

EMBASSY OF INDIA YANGON

PRESS RELEASE

Signing of Project Agreement for Provision of Library Materials and Creation of Soft Infrastructure for 15 Schools under Rakhine State Development Programme

1. India and Myanmar signed a Project Agreement on 31st August 2020 under which India would provide library material and create soft infrastructure in 15 schools constructed by Japan International Cooperation Agency(JICA) in Rakhine State.

2. The Project Agreement was signed in the presence of His Excellency Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Minister of Education by Ambassador of India to Myanmar Saurabh Kumar and U Ko Lay Win, Director General, Department of Basic Education. The said schools are located in Sittwe, Manaung, Pauktaw, Maungdaw and Myebon in Rakhine State.

3. The Project would promote the education sector in Rakhine State through upgradation of learning material and provision of quality environment through libraries including books and other related soft infrastructure.

4. It may be recalled that an MoU was signed between India and Myanmar in December 2017 on Rakhine State Development Program under which India is providing \$25 million in grant assistance for socio-economic development of Rakhine State over a period of 5 years. 250 pre-fabricated houses were built in Northern Rakhine for displaced persons and handed over to the Government of Myanmar on 9th July 2019. An additional set of agreements were signed for socio-economic projects in Rakhine State during the visit of President U Win Myint to India in February this year.

5. The said Project Agreement is the first initiative in Myanmar under which Indian funding would be used to develop infrastructure in JICA developed schools. This is the result of coordination between the two countries and discussions with Myanmar side.

Embassy of India, Yangon Date: 31st August, 2020