Announcement for opening reception centres to receive CDM staff, students and youths

THE State Administration Council has been striving for the all-round development of the country including economic, social, education and health sectors. In addition, security forces are performing their duties day and night so that the entire mass of national people in various regions across the Union should be able to lead their lives and earn their living in the peace of mind. The State Administration Council gives priority to achieving genuine and perpetual peace, building up the united strength of the national brethren.

In order to prevent the unnecessary loss of human resources, the State Administration Council has publicly invited the basic education staff who are absent from duty to resume their duties and those who take part in armed resistance under various names of groups.

including PDFs, to return to the legal fold if they wish to, and is systematically receiving the returnees.

It is found that, due to the persuasion, instigation and coercion of CRPH and NUG terrorist groups, some CDM staff, students and youths went to the strongholds of some ethnic armed organizations and received training in arms, ammunition and explosives.

It is known that some of those who have completed the training no longer want to be involved in terrorist attacks and so they fled to the regions within and without the country and are working there for their living. When they see terrorist attacks with their own eyes, they cannot accept such terrible acts at all. On the other hand, they have come to believe in the government's five-point roadmap and its endeavour for

durable peace. Moreover, they want to live peacefully in their hometowns again with their parents and relatives. Nevertheless, they cannot do so because of the coercion and intimidation by CRPH and NUG terrorist groups and their subordinates, it is learnt.

Therefore, the government is taking measures to be able to open reception centres in border areas for those who would like to return homes to their respective regions. Moreover, those wishing to return home can contact Tatmadaw units and police stations. It is guaranteed that they will be able to lead their daily lives peacefully.

Information Team State Administration Council

"Press Statement"

Judgement of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the preliminary objections raised by Myanmar

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar takes note of the decision by the International Court of Justice to reject the preliminary objections raised by Myanmar relating to the application filed by The Gambia on 11 November 2019, alleging violations by Myanmar of the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

Myanmar submitted four preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court to deal with the merits of the application and to the admissibility of the case on 20 January 2021. The first preliminary objection was that the court lacks jurisdiction or that the case is inadmissible on the ground that The Gambia serves as a nominal applicant for the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (the "OIC") and that the real applicant in these proceedings is the OIC, an international organization. The second preliminary objection was that The Gambia lacks standing to bring the case against Myanmar under Article IX of the Genocide Convention as it is a non-injured Contracting Party to the Convention. The third preliminary objection was that The Gambia, as a non-injured Contracting Party to the Genocide Convention, may not seize the Court with a case arising under that Convention since Myanmar made a reservation to its Article VIII. The fourth preliminary objection was that the Court lacks jurisdiction or that the case is inadmissible as there was no dispute between The Gambia and Myanmar on the date of filing of the Application instituting proceedings.

The International Court of Justice held public hearings on the prelimi-

nary objections raised by Myanmar from 21 to 28 February 2022, at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the Netherlands. The Myanmar delegation was led by U Ko Ko Hlaing, Agent of Myanmar and Union Minister for International Cooperation and Dr Thi Da Oo, Alternate Agent of Myanmar, Union Minister and Union Attorney-General, Ministry of Legal Affairs. International counsels and advocates presented Myanmar's arguments before the Court.

The preliminary objections raised by Myanmar were believed to be strong as a matter of law and matter of fact. Myanmar notes that Judge Xue Hanqin issued a dissenting opinion, and voted against the Court's finding that it has jurisdiction and that the application is admissible. Myanmar is disappointed that its preliminary objections were rejected, while it notes that the Court has now determined the matter. Myanmar noted that this judgement will become not only a source of international law but also set a precedent for future cases.

Myanmar reaffirms its position in a declaration over the ratification of the Convention and respects its obligations under the Convention without any violation of them. At the same time, Myanmar will endeavour its utmost efforts to safeguard the country's sovereignty and national interest and continue to undertake appropriate steps for the country.

Ministry of International Cooperation 23 July 2022

Announcement

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- 2. At present, as the COVID-19 infection rates have dropped significantly in the country, sector-wise activities will be made to revive the country's economy hit by COVID-19 and changing conditions of international countries.
- 3. Therefore, new K400 billion separate funds will be established to grant low-interest loans to local enterprises to support manufacturing industries based on agriculture and livestock breeding, industries and production growth to ensure job opportunities under the supervision of the Ministry of Planning and Finance as per economic objectives of the State Administration Council.

Ministry of Planning and Finance

43 new cas es of COVID-19 reported on 23 July, total figure rises to 613,940

MYANMAR'S COVID-19 positive cases rose to 613,940 after 43 new cases were reported on 23 July 2022 according to the Ministry of Health. Among these confirmed cases, 592,789 have been discharged from hospitals. Death toll still stands at 19,434 without more casualties.—MNA