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New data website hailed on International Statistics Day

Accurate data contributes to a better understanding of public needs, says union minister

DEVISING policies that are based on statistics will better reflect the needs of the people and bring about a faster pace of development, said Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw yesterday.

He made the remarks while speaking at a ceremony held in Nay Pyi Taw to mark International Statistics Day.

Deputy Minister Daw Lei Lei Thein discussed a new website that enables users to conveniently access quantitative data, which is often in short supply in Myanmar.

Myanmar Information System (MMSIS) website was developed with assistance from Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). South Korean Am-

bassador to Myanmar Mr Gyung Tae Kim described the collaboration between the two countries in creating the new website.

MMSIS is a web-based national database of statistics about Myanmar developed by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO).

According to the website, the purpose of MMIS is to: "respond to the growing demands of data users for various statistics that describe socio-economic conditions in Myanmar, at national and sub-national levels, across various periods."

The union minister said that it wasn't until recently that the importance of statistics in developing policies were duly recognised, along with their link to achieving sustainable develop-



Dignitaries have documentary photo taken at ceremony to mark World Statistics Day. PHOTO: MNA

ment goals. He added that collecting data about what Myanmar's society may look like in 2020 will prove extremely useful in planning for the future.

A five year national strate-

gy for strengthening Myanmar's ability to collect and interpret statistics will be unveiled before the end of the year and will play a vital role in shaping a future path.

The union minister ended his

address by urging development partners, members of the private sectors, civil society groups and the media to cooperate for the development of the statistics sector.—Myanmar News Agency