahu Democratic Union (LDU) and representatives of non-signatories to the NCA, including United Wa National Unity Party, United Wa State Army (UWSP/UWSA), representatives from the Karen National Progressive Party (KNPP), National Democratic Alliance Army (NDAA), Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA), Shan State Progressive Party (SSPP/SSA) and Kachin Independence

Organization/Kachin Independence Army (KIO/KIA), Ta-ang National Liberation Army (TNLA), Arakan Army (AA), family members of the leaders who signed in the previous Panglong Accord, diplomats and personnel from UN agencies and NGOs.

Yesterday's ceremony began with a lively dance performance called Panglong Thitsa.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi then delivered an opening address, followed by speeches from Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Karen National Union (KNU) Chairman Saw Mutu Sae Poe, Arakan National Party (ANP) Vice President Daw Aye Nu Sein. (Full text of these speeches are carried on other pages).

The ceremony was concluded after the President, the State Counsellor, the Vice Presidents, Hluttaw Speakers, the Commander-in-Chief and other officials took documentary photos with other distinguished guests.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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Vice President U Myint Swe highlights importance of family planning

A WORLD Population Day event was held yesterday at the Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw, with Vice President U Myint Swe delivering the opening speech.

Attending the event were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Ye Aung, Dr. Pe Myint, Thura U Aung Ko, U Thein Swe and Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, Union Civil Service Board Chairman Dr. Win Thein, Deputy Ministers, foreign ambassadors and diplomats to Myanmar, department heads, nurses and midwives, students, representatives from UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs, and other invited guests.

World Population Day was established in 1989 by the Governing Council of the UN Development Programme to mark the global population reaching 5 billion inhabitants on 11 July 1987, said the Vice President. World Population Day events soon took place annually around the world beginning in 1990 to raise awareness of overpopulation. The theme for this year is "Family Planning is a Human Right." Myanmar, a UN member country, celebrates this significant event every year.

Family planning reinforces



Vice President U Myint Swe delivers the opening speech at the World Population Day ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



people's rights to determine the number and spacing of their children and plan the period for contraception. Effective family planning can reduce maternal mortality rates by 40 per cent and under-five mortality rates by 21 per cent.

According to the 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census, Myanmar has the highest maternal mortality rate in Southeast Asia with 282 mothers dying for every 100,000-child born. The census also shows 2,700 mothers on average die

in pregnancy or during labour every year, with 12 per cent of deaths due to abortion or miscarriages, becoming the third highest cause of death. Young women between the ages of 15 and 19 are the most susceptible to abortions and miscarriages.

The Vice President said it is important to provide mother and child protection and awareness raising workshops to reduce these mortality rates. He added that family planning is also directly related to this and should be developed and accessible by

everyone.

The UN reports the global population has reached 7.6 billion and will increase by 1 billion in 2030 and 4 billion in 2100.

Developing countries have the highest birthrates and this is related to poverty. There are many modern approaches to reducing population growth and family planning is one of the most effective ones if done correctly, said the Vice President.

The 2015 Demographic and Health Survey shows that 52 per cent of married women

use family planning methods and from among that number 51 per cent use modern family planning methods, while 1 per cent use traditional methods. However, the survey also indicates 16 per cent of women of childbearing age do not have access to modern family planning methods, 5 per cent of married women want a certain interval between their pregnancies, and 11 per cent wish to use pregnancy prevention methods.

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Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong 3rd Session held

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi opened the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw, inviting non signatories to the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) to join the peacemaking process for establishing a democratic federal union.

Following the opening ceremony, the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong was held in the afternoon.

Day one of the conference was presided over by Dr. Tin Myo Win together with members of the panel of the conference U Aung Kyi Nyunt, Lt-Gen Tin Maung Win, Nai Han Thar and U Khun Maung Thauung.

In his opening address, Dr. Tin Myo Win called on all representatives at the conference to strive to reach an agreement on basic principles for establishing a federal democratic system through negotiations.

"It is important for all of us to value and grasp the rare opportunity given by history to lay down basic foundations for a



Dr. Tin Myo Win delivers the opening address at the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong. **PHOTO: MNA**

democracy and a federal union," said Dr. Tin Myo Win.

The Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong began with the country's nationwide ceasefire agreement (NCA) as the top political dialogue.

At the third session of the conference, representatives will discuss proposal papers submitted by national-level po-

litical dialogues, groups and individuals.

"If we achieve a consensus on common agreements among diversities, our diversities will turn into strengths in the history of our Union," said Dr. Tin Myo Win. He also praised the NCA for bringing the fruits of the ceasefire, including peace and development to the people and

for getting rid of fear among the people, and expressed his belief that the involvement of civilians in monitoring committees of the NCA will bring confidence and trust among the people in the peace making process.

When the peacemakers worked to gain good results from political dialogues and to move forward, they were making efforts

to heal the differences in the past with mutual understanding and mutual respect, and to build unity in place of conflicts, he said.

He continued to say that all are obliged to discuss basic principles for a federal system, which remained to be agreed upon, since the second session of the conference.

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Complement of true scientific internationalism

Every nation in the world, being a conglomeration of races and religions, should develop such a nationalism as is compatible with the welfare of one and all, irrespective of race or religion or class or sex. This is my nationalism, and I believe that such a nationalism is but a complement of true scientific internationalism.

(Excerpt from the address made at the meeting of the Anglo-Burman Council at the City Hall, Rangoon, 8 December, 1946)



State Counsellor: Historical duty of establishing a democratic federal union for future generations now resting on our shoulders

Following is an unofficial translation of a speech delivered by National Peace and Reconciliation Centre Chairperson State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the opening ceremony of the third session of Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong:

OFFICIALS from the State, leaders of armed ethnic organisations, leaders of political parties, local and international special guests, delegates, people watching this event broadcasted through television, greetings of peace and auspiciousness and wishing you all health and happiness.

At this day and time, relevant leaders who are very important for national reconciliation and peace in the Union are assembled in this conference hall. Thanks to local and international friends who assisted and helped us in making this happen.

Many ethnic nationals live in our country. After gaining independence, we were unable to establish a united Union, trusted and valued by all, and to date, we have more than seventy years

of armed conflicts based on suspicion, mistrust, hate and antagonism. Dreams and aspirations of our country and our people were being sacrificed in these long-running armed conflicts.

Whether the peace that was beyond the reach of the Union throughout its history can be achieved or not is dependent on the mind and decision of the groups that are assembled in this hall.

Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement

The Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) is the outcome of the discussion by the government, Hluttaw and Tatmadaw, based on proposals made by ethnic armed organisations.

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. PHOTO: MNA

State Counsellor receives UNSG's Special Envoy on Myanmar, Japanese Special Envoy for National Reconciliation in Myanmar

STATE Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Myanmar Ms. Christine Schraner Burgener at 2 pm on 11 July at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, the State Counsellor and the Special Envoy discussed matters pertaining to the promotion of existing cooperation between Myanmar and the United Nations, including implementation of the MoU signed between the Myanmar Government, UNDP and UNHCR, rebuilding trust and harmony among communities in Rakhine State, and the United Nations' support on the ongoing peace process.

Similarly, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Special Envoy of the



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi welcomes UNSG's Special Envoy on Myanmar Ms. Christine Schraner Burgener in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar and Chairman of the Nippon Foundation at 3 pm on 11 July at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed matters relating to the peace and reconciliation process, including the



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi welcomes Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong, third session and development projects implemented in the border areas.

Also present at the meetings

were U Kyaw Tin, Union Minister for International Cooperation and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.—Myanmar News Agency■

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Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services: Based on experience, Tatmadaw doing utmost for success of government's peace process

OFFICIALS of the State, distinguished guests from the country and abroad and members of the relevant ethnic groups, I wish you all health and happiness.

First, I would like to express my pleasure and appreciation for your complete confidence in the peace process by attending the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong (third meeting), which starts today, and welcome representatives from all armed ethnic organizations.

Peace, in other words, is an invaluable shelter for every country and every race. Only a fine shelter will underpin a peaceful and stable human society, a pleasant life and a developing infrastructure. Although our country is rich in natural resources, we are still in need of the resources for peace. It is the objective condition we all can't ignore.

We have a long history of independence struggle. Internal armed conflicts linger in our country alongside the long history of peace process. History is a mirror highlighting all the causes, all the good and the evil effects and consequences we had experienced throughout the past successive periods. If we look back the pages of history without any bias, we can see the plain truth of the past of our country. "We should not become a prisoner of history", which is a popular saying nowadays, warns us against harbouring hatred, resentment and bitterness, and teaches us to open a new chapter with new visions and new views after taking a lesson from the past. In accord with the theory of cause and effect, we must assess all the past events from an objective point of view.

Root cause of internal armed conflicts

A thorough look at the root cause of the ongoing internal armed conflicts of the country clearly shows that they were not ignited by the Tatmadaw but by the divide-and-rule policy adopted by the British colonialists during the colonial period and the political, ideological, racial and religious differences. The Tatmadaw has no big or small problems with any of the armed groups that appeared throughout the successive periods. Discontents and demands have surfaced only between the governments of the respective periods and the armed groups. All the brethren of our country have lived in togetherness in the same territory since time immemorial. The Myawady Stone Inscriptions were written in four languages including the ethnic languages of Pyu, Mon and Myanmar, in addition to Pali in ME 474. The inscription of the three ethnic languages on a single stone slab stands witness to the fact that Myanmar has stood as a Union since yore.

At the time when the whole country fell under the rule of British colonialists, all the ethnic people started the independence struggle by fighting the wars with patriotic spirit for 10 years. During the period from the colonial era to date, our country has six constitutions and related laws.

The constitutions enacted in 1947, 1974 and 2008 are significant ones in Myanmar in the post-independence era. During the time of British colonialists, the Government of India Act, 1919, promulgated by the British Parliament, the Government of Burma Act, 1935, and the Constitution of Burma, under Japanese Occupation (1943) were enacted in Myanmar. Among them, Myanmar was allowed to practise the diarchy administration on 2 January 1923, under the Government of India Act. However, it excluded Shan, Chin and Kachin regions from administration as an act of divide-and-rule policy. According to the Government of Burma Act, 1935, the governing system for Myanmar was upgraded to the 91 Departments Administration. However, the new administrative system did not cover the ethnic regions, but the divide-and-rule policy was continuously practised there. The divide-and-rule policy was implemented to rule the ethnic regions as Part I Scheduled Area and Part II Scheduled Area as the governor's direct governing region and the governor representative's governing region. Such administration was opposed by the Doh Bamar Asiayone (We Burmese Association), which was the leading organization in independence struggle of Myanmar.



Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. **PHOTO: MNA**

mar, starting from its conference held in Mawlamyine in 1938. The divide-and-rule policy caused less development in ethnic regions and disunity among the states and mainland.

In implementing the White Paper policy after Japan withdrew from Myanmar, the British established the Frontier Area Administration to continuously instigate the ethnic regions. It was found that they made attempts of speeding up the instigation to leave ethnic regions from the administration at a time when Myanmar regained her independence. Practising the Frontier Crossing Act, they arrested and expelled political activists so as there would not be any communication among the ethnic regions and the mainland of Myanmar in regards to political affairs. Consequences of divide-and-rule administration caused heavy impacts on holding the Panglong Conference to sign the Panglong Agreement. Up to now, its impacts still affect the nation. It is an inappropriate act to make fabrications and to erase the consequences of divide-and-rule administration on the pages of history and to say that integration of national unity and inequitable development began only after regaining the independence.

Policy differences

After regaining independence, the Burma Communist Party went underground in March 1948, opposing the policy of the then Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League (AFPFL) government, led by U Nu, to trigger the internal armed conflicts. Goshal, one of the communist leaders, compiled a paper to support the Pyinmana rebel area of Bo Tayar and Rakhine rebel areas of U Seinta and Bon Pauk Thar Kyaw and to designate these regions as liberation area, so as to stimulate riots across the nation with the purpose of expanding their area. Policy differences emerged between communists and AFPFL and between White Yebaw and AFPFL, and all groups made strenuous efforts to persuade the Tatmadaw to join them. General Ne Win, a main leader of the Tatmadaw at that time, did not accept it. Then, Kayin armed conflicts occurred with the aim of realizing the Kayin racial affairs and establishing a separate Kayin State. Moreover, Mujahid rebels in northern Rakhine State opposed and attacked the AFPFL government with the aim of establishing a separate state with religion since Myanmar regained her independence. The root cause of emerging KIO armed group in Kachin region, where armed conflicts are happening up to now, was based on religion since the Union Party government led by Prime Minister U Nu promulgated Buddhism as the State religion on 26 August 1961, and later, the cause was emphasized as ethnic affairs. As remaining armed groups emerged due to politics, dogmatism, racism and religion, criticisms against the Tatmadaw, saying that the emergence of local armed organizations and internal armed conflicts were caused by the Tatmadaw, are dangerous for peace processes. The acts of Tatmadaw are to protect the administrative mechanism of the government and to safeguard the life, property and interest of the public.

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It is the main gate for the political discussions that are being widely held nowadays. Innocent ethnic nationals and people who lived in the conflict areas are starting to taste increasingly the fruit of stability and security that were created by NCA.

NCA is a hard to attain merging equilibrium point, where different forces come together. It is an agreement that is recognized internationally as well as in the country. To achieve this, former government leaders led by President U Thein Sein, Tatmadaw leaders and ethnic national leaders discussed and negotiated for months and years. Although it is not complete, it was an agreement that was acceptable by opposing and battling foes, and on behalf of ethnic nationals and the people, I would like to thank all those who untiringly negotiated and discussed with good intention.

At the moment, the peace process started by NCA had reduced armed engagements, and we could see with our own eyes that, in addition to political discussions that were never held throughout our history, we had progressed to a stage where political agreements were being signed as part of a Union agreement.

Participation of non-signatories to NCA

But some groups that participated enthusiastically in the initial stage of the peace process had not come under the umbrella of NCA yet. Similarly, groups that had avoided conflicts and armed engagements by following and maintaining bilateral agreement with the government were still unable to participate in it. Our government is keeping the peace door open for such groups striving towards finding a solution through dialogues. It is understood that it would be difficult to have full participation, but our Union's historical political discussion is not complete without participation of these groups. We will continue to strive towards filling this gap. As I speak, representatives of these groups are inside this conference hall.

I would like to say emphatically to all the groups who are here. NCA is a merging equilibrium point where different forces come together as well as being a starting point in our march toward our ultimate destination. We are not halting or stopping at NCA. While conducting political discussion that came about from NCA, we took the first step of signing part 1 of the Union agreement at the second session of the 21st Century Panglong. We will discuss and negotiate to sign part 2 of the Union agreement on the final day of the third session of the conference. Our aim is to establish a democratic federal union. Peace conference is a political round-table discussion where important basic principles of democracy and federalism will be established. We took nearly a



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi addresses the opening ceremony of the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

year to take the second step after taking the first one. After this conference is completed, we all will have to strive toward taking the third step.

Here, I would like to say specifically that in resolving political problems, it is most important not to stop but to move on. Whatever difficulties and challenges we may face between each step, do not despair. If we fall, pick ourselves up again and take another step forward. We must have firm determination in walking down the path toward democracy and a federal union. At this stage, groups that are not participating in the political discussions can start by participating at the existing situation. I earnestly urge all to work together with us in this.

Ceasefire alone is not sufficient for a sustainable reconciliation and peace in our country and our Union. Governments throughout the ages had attempted to achieve ceasefires in our country in their own ways. All had known that once a single shot was fired, ceasefire agreements disintegrate and revert back into the cycle of violence. Throughout the years, ethnic armed organisations had demanded to resolve political problems through political discussions. The main sources of armed conflicts were the inability to resolve the political problems. Today, in our 21st Century Panglong Conference, we will attempt to solve the source of the armed conflicts through dialogue.

To cease armed conflicts, it is very important to achieve political agreements that are acceptable to different forces. The National League for Democracy, that is serving as a government in accordance with the wishes of the people, firmly believed and held onto this belief since it became a party that political problems can be resolved only when a democratic federal union is established. Ethnic armed organisations also had consistently spoken of the requirement to establish a federal system for conflicts to end. The stand against the word 'federal' being once unacceptable had changed, and NCA was signed and pledges made toward establishing a democracy and federal union. However, to

date, required agreement on 'federal' was not reached and is slowing down the peace process to reach a complete success. We have announced untiringly and for uncountable times throughout the period when 'federal' was wrongly defined that federal is not a system for cessation but a system that strengthens unity.

Now, all the organisations that had signed the NCA as well as all who wish to establish a Union are of the same thinking as us. As such, in implementing 'federal', the main principles of non-cessation from the Union and self-determination need to be negotiated, as these are very delicate matters. Although this matter is not included in this conference, it is beyond doubt that all need to notice this. At the same time, all need to bear in mind to head towards a peaceful and democratic federal union that is the best and the most secure for the people of the country. We should not strive for (the benefit of) ourselves or our group but for the (entire) people that we love and cherish.

National reconciliation and peace is the most important and the most required for our Union. At the same time, the fruit of peace should not be for those who achieve it first. But our ethnic nationals and people would not wish to wait much longer.

Our people had waited more than seventy years to go about freely in our regions, earn a livelihood and select economic and regional development opportunities on their own. They don't want to wait any longer. Peace is not for 'first come, take all', but just like those who first see the rising sun, they will feel the benefits of peace first and foremost, for sure. That is why I would like to point out that any delays in our political discussions will mean wasting valuable opportunities for our people.

Everyone knows that a full year had gone by between the last conference and this one. We faced many difficulties and challenges but based on NCA that was decided by all, through off-the-record, unofficial and numerous types of discussions, we were able to hold this conference. If we

have a determination to achieve peace, we will be able to overcome together whatever difficulties and challenges we may face. The last conference is the proof of our can-do spirit. Based on that conference, each group conducted reviews. Better political discussions were organised and conducted together in coordination to hold this conference. Political discussions framework can be redrawn as required, according to the agreement of all. Our government will continue to strive toward increasing and improving the momentum of political discussions. We will strive toward the establishment of a peace strategy and political discussions that are agreeable, acceptable and trustworthy to all. Changes to a framework that reflect and overcome actual difficulties faced will be conducted continuously for the establishment of a democratic federal union, which is the aim of national reconciliation and peace in our Union.

All signatory groups are urged to implement the NCA. There are two parts in implementing the NCA – strengthening ceasefire work process and successfully holding political discussion work process. Both affect one another. If there is tension or obstacle in one, it will create tension or obstacle in another. This situation is to be noted to maintain the reduction of conflicts which is the fruit of NCA, resolving conflicts through peaceful discussions at the round table, increasing participation of civilians and the public in all levels of the monitoring machinery. At the same time, whenever there are tensions, conflicts or confrontations, all are urged to abide by the NCA and respect the role of the Joint Monitoring Committee.

Similarly, if there were any disagreement in political discussions, all need to avoid anything that widens the disagreement and head toward more meetings to reach together a solution that is acceptable to all. Aiming toward a democratic federal union that will be established, all must negotiate, give, take and overcome disagreements and not hold onto a single policy and stand of a single group.

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Saw Mutu Sae Poe, KNU Chairman delivers opening address at 3rd Session of UPC-21st Century Panglong

The opening address made by Saw Mutu Sae Poe, Chairman of the Karen National Union at the 3rd Session of Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong is as follows:

Firstly I send my heartfelt wish for you to be blessed with physical and mental health and wealth, the State leaders, Hluttaw representatives, leaders of the Tatmadaw, political parties' leaders, national ethnic armed groups' leaders, UN Special Representative, diplomats, representatives from international organisations and representative leaders from various sectors and groups present at the 3rd session of UPC-21st Century Panglong, on behalf of the leaders representing national ethnic armed organizations.

The Nationwide Cease fire Agreement (NCA) was held at the former government's tenure after negotiating with the government and ethnic armed organizations. The NCA was initially signed with



Chairman of the Karen National Union Saw Mutu Sae Poe.
Photo: MNA

8 ethnic armed organizations, laying down a foundation for a peace process. During the time of the NLD-ruling government, all-inclusive peace processes are targeted to commence, and 2nd UPC was held, with the aim of achieving basic principles on political agreements which can be accepted by all. At the third session of the 21st Century Panglong Conference was held in May

2017, and 37 points signed as part of Union Accord.

By signing the first phase of the Union Accord, it has reached an important stage as it is implementing the fact of holding political dialogue included in the NCA. With the signing of two more ethnic armed organizations, there are a total of ten ethnic armed organizations that have signed the NCA. Holding the 3rd ses-

sion of 21st Century Panglong is in compliance with the prescriptions included in the NCA, and it is of great political needs. Therefore, we must acknowledge the fact that we can manage to build mutual trust among us after overcoming difficulties through patience and repeatedly made negotiations. It is not just enough for us to mutually understand, the whole populace needs to understand. Accordingly, it is urgently needed to get favourable results from the present peace process, as aspired by all the national people, because smooth political transformation of Myanmar and success of peace process can be said to be similar to one another.

So it is necessary to strengthen trust among participants. Moreover, we wish for the emergence of mutual trust among those who did not take part in the peace process yet. We hope good results which will come out from the present third session of UPC-21st Century Panglong will help further the peace process. We are required

to take inclusion of all those concerned into consideration without excluding any others. According to our experiences, we have learned that three basic foundations is needed to be laid down to solve political problems through political dialogue. Our Union can stand tall among the other countries in the world by dint of Panglong Agreement. In other words, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was cofounded with union spirit, and it is of great important to safeguard and protect the non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the National Solidarity and Perpetuation of Sovereignty by the entire ethnic people.

National Solidarity cannot be formed by means of military pressure and by force, but freedom, equality, justice, trust, understanding and empathy can bring success. We can build it by means of pragmatic work and can safeguard our union and sovereignty of the state through the efforts of our national integration.

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ANP Vice Chair delivers address at 21st Century Panglong 3rd Session

The opening address made by Daw Aye Nu Sein – Vice Chairperson of Arakan National Party (ANP) at the 3rd Session of Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong is as follows:

**Mr. President,
State Counsellor,
Chairpersons,
Representatives,
Distinguished Guests,**

I would first like to wish you all with gratitude here at the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong - Third Session held today on 11 July 2018.

I am Daw Aye Nu Sein-Vice Chairperson of the Arakan National Party (ANP).

The Arakan National Party has submitted its proposals during the first session of the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong. I am here today on behalf of the Rakhine people because our party believes that the Union Peace Conference is an inevitable path we must all take to establish a new nation with equality, unity, peace and development.

The Rakhine joined the Bamar and other ethnic nationals in the fight for independence against the British colonialists

and Japanese fascism.

We achieved independence but Rakhine did not even acquire state level recognition under the 1947 constitution and one federal system.

Rakhine became a State under the 1974 constitution but the culture and socio-economy of its citizens saw no difference in development.

Rakhine has abundant natural resources because of its proximity to the ocean, the Rakhine mountain range, and a long-established cultural heritage but was pushed to the brink of poverty and its agricultural economy diminished.

The 2008 constitution has its loopholes and weaknesses but we have legally formed a political party and participated in the 2010 and 2015 general elections to end the military authoritarian rule and make transition to democracy. We have also been involved in all levels of the Hluttaw.

No one can deny that the



Vice Chair of Arakan National Party (ANP) Daw Aye Nu Sein. **PHOTO: MNA**

government, the Hluttaws, the Tatmadaw, ethnic armed organizations (EAOs) and every political party are working towards the formation of a federal democratic union. The peace conference we are all attending right now will lay the foundations for establishing this federal democratic union and to end all armed conflicts within the nation. I believe that only then will a peaceful and united nation be established.

Our Arakan National Party has three objectives:

- (1) The emergence of a genuine federal union one that recognizes and protects the rights and freedom of Rakhine nationalities and the equality of all nationalities including Bamar)
 - (2) Promoting the interests of Rakhine nationalities and other nationalities living in Rakhine State and to safeguard these interests.
 - (3) Striving for the flourishing of democracy.
- In my opinion, trust between the Bamar and other ethnic na-

tionalities was weakened because of the disproportionate levels of development between the central state and other states and regions, heavy-handed control and poor administration from relevant authorities.

While we should be taking pride in what can be described as Myanmar's springtime, various states and regions throughout the country are facing extreme poverty and heavy armed conflicts.

It is quite sad that while other countries in Asia are making advancements in technology, philosophy and economy, we are still locked in age-old armed conflicts with our brethren.

The ethnic forces should not be viewed as being narrow-minded or as extremists. We want to put our hopes in the strong and powerful forces such as the major Bamar parties and the well-established Tatmadaw.

Only under compassion will narrow-mindedness be abolished. It is imperative that we accomplish what needs to be done for union peace as soon as possible.

SEE PAGE-14

U Ba Win, gone but not forgotten

By Min Thit (MNA)
Photo: Zaw Min Lat

THERE remains a century-old two-storey mansion to this day, without any damage to its original structure, at No. 51, University Avenue, Bahan Township, Yangon.

As we enter the mansion, we come face to face with two majestic portraits near the living room. One depicts a middle-aged gent and another of an elderly lady, and both pictures have wooden frames.

The man in the picture is none other than U Ba Win, an Arzarni (martyr) leader who was killed by treacherous people on 19 July 1947, while striving for the independence of Myanmar. The picture was taken just before he was assassinated. The picture of the elderly woman is of his wife who passed away by natural causes in 2007.

U Ba Win lived happily with his family in that two-storey mansion before the incident, and his children are now residing in it.

U Htwe Win, the youngest son of U Ba Win, said, "My father went to office from this house. There is a prayer room upstairs. He did his reading and writing near the prayer room. When he was assassinated, I was only eight months old. Those things about my father were told to me by my mother."

When U Ba Win passed away, his wife and his six children were left behind, and at that time the eldest daughter was 11 years old and U Htwe Win was only eight months old. At present, U Htwe Win is already 72.

U Ba Win was born to U Phar, a lawyer by profession, and Daw Su. He was the eldest son among nine children. He was also the elder brother of Bogyoke (General) Aung San. U Ba Win was an honest-to-goodness young man, and according to the Burmese saying, "Having an elder brother is like having a father," he used to teach his brothers and sisters to be intelligent and honest.

U Htwe Win said, "I pity my father. He worked while he was attending college to support his younger brothers, Bogyoke Aung San and U Aung Than. He would take Bogyoke Aung San with him as an interpreter to watch English movies."

U Ba Win won first prize at Mandalay intermediate college and passed with outstanding marks in Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics. In 1929, he graduated with B.Sc. (Hons.) in Mathematics. He then worked as a principal at Yenangyoung National High School.

Regarding political activities, he



served as chairman of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League Yenangyoung branch, and while he was working as the Minister of Supply & Trade in Bogyoke Aung San's cabinet, he participated as a member in the Constitution Drafting Committee at the Union Parliament, all the while striving for the independence of Myanmar.

After the martyrs were assassinated, the BOC Company issued gas sale permits to the remaining wives, with a further support of Ks100,000 from the government. According to U Htwe Win,



U Htwe Win.

the grant was safeguarded by co-executors, including Myanma Alinn U Tin.

After U Ne Win took power, those gas stations and the plots of land were nationalized, and instead, the families of the fallen martyrs were given Ks1,000 every month, which caused the families hardships due to rising commodity prices.

"Bogyoke Aung San's wife didn't take the money. Yebaw Ko Htwe's family didn't receive any compensation. The other remaining families did. It was fine at first, but it was different when the econ-

omy collapsed after nationalization. We didn't get back our property although we re-applied for it repeatedly," U Htwe Win reflected on the past.

Although U Htwe Win is the son of a martyred leader, he had to work as a taxi driver after he graduated as he was unable to secure a permanent job.

"I graduated with Botany and I did gardening. After that I worked as a driver for a taxi owned by my friend. I didn't feel embarrassed or humiliated to work as a taxi driver, because I was working honestly. Then I worked in a company, and I wasn't able to be choosy about jobs, once I got married," said U Htwe Win.

When U Htwe Win grew up, his mother took him to the Martyrs' Mausoleum every year, and now it has become a regular to pay homage to his father on Martyrs' Day.

"I knew about my father only when I started my schooling. My mother used to bring me to the mausoleum on every Martyrs' Day. We offered soon (meals) to the monks and did good deeds for my father every year. Although my mother and my eldest sister have passed away, all of our remaining family members are still living in the same compound," said U Htwe Win.

It has been 71 years since the martyred leaders fell. There is a saying, "the dead are forgotten in due time," but this does not hold true for the remaining families of the martyred leaders, nor for the people of the country.

U Htwe Win stares at the two-storey mansion where his father used to live and said, "We will share good deeds for my father. I have already registered to attend the Martyrs' Mausoleum. My elder brother, Dr. Sein Win, will also come back this year. He wishes to bring his son, who was born abroad, to the Martyrs' Mausoleum and tell him about his grandfather."

Translated by Myat Thandar Aung



U Ba Win

(11 June 1901 - 19 July 1947)

- * U Ba Win served as chairman of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League Yenangyoung branch, and while he was working as the Minister of Supply & Trade in Bogyoke Aung San's cabinet, he participated as a member in the Constitution Drafting Committee at the Union Parliament, all the while striving for the independence of Myanmar.
- * U Ba Win was born on 11 June 1901 to U Phar, a lawyer, and Daw Su. He was the eldest among nine children, and an elder brother to Bogyoke (General) Aung San.
- * U Ba Win won first prize at Mandalay intermediate college and passed with outstanding marks in Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics. In 1929, he graduated with B.Sc. (Hons.) in Mathematics. He then worked as a principal at Yenangyoung National High School.
- * He married Daw Khin Saw, a daughter of U Aunt and Daw Shwe May in 1935.
- * He was assassinated on 19 July 1947 at 10:37 am.
- * His wife was survived by six children (Ma Tin Hla Win, Maung Saw Win, Ma Khin Mya Win, Maung Sein Win (Dr Sein Win) and Maung Htwe Win.

Keeping firm in the quest for peace

WITH the commencement of the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw, the ray of hope for total peace in our country has started to shine, but to grasp this opportunity depends on all the leaders at the conference.

The peace-making process, which began from the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), could reduce armed conflicts. The NCA opens the door for political dialogue, which has never happened in the past.

Besides, we witnessed the signing of agreements during political dialogues, as part of the Union Agreement.

However, those who actively took part at the start of the peace-making process have not yet returned under the umbrella of the NCA. And those who signed a bilateral agreement with the government and avoided conflicts have not yet joined the NCA.

Therefore, the Union Government has opened the door of peace for every one and is making efforts to find a solution at the negotiation table.

The door to dialogue with non-signatory ethnic armed organisations has been kept open and they are invited under the umbrella of the NCA.

In fact, the NCA can be considered a converging point of all forces and the beginning point for marching towards our goal of establishing a federal democratic country.

We took the first step by signing part-1 of the Union Agreement at the second session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong.

Now, at the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong, we are discussing the signing of the second part on the last day of the conference.

We had to wait a whole year to take the second step. Again, we will move forward, looking for the third step.

The most important thing for solving political problems through negotiations is to move forward without reducing our diligence, despite challenges and obstacles between steps.

Building a democracy and federal union demands strong commitments.

The door to dialogue with non-signatory ethnic armed organisations has been kept open and they are invited under the umbrella of the NCA.

To solve political problems through political means has been the demand of the ethnic armed groups for decades. Hence, everyone is gathering at the 21st Century Panglong to solve the political problem, which is the root cause of armed conflicts.

The next few days will witness intense discussions, an exchange of views, debates and difficult decisions. The challenges during the discussions would be the greatest ones we have had to face in the history of our country.

But, Union Spirit, with faith in our ability to forge an honourable future, our triumph will be a triumph not just for the conference or for our nation but for all the people of the world who long for peace, value harmony above dissension, friendship above enmity, and prosperity above devastation.

Bogyoke Aung San: Poor in possessions but rich in leadership qualities

By Letwintha Saw Chit

ON the afternoon of 19 July 1947, when I was a child, Hla Shwe of our village rushed to a spot in front of a banyan tree near our house to make an announcement. “Hey, I just want to let you all know that all the soldiers in a wrecked building in our village have been crying,” Hla Shwe said, still out of breath. “Why are they crying?” asked someone. “I don’t know,” Hla Shwe said. “Some keep crying by knocking their heads against the wall. Some have punched the wall with their fists.” “Come on,” said one of the villagers. “Let’s go and have a look.”

Hla Shwe’s news led us towards the old building. Yes, it was true. All the soldiers stationed in the wrecked building kept weeping; there was no one who could stop crying. But no one knew why they kept crying. There was no answer to my enquiries, and I decided to go home to ask my mother what had happened to them. “Mom, Mom!” I said loudly. There was no response. I found my mother weeping disconsolately as if a close relative had died. In a way, this was true, I would learn.

“Mom, why are you crying so dejectedly?” I asked. “Tell me who died.” “Son, Bogyoke Aung San has died,” she said. “Mom, who is Bogyoke Aung San?” I asked. From that day on, my mother told me about Bogyoke as if it was a fairy tale. My mother was educated at the Norman School, Myingyan Town, up to 9th Standard. A great admirer of Bogyoke, she told me about him in detail. When I was older, I came to know more about him from reading many books.

When people in every nook and cranny of our country came to learn about the death of our Bogyoke Aung San, they burst into tears. Yes, our villagers kept weeping, too. I supported them. After all, the whole country admired, adored and placed great sentimental value on him. Why? Bogyoke was greatly in love with his country and its people; he put more emphasis on his country rather than on himself. During military training in Japan, the trainer slapped some of the Myanmar trainees across their faces. One of the Myanmar trainees decided he had endured enough of this and reported the matter to Bogyoke. Bogyoke told him if he wanted to fight against the Japanese, he had to receive good military training from them. “If you get slapped once, it would be a day nearer to our country’s independence.”

Bogyoke was then young, but already a magnanimous person. His high fighting spirit for the independence of our country was obvious. Although he was a well-known national leader, he had few personal possessions. One evening when he didn’t have any appointments, he wanted to go to the cinema to see an amusing English movie at the Palladium. He asked his assistant Bo Tun Hla how much money he had. Bo Tun Hla said he had only two kyats. They went to the Palladium in hopes of seeing the movie from the rows in the very front that cost one kkyat or half a kkyat. These rows are usually meant for the poor. Their seats were so close to the movie screen that in front of them was only one row that costs one-fourth of



a kkyat. Behind them, rows of seats that cost one kkyat, two kyats and the expensive seats known as the Dress Circle were situated. When some moviegoers came to know that Bogyoke was sitting in a row that costs only half a kkyat, they became very perplexed.

“Oh, what a pity on Bogyoke!” Bo Tun Hla said, remembering that the amusing movie was no longer so funny because they knew the leader of the country could not afford a decent seat in a movie theatre.

What a magnanimous as well as melancholy Bogyoke! He went to Britain with full preparations for independence, but without any preparations for

himself, not even thinking about warm clothing. On his stopover in India on his way to Britain, he was handed coats and overcoats by his true friend Mr. Nehru, who reminded him of the extreme cold in Britain. He looked magnificent in his overcoat, especially when he put his two hands in the pockets. He went to Britain with only one overcoat, he said jokingly about the trip to England. There was once a meeting in the summer with Bogyoke present, wearing his overcoat, which amused other attendees. His friends advised him to take off his coat. He retorted: “I feel a little bit sick.” His close friend also advised him to take off his coat, so as not to catch a cold. Finally, he gave in and

took off his coat, letting the holes in his shirt to be seen by others. But the meeting went on as usual.

Oh, what a dignified and respected Bogyoke! In 1965, we had a chance to visit the Bogyoke Museum as Luyechuns (selected outstanding students). He led a very simple life: no paraphernalia and few clothes in his wardrobe. According to a museum curator: “He liked this Shwetaung longyi very much. Whenever he went to a meeting, he used to wear this silk longyi.”

Our Bogyoke Aung San was poor in possessions but rich in leadership qualities, which allowed him to lead our country to become an independent and sovereign state.

One of the Luyechuns asked: “Are there any other longyis except this one?”

“None”, the curator said curtly. He was poor in property, but rich in respect by our people. I read a lot about President Ho Chi Minh, the Vietnamese leader, who was greatly admired by the Vietnamese. I requested Vietnamese writers for me to pay a visit to the President’s House. A lot of people were queuing up, opening their umbrellas to protect themselves from a drizzle that had begun. The two-storeyed wooden house was neither small nor big, letting a person live comfortably. After all, Ho Chi Minh was a confirmed bachelor. No significant paraphernalia was found in his house. People came to his house to observe nothingness, which our host explained to us in details.

Vietnam’s Literary Association Chairman said he knew much about Bogyoke, who he highly respected. I would like to take the chairman to the Bogyoke Museum and show him how our Bogyoke led a simple and honest way of life. Our Bogyoke Aung San was poor in possessions but rich in leadership qualities, which allowed him to lead our country to become an independent and sovereign state. That is why our people in every nook and corner of our country have admired, adored and placed great sentimental value on our Bogyoke.

Translated by Arakan Sein

Heads of service organizations transferred and appointed

1.	The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has transferred Daw Naing Thet Oo, Director-General, Department of Inspection under the Office of the Auditor General of the Union, as Director-General of Department of Administration, Training and Research, from the date she assumes charge of her duties.	
2.	The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.	
	Name	Appointment
(1)	U Chan Aye Ambassador (Deputy Director-General) Myanmar Embassy, Bangkok Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Director-General International Organizations and Economic Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(2)	U Than Zaw Htay Head of Industry No.35 Heavy Industry (Chauk) No. (2) Heavy Industrial Enterprise Ministry of Industry	Managing Director No. (2) Heavy Industrial Enter- prise Ministry of Industry
(3)	U Thein Han General Manager No. (3) Heavy Industrial Enterprise Ministry of Industry	Managing Director No. (3) Heavy Industries Enter- prise Ministry of Industry
(4)	U Myint Lwin Deputy Director-General Consumer Affairs Department Ministry of Commerce	Director-General Consumer Affairs Department Ministry of Commerce

Public Announcement for remonstrance



Flag of The People's Party.

THE People’s Party applied to the Union Election Commission to change their party’s name from “The Four Eights People’s Party” to “The People’s Party” that had been allowed to set up as a political party, headquartered at No. 279, first floor (B), Thu Mingalar Street, Ward 9, in South Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region, has submitted its application for the registration as a political party to the Union Election Commission on 9 July 2018, along with the following party’s name, flag and emblem. In their application, they mentioned that they will use the name, the flag and the emblem as described hereunder:

In accord with Section 14

(d) of the Political Parties Registration Rules, it is hereby announced that those who want to remonstrate with the UEC about the party’s name, flag and emblem may submit a complaint along with the supporting evidence within seven days starting from the issuance of this announcement. — Union Election Commission ■

Emblem of The People's Party.



Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong 3rd Session held



Attendees to Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong enjoy performance of dance troupe at the opening ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Representatives from political parties to the Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong pose for documentary photo in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

FROM PAGE-2

In his concluding remarks, Dr. Tin Myo Win said that the representatives have the responsibility to work in the interest of the Union, all ethnic people who long for peace.

Later, Secretariat Member of the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee Sai Kyaw Nyunt read out the report of the work committee of UPDJC and Vice Chairman-1 of the Joint Monitoring Committee Saw Isac Phoe the report of the working committee of the JMC. Later, Secretariat members of the UPDJC submitted papers: Pado Saw Tar Doh Hmu submitted a paper on the political sector, Min Kyaw Zeyar Oo on the political sector, Sai Ngnin on the social sector, U Aung Soe on the farmland and environmental sector and Yebaw Myo Win on the security sector.

Following this, Daw Saw Mra Yazar Lin clarified the discipline to be followed by representatives at the conference.

During the political sector of the conference, proposals submitted to the conference fo-

cused on laying down policies on equality and non-discrimination between males and females, inclusion of 30 per cent of women in all sectors, laying down policies on preventing violence against men and women and promoting the capacity of women in support of the equality between males and females.

During the economic sector, a proposal submitted to the

conference suggested giving authority to the region and state governments to adopt policies and to implement development projects in order to give priority to the interests of the people and to take into consideration that interests of other regions and states are not harmed.

The proposal for the social sector focused on inclusion of 30 per cent of women in deci-

sion-making for resettlement, rehabilitation and social development issues; on establishing an education-for-all system; a health care system which is accessible to all people; making laws for women's rights, including rights for the aged, the disabled, children and pregnant women; taking into consideration social factors when social development projects are car-

ried out; reducing the menace of narcotic drugs and effectively carrying out rehabilitation and development of child rights.

The proposal for the farmland and environmental sector focused on land ownership, environmental impact assessment and social impact and negotiation with local people for projects.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Hluttaw representatives to the Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong pose for documentary photo in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Dinner hosted for attendees of Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong third session

A DINNER was hosted in honour of the attendees and participants at the opening of the Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong third session at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. Before the dinner, President U Win Myint and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi cordially greeted the attendees.

Also present at the dinner were Vice Presidents U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo, and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

Also present were Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Myo Nyunt, Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Hla Thein, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Hluttaw Deputy Speakers, Chairman of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, union



President U Win Myint shakes hands with a representative at the dinner of the Union Peace Conference in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

ministers, Union Attorney General, the Union Auditor-General, Chairman of the Union Civil Service Selection Board.

The dinner was also attended by governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission, chairman of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, Nay Pyi Taw Council chairman, chairman of the Peace Commission, and chief ministers of regions and states, Chief of Staff (Army, Navy and Air), senior military officers,

chairmen of Hluttaw committees, deputy ministers, representatives of the government, Hluttaw and the Tatmadaw, representatives of ethnic armed organisations, chairmen and representatives of political parties, representatives of the signatories to the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) including the Chin National Front, All Burma Students' Democratic Front, Arakan Liberation Party, Restoration Council of Shan State, Karen National Union, Karen National



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi greets a representative at the dinner of the Union Peace Conference in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union/Karen National Liberation Army (Peace Council), Democratic Karen Benevolent Army, Pa-O National Liberation Organisation, New Mon State Party and Lahu Democratic Union.

Also present were representatives of non-signatories to the NCA, including Wa National Unity Party, United Wa State Army, Arakan Army, representatives from the Karenni National Progressive Party, Taang National Liberation Army, National Democratic Alliance

Army, Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army, Shan State Progressive Party and Kachin Independence Organisation/Kachin Independence Army, family members of the leaders who signed in the previous Panglong Accord, diplomats and personnel from UN agencies and non-governmental organisations.

President U Win Myint and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi enjoyed the dinner together with the attendees. — Myanmar News Agency ■

State Counsellor: Historical duty of establishing a democratic federal union for future generations now resting on our shoulders

FROM PAGE-5

Most importantly, while all groups are concentrating on ceasefire process and political discussion work process under the ceasefire agreement, our government will increase the momentum of conducting Public-Private Partnership (PPP) work processes for regional development and improving socio-economic situation of the ethnic nationals and the people in the conflict region. All relevant groups are requested and urged to co-operate and participate in this process.

The process of establishing a democratic federal union is the ultimate aim of the national reconciliation and union peace road that we are walking together, and it was started in 2011. From bilateral agreement on ceasefire, we reached the stage of NCA, and from there we are arriving step by step to a Union Accord.

As we are in the same boat, we need to help one another. As we are on the same path toward the same aim, it should be noted that the (Myanmar) saying “a different verse for a different school and a different verse for a different village”

would create numerous questions and answers that would take us far away from our aimed destination. After everything is agreed upon, if new things pop up here and there, it would destroy trust and we can reach a stage where all will go whatever direction they want to go. Peace is achieved not through pressure but only through understanding and trust. Darkness is removed by light and not by darkness. Those who had not signed the NCA and who had not participated in the creation of peace light are invited to participate in it with goodwill toward the Union. All are always being welcomed.

As everyone knows, in the situation of international and regional relations, our country and ethnic nationals in the Union need to show unity. This is the requirement of the present moment. It is a historical requirement and a preparation for the future. All leaders imagine this. Like a family that is not united, arguing and fighting among family members, our Union has been fighting within itself in a never-ending cycle for more than seventy years. No outsider will come and resolve

this issue. Those who live together in the Union, be it good or bad, need to reform and resolve it. This opportunity is now in the hands of all leaders who are in this hall. The historical duty of establishing a democratic federal union for our future generations is now resting on our shoulders.

Are we going to avoid this because this duty is heavy? How heavy it may be, with unity and collective strength, this situation can be changed immediately. The opportunity to do this is within our reach.

Our government had conducted two sessions of the Panglong Conference. During the time when the conference was not held, we had numerous meetings with groups that had signed the NCA as well as those who hadn't. In 2018, we will hold another conference. Two more will be held in 2019. Before 2020, there'll be three more conferences. In these three conferences, it is aimed to finalise basic principles of democracy and federal system and lay a firm foundation for a future democratic federal union. These aims

are not impossible dreams. These are aims that our country, our Union ought to have. Leaders of groups in attendance today are requested and urged to firmly determine to work together with our government in implementing these short term aims.

Conclusion

We believe and see clearly that our long term aim is establishment of a democratic federal union. We will strive with unrelenting moral force to create a stable and peaceful surrounding that is free from armed conflicts for our new generation, fulfill the wishes and aims of our preceding leaders and brighten the hopes dimmed by armed conflicts. I would like to urge all to put our efforts in unity toward achieving the historically unreachable aims of national reconciliation and peace. It will become obvious in this 21st Century Panglong who wants peace or not, who values the Union or their own group. People are watching and people will come to know.

Thank you. ■

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services: Based on experience, Tatmadaw doing utmost for success of government's peace process

FROM PAGE 4

Successive governments of Myanmar did their best to end internal armed conflicts caused by divide-and-rule policy and different political, racial and religious ideologies, and achieve internal peace. There were both progress and failures. Our history can prove why we succeeded, why we failed, who we could make peace with and who we could not. But one thing I can clearly say is that the Tatmadaw made constructive efforts for safeguarding national independence and sovereignty and ensuring national unity and non-disintegration of the Union by actively participating in the successive governments' endeavours to achieve internal peace. Regarding peace, it is necessary to explain in parallel with the history. In March and June in 1948, just after three or six months of Myanmar's independence, internal armed conflicts emerged. As the earliest internal peace effort, the then AFPFL government issued a 15-point U Nu peace policy, also known as the 15-point left-wing unity policy. To implement the policy, Left-wing Organizing Council chaired by General Ne Win, under the government's leadership, was established. In the Revolutionary Council era, the council made a peace offer with all the underground armed organizations on 11 June 1963 for internal peace. It was the first step towards peace-making. The Tatmadaw led the peace effort. Under the Myanmar Socialist Programme Party government, internal peace effort was initiated in 1980, and peace talks commenced in 1981. Commanders of respective military commands had to actively participate in the effort. The government assigned duties to the Kachin State authoritative body, led by the commander of Northern Command representing the government, to achieve peace in Kachin State. After 1988, under the Tatmadaw government, the Tatmadaw led the peace efforts. Peace was made with 17 major ethnic armed groups and 23 small groups, totalling 40. Under President U Thein Sein's government in the multiparty democracy era, Notification 1/2011 was issued on 18 August 2011, inviting all ethnic armed organizations to peace talks. The invitation for peace mentioned the aim that the State is to build a peaceful, developed nation by upholding Our Three Main National Causes. The armed ethnic groups must accept Our Three Main National Causes. Talks started only after clarifications were made time and again on non-separation and an election system, which was the only principle way. Thus, all talks for peace need to follow the national interest of the Union. All committees, including Union Peace-making Central Committee and various work committees, comprise Tatmadawmen. They had made effective cooperation. The Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) was signed with ten ethnic armed groups.

Tatmadaw wants real peace

Under the present National League for Democracy-led government also, the Tatmadaw has joined the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee (UPDJC) and joint monitoring committees at various levels. The Tatmadaw is doing its utmost for the success of the government's peace process, based on its experience. Our Tatmadawmen who have to fight in battlefields unavoidably are the ones who really want peace. I would like to say that the Tatmadaw wants to achieve real peace as quickly as possible in such a way that cannot harm the Union, national unity, independence and sovereignty.

It is found that there are different views about peace agreements. Since the time of the Tatmadaw government in 1989 until 1999, 40 armed organizations made peace with the Tatmadaw government. In doing so, there were no exact and concrete contracts signed

between the government and remaining organizations, except the KIO/KIA group. There were gentleman's agreements only, such as the agreements reached with each group on boundary limits for temporary stay and on regional development. The government had to try different peace-making ways, such as ceasefire without giving up arms or the exchange of arms for peace, based on the trust in the government. Some assume that they do not need to participate in the current peace-making process, as it had already reached a similar situation in the past. But they need to be aware of the fact that time, situation and administrative system have changed now. In the past, the country was governed by the Tatmadaw alone. The Tatmadaw government alone steered every administrative mechanism. Now the country is governed under the multi-party democracy system, aspired by the public. We need to have behaviours, practices and undertakings suited to the democracy system. The peace-making processes should be implemented based on democratic standards and the most-agreed points. These processes should not be different. As an advantage, the NCA, agreed by most of the groups, is already in place.

In December 2015, the Union Parliament, which represents the whole people, unanimously approved this NCA in accord with democratic procedures. So, every ethnic armed group is to sign the NCA. Here I would like to point out the fact that some saying there is no need to sign the NCA, as there is no fighting and that the previous agreements are already in existence, may go against the current democratic ethics. The NCA is just a name used for a ceasefire agreement. But its essence is broader and more comprehensive. Even the first point of the fundamental principle of the NCA is to build a democratic federal union aspired not only by ethnic armed groups but also by other ethnic organizations. It is clearly seen that some signatories to the NCA made peace with the Tatmadaw government while others continued sticking to armed struggle at that time.

To negotiate with genuine goodwill

Bold steps must be taken without delay in implementing the peace process. If the peace process takes longer than it is necessary, there will be instigation, interference and manipulation, all of which will undermine the hardly-built trust and hard-earned agreement. Therefore, I would like to urge stakeholders to negotiate thoroughly with genuine goodwill during the conference in the interests of the State and national ethnic people. They must continue the talks till a sustainable peace result can be produced. I have often seen changes in situations after the talks were ceased and before producing a solution. In this regard, I am urging all to hold talks till a result is reached. I would like to urge in all seriousness that the peace process be continued with consistency and be completed at the 2nd Union Peace Conference in 2020.

Stakeholders should be particularly aware that the government and the Tatmadaw are actively leading the peace process today not because we are weak, but because we are committed to the interests of the State and the national ethnic people, and we want to end the armed conflicts which burn throughout successive periods, during our term, and build a modern, developed, united and strong, new democratic nation, in accordance with the wishes of the people. The sound of guns will become silent if all the groups with a true wish for peace observe the agreement. All must control their own men, instead of giving groundless reasons. In implementing the peace process, it is important to work with the notion that nothing takes precedence over

peace. And it is important not to give priority to things that can lead to misunderstanding and not to drag things that have nothing to do with the peace process during this time. Armed ethnic groups in some regions cannot represent the entire national people of 52 million, and political parties only represent a particular walk of life that supports them. Our Tatmadaw, being a people's Tatmadaw born of ethnic people, is an organization representing the State and the people. It is extremely necessary that they have legitimate reason for their existence and stances. We also know that there are desires for constitutional amendments in connection with peace talks. In 2015, 34 points of the Schedule Two under the title of Region or State Legislative List of the 2008 Constitution and 20 points of the Schedule Five under the title of Taxes Collected by Region or State were mainly amended in the interests of national ethnic people, and the mandate of the region and state governments was expanded. Some might want more changes through continuous coordination, if necessary. In so doing, action must be taken in accordance with the provision regarding Chapter 12 Amendment of the Constitution, and it is important that the 48 founding principles of the State remain intact.

Only one Armed Forces

In any country, regardless of practising democracy or any other system, they have only one Armed Forces. Hence, the ethnic groups should work in accordance with the international peace principles. Currently, ending of armed struggle must be the top priority for establishment of a Union system based on democracy and federalism. It needs to make negotiations for future plans in accordance with democracy after the whole country achieves peace, instead of taking time for unnecessary discussions.

I would like to reiterate that delaying the peace process is further drowning our country, which is already lagged behind in development. The initial date for the conference was in early 2018. But for various reasons, it is being held today. We have a lot of work to do for the State and the public. We just shouldn't be talking the talk. We will reach nowhere just by choosing the best words for arguments. The strength of the nation lies within. All the national people are responsible for it. We must all be aware of the instigations to weaken our united strength. There is a saying that "we can move it, if we push together", but if we don't push enough to move it, our efforts are equal to 'zero,' if we measure with the yardstick of the result. If you really love your country and your race, I would like to urge you to wipe out the civil armed conflicts that hinder the development of the country, and continue working toward that goal with goodwill. As the State is implementing the multi-party democracy in accord with the wishes of the people, all the organizations from states and regions must have equal rights under the Constitution in carrying out the peace processes. I would like to note that we will place emphasis on coordination with neighbouring friendly countries to have eternally peaceful border regions in building the Union based on democracy and federal system.

Guests and officials,

In conclusion, I would like to urge you not to delay, but to try hard to successfully build an absolute peace for establishing a new educated society, flourishing with love for the motherland, progressing rationality, Union spirit and developing a gentle but serious new society, and handing it over to younger generations, so that you can be proud of yourselves in accomplishing your historic duties and leaving behind a good legacy. ■

Press conference for Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong



Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong press conference held in Nay Pyi Taw.
PHOTO: PHO HTAUNG

By Ye Kaung Nyunt

A PRESS conference following the first day meeting of the Third season of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong was held at Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi Taw at 4:30pm yesterday.

Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee (UPDJC) secretaries U Hla Maung Shwe, U Zaw Htay, Dr. Salai Hlyan Hmon Sar Khaung and Sai Kyaw Nyunt explained the third session's progress, the 14 points pertaining to the political, economic, social, land and natural environment sectors submitted for inclusion in the second part of the union

agreement, and the separate individual meetings among the northern alliance, the State Counsellor and the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Service.

U Zaw Htay said the representatives of the seven non-signatories were present at the UPC third session as well as Karenni National Progressive Party (KNPP) representatives. The KNPP is in talks to sign the nationwide ceasefire agreement (NCA). He said the northern organisations met with the Commander-in-Chief yesterday and will meet with the State Counsellor today. Reporters will not be allowed at the meetings, but will receive details of the news later. The KNPP is also

in discussions to meet with the Peace Commission separately. The northern organisations are focusing on mainly discussing military affairs.

The press conference revealed there will be meetings with both signatories and non-signatories of the NCA.

Dr. Salai Hlyan Hmon Sar Khaung said they are hoping for non-signatories to sign the NCA as soon as possible. So far there are ten signatories to the NCA, but numerous non-signatories are attending the peace conference, he said. "The State Counsellor and Commander-in-Chief invited them to participate and so does the entire nation," he said. "The platform is ready for

UPDJC releases announcement of Political Parties Group

Date: 11 July, 2018

1. At the opening ceremony of the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong at the Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 July 2018, Daw Aye Nu Sein, Vice Chair of the Arakan National Party (ANP), delivered an opening address.
2. Regarding her remarks made at the ceremony, the Political Parties Group of the UPDJC released the following announcement.
 - A. Her remarks in her address do not represent the platform of the Political Parties Group of UPDJC.
 - B. Without discussion with the Political Parties Group, she clarified only her party's platform.
 - C. Some of her remarks in her address are not directly related with the current efforts for peacemaking.

Political Parties Group
Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee

us to strengthen trust so the conference will be immensely beneficial."

The UPDJC working committees have submitted four points for the political sector, one for the economic sector, seven for the social sector and two for the land sector, a total of 14 points, in the second part of the union agreement.

U Hla Maung Shwe said 10 points of the economic sector were originally submitted to the UPDJC, but a mutual agreement was reached on only one point. He said this doesn't mean the other

points are annulled, but rather they will be brought up for discussion in a future UPDJC meeting.

This was followed by a question-and-answer session. Political Parties Group Representative Sai Kyaw Nyunt announced that the speech delivered by Daw Aye Nu Sein, Vice Chair of the Arakan National Party, expressed only the opinion of the respective part and not of the Political Parties Group.

U Hla Maung Shwe said the Peace Commission will meet with KNPP today to discuss signing the NCA. ■

VP U Myint Swe highlights importance of family planning

FROM PAGE-2

The Vice President said family planning can go a long way in supporting socio-economic development, reducing mortality rates of mothers and children, allow more women to enter the workforce and thus reduce poverty, ensure children receive adequate nutrition, ensure enough learning institutions are available for all children to receive education, and reduce spending on mother and child protection services.

The Ministry of Health and Sports is collaborating with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and mother and child protection organizations to promote family planning operations, distribute

contraceptives and birth control pills, and provide educational workshops, said the Vice President.

Next, Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe explained facts related to the theme "Family Planning is a Human Right". This was followed by an explanation on World Population Day by UNFPA Acting Representative to Myanmar Ms. Kaori Ishikawa.

Afterwards, a video on family planning and a short animation on this year's World Population theme were played to the audience.

After the ceremony, attendees viewed the World Population Day exhibits on display. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Squatters in Maungtaw relocated

MAUNGTAW Township authorities have relocated squatters near Thinbawgway Village in Maungtaw to a temporary shelter established at a monastery in a nearby village.

Following the relocation on Monday, the authorities also provided food and clothes to 24 families of squatters illegally settling in the village.

The Maungtaw Township General Administration Department issued two orders in February warning the squatters not to settle in the village without seeking permission from authorities. They were warned that action would be taken in accordance with the law against those who do not comply with the order.



Squatter camps near Thinbawgway Village in Maungtaw.
PHOTO: MIN THIT (MNA)

Thirty-seven families from the same area were relocated to a new site near Indin Village on 25 February.

To accommodate the squat-

ters, 100 buildings are under construction in a new area with the arrangement of the Rakhine State government.— Min Thit (MNA), Ko Min ■

Union Minister U Thaung Tun receives UN Assistant Secretary General and Regional Director of UNDP



Union Minister U Thaung Tun receives UN Assistant Secretary General Mr. Hao-liang Xu in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

U THAUNG TUN, Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government received Mr. Hao-liang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary General and Regional Director of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Bureau for Asia and Pacific at 2

pm at the Ministry of the Office of the Union Government in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed matters relating to the implementation of UNDP's country programme in Myanmar and future cooperation.—MNA

Senior General receives EAO representatives, Japanese envoy and Nippon Foundation chairman

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, received a delegation of ethnic armed organisations who attended the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong at Bayint Naung Guest Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was attended by Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Mya Tun Oo, Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and Tatmadaw officials, along with Retired Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, UWSA Chairman U Pauk Yuri, SSA (Wanghai) Chairman U Hsay Htin, and NDAA (Mongla) Vice Chairman U San Pae, KIA Vice Chairman-2 S. Gwan Maw.

During the meeting, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said he is, "glad to exchange views with ethnic races; everyone is needed to practise according to the democratic norms because we are now marching toward a multi-party democracy system, all are needed to work with heart and soul, the state is regarded as parents and our Tatmadaw

and ethnic armed organisations can be looked upon as children. Thus it is needed to consult with brotherly spirits, and to build the union based on democracy and federalism, through thick and thin." Among the topics discussed were the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) and the peace process.

Similarly, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received the Special Envoy of the Government of Japan and the Chairman of Nippon

Foundation Mr. Yohei Sasakawa at Bayint Naung Guest Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening. During the meeting, they exchanged views on the matters regarding the status of holding the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong, signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), Japan's assistance for the peace process of Myanmar, sharing experiences of natural disaster management, and the Tatmadaw's efforts in the peace process.—MNA ■



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with Special Envoy of the Government of Japan Mr. Yohei Sasakawa. **PHOTO: MNA**

Saw Mutu Sae Poe, KNU Chairman delivers opening address . . .

FROM PAGE-6

It is needed to acknowledge the different backgrounds of national ethnic races, their traditional culture, language and national traits, and we can foster the emergence of a constitution which meets the democratic norms and can guarantee a democratic federal union, to make more efforts for implementation of the peace process, to reach the goal of "eternal peace" through political dialogue by cooperating between all national races of the Union with the Union Government.

Although the Union Peace Conference has been held for three times during

the period of two years after signing NCA, we could hold Political Dialogue only one time. We could not hold it within six months according to the prescribed framework of the Political Dialogue. The climax of this dialogue is to hold 21st Century Panglong Peace Conference, thereby, we can carry out political agreement, making approval of the proposals and signing the Union Accord through political dialogue. But we could not hold the Union Peace Conference at a prescribed time because of disagreements on the agenda of the meeting.

It is necessary to hold political dis-

cussions depending upon race, place and matters. We think that hastily-made political negotiations cannot help national reconciliation and it cannot solve any problems. Long-lasting peace which will come out of the implementation of the NCA, and national reconciliation must be a win-win situation. I hereby conclude my speech with my heartfelt wish that we can discuss so that meaningful agreement will be reached for national consolidation and peaceful cooperation.

In conclusion, today's 21st Century Panglong Conference was attended by the State leaders, Hluttaw representa-

tives, leaders of Tatmataw representatives, representatives from the ethnic armed organizations, representatives from the political parties, representatives from NGOs and representatives from ethnic minorities to negotiate and find solutions for peace, which plays a pivotal role in our future. I hereby make a solemn wish to you all to bring about resounding decisions for safeguarding the non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of the National Solidarity and Perpetuation of Sovereignty by the entire ethnic people. Thank you very much. ■

ANP Vice Chair delivers address at 21st Century Panglong 3rd Session

FROM PAGE-6

One of the threats to our newly formed democracy is the oft-mentioned Rakhine situation with Bengali Muslims. Their intentions first started with forming a new ethnic race under the guise of human rights and have since escalated to territorial fighting and acts of terrorism, stretching a national issue into an international concern. Western powers, UN agencies and the OIC have repeatedly applied pressure that threatens our nation's sovereignty, while accusations of genocide are gearing towards an international crisis.

The origin of the Bengali Muslim issue can be traced back to illegal immigration and unsystematic national verification during the time of the British colonials. Non-resident ethnic populations were given citizenship after conducting verifications in accord with the 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law and were allowed to travel without restriction throughout the country. Non-citizens should be handled with existing laws.

We need to ensure that every person residing in the country is guaranteed their legal rights while refusing to cave in to pressure from the international

community. It's important that the rights of Rakhine nationalities are not lost in the Bengali issue. The Bengali issue has grown more complicated and so it is important for the government, Hluttaws and Tatmadaw to be of one mind. Please listen to the voice of the Rakhine people concerning the so-called Rakhine situation and don't ignore Rakhine's political perspective.

Mr. Chairman, we are here to create a new chapter in history. I am delighted to see my ethnic brethren from their homelands loud with the sounds of gunshots and explosions and the air filled

with the smell of gunpowder.

Peace is something that concerns all ethnic nationalities, so it is important for everyone concerned to be involved in an open and transparent peace conference.

We all have the responsibility to learn from our past and establish a peaceful federal democratic union. We need to view our country's issues from the perspective of all the nationalities with their differing histories so that we can set basic principles for our nation that everyone agrees upon.

Thank you. ■

Thais rejoice at success of dramatic cave rescue

CHIANG RAI (Thailand) — Thailand celebrated the successful mission to free 12 boys and their football coach from a cave on Wednesday, with the nation heaping praise on the rescue team as the triumphant tagline “Hooyah” pinballed across social media.

The nerve-shredding three-day mission ended on Tuesday with the final group of four boys and the coach emerging from the cave which had held them captive for 18 days.

The rescue received blanket coverage in Thai media with newspapers *The Nation* running the headline “Hooyah! Mission accomplished” and the Bangkok Post emblazoned with “All Wild Boars saved”.

Despite spending days in the dark, dank cave health officials said



Thai students cheer at a school in front of hospital where the boys rescued after being trapped in a nearby cave for 18 harrowing days have been brought for observation in Chiang Rai on 11 July, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

the boys — who are aged 11 to 16 — are in good physical and mental health and eating normal food.

“It might be because they were all together as a team, helping each other out,” public health ministry inspector general

Thongchai Lertwilairatanapong told reporters, singling out their 25-year-old coach for keeping their spirits high.

The group remain in quarantine in Chiang Rai hospital where one of the last batch of people to leave the cave has “minor

pneumonia”, he said.

Some of the first boys to be freed have been able to see their parents, he added.

The saga of the “Wild Boars” gripped the world, with the lives of the group hanging in the balance as the threat of heavy rain injected urgency to an already perilous extraction bid.

On Wednesday a few hundred Thai school children gathered opposite the hospital, chant-

ing thanks to those who helped and looking up at the building that will be home to the rescued football team for the coming days.

Elsewhere Duangduen Sittiwongsa, a classmate of 16-year-

old Pheeraphat “Night” Sompiengjai, whose birthday fell on the same day the team entered the cave, said they would give him cake and gifts when he came back to school.

“We will sing a song for him,” she said.—AFP

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V BANG SAO TONG VOY. NO. (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V BANG SAO TONG VOY. NO. (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of SPW-3 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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Consignees of cargo carried on M.V LAKAS VOY. NO. (38) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT 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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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MITSUI O.S.K KINKAI LTD.**

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CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V ANAN BHUM VOY. NO. (221 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V ANAN BHUM VOY. NO. (221 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIP 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC HALONG VOY. NO. (1817-1818)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC HALONG VOY. NO. (1817-1818) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/ M.I.P 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 MCC TRANSPORT (S’PORE) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1087 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1087 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-7-2018 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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V THANLWIN STAR VOY. NO. (035 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V THANLWIN STAR VOY. NO. (035 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 CONTINENTAL SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V KOTA HASIL VOY. NO. (KHS 0086 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V KOTA HASIL VOY. NO. (KHS 0086 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

Pogba dedicates France win to Thai cave survivors

SAINT PETERSBURG, Russia — Paul Pogba dedicated France's World Cup semi-final win against Belgium to the 12 boys who survived a harrowing ordeal trapped underground in Thailand.

The final five members of a young football team were rescued from a flooded Thai cave on Tuesday after spending 18 harrowing days trapped deep inside, completing an astonishing against-the-odds rescue mission that captivated the world.

Elite foreign divers and Thai Navy SEALs extracted the final batch of four boys, plus the 25-year-old coach, via a treach-

erous escape route that required them to squeeze through narrow, water-filled tunnels in darkness.

Following the 1-0 win in Saint Petersburg, Manchester United midfielder Pogba tweeted: "This victory goes to the heroes of the day, well done boys, you are so strong."

FIFA boss Gianni Infantino had invited the boys' Wild Boars football team to Sunday's World Cup final last week.

But FIFA said it had been informed "that due to medical reasons, the boys will not be in a position to travel to Moscow".

"FIFA's priority remains the

health of everyone involved in the operation and we will look into finding a new opportunity to invite the boys to a FIFA event to share with them a moment of communion and celebration," a spokesman said.

The Thai footballers, aged from 11 to 16, had been stuck deep underground after setting off to explore the cave with their coach after training on 23 June. FIFA also expressed condolences to the family of a Thai Navy SEAL who died after running out of oxygen during the rescue operation on Friday. "Our thoughts are with his family," FIFA said. —AFP ■



France's midfielder Paul Pogba celebrates the team's victory in the Russia 2018 World Cup semi-final football match between France and Belgium at the Saint Petersburg Stadium in Saint Petersburg on 10 July, 2018. **PHOTO: AFP**

Belgium denied by 'small margins' in France defeat, says Martinez

MOSCOW—Belgium coach Roberto Martinez said luck was against his side as they fell short against France in the World Cup semi-final on Tuesday, losing 1-0 in Saint Petersburg as the 'golden generation' saw another chance slip away.

A Samuel Umtiti header from a corner was the difference between the European neighbours, with Belgium enjoying most of the possession without managing to break down a superb French defence.

"It was a very tight game. There were not many big moments that were going to decide the game and it came down to one dead-ball situation," said Martinez of the 51st-minute goal that separated the sides.

"We had the ball and I think we have to give a lot of credit to France for the way they defended — they were very deep, they gave us a lot of respect in that way and yet we couldn't find a bit of margin in front of goal, a little bit of luck.

"That was the difference, but if you're going to lose, I'm so proud of the players. You have to accept it and congratulate France and wish them luck in the final."

Belgium had beaten Brazil in the quarter-finals but were hindered by the absence of suspended right-back Thomas Meunier against the French.

Midfielder Mousa Dembele came into their starting line-up, yet Martinez's side seemed to miss the attacking thrust of Meunier down the flank.

"I didn't see France running away with the game. It just came down to very small margins — the



Belgium coach Roberto Martinez standing beside assistant Thierry Henry during his side's 1-0 defeat against France. **PHOTO: AFP**

first goal was going to be vital."

Belgium had won all five matches in Russia coming into their meeting with the French, and had scored 14 goals in the process. There will be no first World Cup final for the Red Devils, and instead they must now try to lift themselves for the third-place play-off, back in Saint Petersburg on Saturday, against the loser of Wednesday's semi-final between England and Croatia.

'Finish on a high'

"It's a really sad dressing room now, because the opportunity of being in the final was the only focus we had," added Martinez.

"We could easily have frozen. France were in the final of the Euros, but I don't want any of my players to be frustrated or disap-

pointed. "We want to finish on a high, and these players deserve to finish on a high."

Martinez added: "It is a difficult emotion to manage — you are disappointed because you have lost the semi-final, and it is hard to see the opportunity of playing another game as a real positive."

Belgium can still achieve their best-ever finish at a World Cup, bettering their performance in 1986, when they lost to Argentina in the semi-finals and then lost to the French in the third-place game. This World Cup has represented progress for a team who lost in the quarter-finals of the 2014 tournament in Brazil and at Euro 2016. But Belgians will now wonder if they have seen the best chance for this talented

generation of players to win a major international title.

Fortunately, skipper Eden Hazard, Kevin De Bruyne, Romelu Lukaku and goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois will all still be in their 20s by the time the next European Championship comes around in 2020. "I think it's too early to make any sort of assessment on the tournament," said Martinez, who extended his contract through to 2020 shortly before the World Cup.

"We need to look at the younger generations, but we have the drive and ambition.

"Belgian football has a wealth of young talent coming through and with my role I have my eyes on the Euros in 2020 so I don't want to make an assessment yet." —AFP ■

Paris celebrates France's march to the World Cup final

PARIS — The French national anthem *La Marseillaise*, chants of "We're in the final" and a cacophony of car horns and fire crackers rang out over Paris on Tuesday as residents in the capital celebrated France's march to the World Cup final.

A crowd of 20,000 gathered to watch Dider Deschamps' team beat Belgium 1-0 in their semi-final in Saint Petersburg on a giant screen at Paris' historic Hotel de Ville, or town hall.

With viewing space at a premium every vantage spot was occupied — with fans perched on trees, on top of vans, on dustbins and bus shelters.

Samuel Umtiti's decisive goal in the 52nd minute triggered the waving of a sea of tricolors, ecstatic fans many in the national team's colours kissed and hugged and danced.

The Rue de Rivoli, normally choc-a-bloc with traffic, became a temporary pedestrian zone as crowds made their way along it past the Louvre to the Champs-Élysées, where 20 years earlier Paris had gathered to celebrate France's World Cup win on home soil. —PTI ■