



ရခိုင်ပြည်နယ်ဆိုင်ရာနေ့စဉ်သတင်းအကျဉ်းချုပ် Daily News Brief on Rakhine State Affairs

January 29, 2018

“There’s been no trace of threats. The villagers I’ve met did not seem to have any fear so that’s what we saw”: H.E. Prof.Dr.SurakiartSathirathai

January 29

Advisory Board for Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State led by H.E. Prof.Dr.SurakiartSathirathai was formed on 14 December, 2017. The committee met with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Vice President U MyintSwe, members of the Committee for Implementation of the Recommendations on Rakhine State and visited Maungtaw and Kyaukpyu in Rakhine State.

H.E. Prof.Dr.SurakiartSathirathai gave an inclusive interview to journalists on 25th January.

Following extracts are the interview with H.E. Prof.Dr.SurakiartSathirathai :-

- Security has been provided. There’s been no trace of threats. The villagers I’ve met did not seem to have any fear so that’s what we saw.
- What I’ve seen from the helicopter is that Rakhine State has a very rich, fertile, agricultural ground and they have plenty of water so there is much potential there. There is much potential for income creation and job creation to train farmers on how they can have better productivity and how they can put more value added into their productions. I can see opportunities for microenterprises and job creations for women, especially in the garment industry.
- On the way to Kyaukpyu there is a great opportunity for this special economic zone and there’s great opportunity for tourism in Thandwe. So I think that the idea of the State Counsellor that peace and development have to work hand in hand and the establishment of a Union Enterprise to create a public-private partnership is a good one. I



can see a lot of opportunities there after I inspected on the ground myself and after talking to the people.

- I think in some way the first trip to Myanmar has been very fruitful and constructive. We have seen what has been developed and we have seen the traces of violence and we have heard how the Myanmar government has endeavoured to provide a lot of security.
- I hope the international community can be helpful and can understand the local constraints. The international community cannot be helpful if it's not inclusive. That's my reflection of the impression I've had on this first trip.
- So I think everyone has to respect the rule of law and I think the State Counsellor has emphasized that whoever they are, everyone is under the same law. So the advisory board is not in the position and will not like to do pressuring any government or interfering with their criminal justice procedure.
- I would like to inform the press that I think it's not fair that Governor Richardson said to the international media that the advisory board would be whitewashing or would be representing or protecting the Myanmar government. We don't intend to be the cheerleader of the government or the lead cheerleader of the international community. We are not the mouthpiece of the Myanmar government or the international community.

—News Team, The Global New Light of Myanmar

AHA Centre inspects repatriation offices

Naypyitaw January 29

The ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre) has handed over a collective donation of humanitarian aid to the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

The donation included US\$ 450,000 worth of basic necessities from ASEAN countries and \$75,000 worth of kitchen appliances from Singapore. Both donations were made on 14 November, 2017.



The aid is being distributed among Sittway, Buthidaung and Maungtaw townships in Rakhine State by the local government. Three members from the AHA Centre's Emergency Response and Assessment Team travelled to Ngakuya Relocation Camp and HlaPhoeKhaung transit centre on 27 and 28 January. The team inspected the technological support and distribution of humanitarian aid in the camp.— MNA, The Global New Light of Myanmar

Free medical treatment to be provided to 3,000 people in Buthidaung

Buthidaung January 29

A mobile medical team of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) has provided free healthcare to local people in Buthidaung, Rakhine State.

The team comprising nearly 20 specialists, including surgeons, obstetricians, gynaecologists and orthopaedics, as well as paediatricians, physicians and nurses, began their first mission at Buthidaung Township Hospital yesterday. The mobile medical team will also tour other areas in Rakhine State to give medical care to the local people.

The government has also arranged accommodation for patients who come from other areas.

—Aung Ye Twin/ Ko Min, The Global New Light of Myanmar
