

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Attorney General's Office
Press Release
13th Waning of Pyatho 1381 M.E

(22 January 2020)

Press Release on the Final Report of the Independent Commission of Enquiry

1. The Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE) was established by the Office of the President on 30 July 2018 to investigate the allegations of human rights violations in Rakhine during the internal armed conflict between Myanmar's Defence Services and the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) in 2016-2017.
2. The Independent Commission of Enquiry has investigated the allegations of human rights violations and related issues following the attacks. The Union Attorney General's Office has received, from the President, the comprehensive report submitted by the Independent Commission of Enquiry to the President with around 450 pages including 31 annexes.
3. The Commission has concluded, based on evidence it has collected, that members and collaborators of ARSA, members of the Myanmar's security forces and civilians committed crimes such as killing of civilians, disproportionate use of force, looting of property, and destruction of abandoned homes of Muslims in Maungdaw, Buthidaung and Rathedaung Townships during the internal conflict in Northern Rakhine, and that the Commission has found particularly serious loss of life in the villages of Min Gyi (Tula Toli), Chut Pyin and Maung Nu.
4. The Union Attorney General's Office will coordinate and cooperate with the relevant departments and organizations to ensure further criminal investigations and, where the evidence is compelling, prosecutions.
5. With regard to criminal conduct described in the report, the Union Attorney General's Office will be providing information on the progress of investigations and prosecutions.

Union Attorney General's Office

UEC, USIP co-organize workshop on prevention of hate speech, fake news, wrong information on social media

THE Union Election Commission jointly organized a workshop with the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) on the prevention of hate speech, fake news and misleading information.

Chairman of UEC U Hla Thein made an opening remark on the workshop, saying the important role of social media in modern communications, its advantages and challenges including hate speech, fake news and wrong information.

He remarked on the needs for prevention of these problems in the country where the social media users have amounted to 21 million in 2020, compared with 7 million in 2015.

The UEC Chairman also called for officials concerned with the General Election and the participants

at the workshop to prevent disputes coming out of hate speech and fake news, as well as the enforcement of code of ethics.

While the UEC is publishing its activities and directives on state-owned media and UEC website, the commission will also effectively use its Facebook page to spread information and voter education for 2020 General Election. The UEC is working together with the Ministry of Information, Myanmar Media Council and Facebook Team for prevention of hate speech, fake news and wrong information.

Mr Jason Tower from the USIP extended greeting at the workshop which will be held until 23 January.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein delivers the opening speech at the workshop on prevention of hate speech, fake news and misleading information in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Rakhine IDPs receive 20,000 relief aid bags from India

INDIA government offered 20,000 relief aid bags, totally worth of US\$235,456, to the internally displaced persons in Rakhine State.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye attended the donation ceremony held at a jetty warehouse in Sittway, the capital city of Rakhine State, yesterday.

The Union Minister expressed thanks for the donations of India government which signed MoUs to provide the \$25 million worth assistance in five years, including construction of 250 houses in



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye presents appreciation certification to donor at the handing over ceremony of relief materials for IDPs in Rakhine State. PHOTO: MNA

Shwezar, Nantthartaung villages. He added that the 12

project agreements will be signed in this financial year.

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu also expressed thanks for the donations.

Indian Ambassador to Myanmar then handed over the donation items and explained assistance of India in education, health and agriculture sectors of Myanmar. The government is also working with Singapore-based the Asian Philanthropy Circle (APC) and Mainly I Love Kids (MILK) to help Rakhine people learn skills and vocational education.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs receives Bangladeshi Ambassador

U SOE HAN, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr Manjurul Karim Khan Chowdhury, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Myanmar, at 10:30 am on 21 January 2020 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, the Permanent Secretary and the Bangladeshi Ambassador discussed on matters pertaining to the holding of the Fifth Meeting of Myanmar-Bangladesh Joint Working Group (JWG) on the repatriation of displaced persons in Dhaka, Bangladesh. At the meeting, Permanent Secretary reiterated Myanmar's readiness to receive the verified displaced persons in accordance with the MoU between Myanmar and Bangladesh and apprised him of the government's efforts for creating conducive environment for the returnees in cooperation with the partner countries and ASEAN-ERAT team.—MNA