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President U Win Myint and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat are welcomed by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than and family at his residence in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA** 

# President attends Christmas gathering at Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker's residence

MYOTHA Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than welcomed President U Win Myint to a Christmas gathering at his residence in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than, wife Daw Nant Kyin Kyi and family, welcomed President U Win Myint, former President U Htin Kyaw and wife Daw Su Su Lwin, Vice President U Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat and wife Daw Yin May, U Myo Nyunt, Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, and wife Daw Htay Yi, the Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and his wife, the Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw and his wife, Union Ministers,

the Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, members of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, Deputy Ministers and their wives, the Deputy Attorney-General and his wife, departmental heads, bishops from Christian Churches, and invited guests. Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than and family extended Christmas blessings

on all the guests.

The President and invited guests enjoyed the Christmas meal and then took documentary photographs together.

During the Christmas gathering, bishops in attendance said Christmas prayers, read verses from the Bible, preached sermons, and sang Christmas songs. —MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

## New flight service from Yangon to Pathein operational

A NEW Yangon-Pathein-Yangon flight began its maiden trip from Yangon to Pathein in Ayeyawady Region yesterday.

The aircraft landed in Pathein Airport in the evening where its passengers and crew were welcomed by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Hla Moe Aung, the regional Hluttaw Speaker, regional ministers and department officials.

The Chief Minister said the Yangon-Pathein air route supports his region's development. It takes 4 hours from Pathein to Yangon by car, therefore a direct flight will get tourists and business persons to their destination in a much shorter time, he said.

The new air route will employ an ATR 72-600 72-seater aircraft from Myanmar National Airlines and it is operated by International Travel Asia Co. Ltd, a subsidiary of Asia World.

Yang Jin, CEO of International Travel Asia Co. Ltd, said there are not many beaches in China and as such, its citizens are attracted to the beautiful beaches of Chaungtha and Ngwehsaung. He said the flow of Chinese tourists will significantly contribute to Myanmar's tourism industry. He also mentioned upgrading Pathein Airport and his company's desire to keep providing smoother travel experiences at affordable prices.

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