

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Thursday, 24 July, 1997)**

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- (1) Chairman of State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior-General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of People's Republic of Bangladesh**
- (2) Chairman of State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of Kingdom of Belgium**
- (3) Union Flag proudly rises as Myanmar becomes full member of ASEAN**
- (4) Myanmar will fulfill responsibilities obligations**
- (5) U Aung San U, Daw Le Le Nwe Thein donate K 350,000 for renovation, restoration of pagodas**
- (6) Development of townships depends on concerted, harmonious efforts of administrative bodies, development committees**
- (7) MIC Chairman receives Premier Oil Chairman**
- (8) Ambassador of Pakistan calls on Minister For Industry-1**
- (9) Minister for Transport receives FCAD official**
- (10) Fukuoka-bound children on study tour in Yangon**

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- (1) Chairman of State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior-General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of People's Republic of Bangladesh**

YANGON, 23 July Mr Jahangir Saadat, newly accredited Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the Union of Myanmar, presented his credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence, this morning.

Present were Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe and Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet.

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- (2) Chairman of State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe accepts credentials of Ambassador of Kingdom of Belgium**

YANGON, 23 July Mrs Cristina Funes Noppen, newly accredited Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to the Union of Myanmar, presented her credentials to Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar, at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence, this morning.

Present were Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe and Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet.

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### **(3) Union Flag proudly rises as Myanmar becomes full member of ASEAN**

The Union of Myanmar was welcomed into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations ASEAN today, 23 July 1997, during an Admission Ceremony held in Subang Jaya, Malaysia, where ASEAN Foreign Ministers are gathered for the 30th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting. The Lao People's Democratic Republic was also admitted into the Association together with Myanmar.

Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw signed the Declaration on the Admission of the Union of Myanmar into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the Protocol for the Accession of the Union of Myanmar to ASEAN Agreements, on behalf of the Government of the Union of Myanmar.

Statements welcoming the new members to ASEAN were made by the Chairman of the 30th ASEAN Standing Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, as well as by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers, and the Foreign Ministers of Laos and Myanmar. Then, the Foreign Ministers of the two new member countries presented to the Secretary-General of ASEAN their respective Inclusion Lists of Common Effective Preferential Tariff (CEPT) Products to ASEAN.

The Admission Ceremony also comprised a flag-raising ceremony for the two new members of ASEAN. The national anthems of Laos and Myanmar were played while their respective flags were being raised. After the raising of each of the new members' flags, the ASEAN Directors-General of the new member countries presented their flags to the Secretary-General of ASEAN.

The Admission Ceremony was attended by ASEAN Foreign Ministers, Foreign Ministers of Laos and Myanmar, the ASEAN Secretary-General, Spouses of the Foreign Ministers and the Secretary-General, delegates, members of the diplomatic corps, invited guests, and the media.

Myanmar will be participating in the 30th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting as a full member from 24 July onwards.

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### **(4) Myanmar will fulfill responsibilities obligations**

The following is the Statement by His Excellency U Ohn Gyaw Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar at the Admission of the Union of Myanmar to ASEAN at Subang Jaya, Malaysia, on 23 July 1997:

Mr Chairman, Esteemed Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen, Distinguished Guests, I deem it a high honour, and my most pleasant of duties to sign on behalf of the Government of the Union of Myanmar, the Declaration on the Admission of the Union of Myanmar as a full member of the Association of South-east Asian Nations. Today is a significant moment in the contemporary history of my country as Myanmar now stands proudly as part of the ASEAN family, an integral

part of Southeast Asia in spirit and in letter. It also marks another important achievement for ASEAN as we move closer to the fulfillment of the wishes of Association's founding fathers.

The significant experience we share today is a powerful illustration of the strength of determination that the people of Southeast Asia, sharing many historical and cultural links, possess as the means of achieving our aspirations.

The courage and conviction on the part of ASEAN, and dedication and devotion on the part of Myanmar are concrete examples of this determination.

On behalf of the Government and people of the Union of Myanmar, I have the honour to express our gratitude and firm determination to further prove our sincerity of commitment

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**(5) U Aung San U, Daw Le Le Nwe Thein donate K 350,000 for renovation, restoration of pagodas**

YANGON, 23 July Visiting U Aung San U and wife Daw Le Le Nwe Thein donated K 50,000 towards the funds for general renovation of Shwedagon Pagoda on the pagoda platform at 8.30 am today.

Chairman of the Pagoda General Renovation Leading Committee Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung and the Pagoda Board of Trustees accepted the donation and presented a certificate of honour to the donors.

Similarly, at the Office of the Minister for Culture in the afternoon, U Aung San U, Daw Le Le Nwe Thein and her brothers and sisters collectively donated K 300,000. for restoration of an ancient pagoda (No 307) in Bagan.

Minister U Aung San accepted the donation and presented a certificate of honour to the donors.

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**(6) First bi-annual meeting for 1997 of the Development Affairs Department at the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs held**

YANGON, 23 July-Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo addressed the first bi-annual meeting for 1997 of the Development Affairs Department at the Ministry for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs at 1.30 pm today.

The Secretary-2 said development of townships Under the charge of the Development Committees depends on concerted and harmonious efforts of the administrative bodies and development committees concerned.

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**(7) MIC Chairman receives Premier Oil Chairman**

YANGON, 23 July-Member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Deputy Prime Minister Vice-Admiral Maung Maung Khin received Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Mr Charles lamieson of Premier Oil Plc of the United Kingdom at his office this afternoon.

Also present were Secretary of MIC Minister at the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister Brig-Gen Maung Maung and officials of the Ministry of Energy.

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**(8) Ambassador of Pakistan calls on Minister For Industry-1**

YANGON, 23 July-Ambassador of Pakistan Mr Javed Hafiz called on Member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Minister for Industry- 1 Lt-Gen Sein Aung at his office this afternoon.

Also present were officials of departments and enterprises under the ministry.

Afterwards, the guest viewed products of the ministry being displayed on the ground floor of the ministry.

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**(9) Minister for Transport receives FCAD official**

YANGON, 23 July Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win received Civil Administrator M Andre Vessier of French Civil Aviation Department at his office this afternoon.

Also present were officials of the ministry.

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**(10) Fukuoka-bound children on study tour in Yangon**

YANGON, 23 July -Eight school children, who will attend the Ninth Get-together of Children of Asia and the Pacific Region in Fukuoka, Japan, went on study tour here for the third day on 21 July.

They were led by study group leader Headmistress Daw Tin Yi of Sittway Basic Education Middle School No 2 and Camp Supervisor Headmistress Daw Myint Myint of Kamayut Basic Education High School No 1.

The children studied exhibits in the booths of military commands, ministries and Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) at the Defence Services Museum.

They also studied the projector and the hall at Thamada Cinema of Mingalar Co Ltd.

At Myanma Department Store, Manager U Tun Naung took them on a tour of the shops. Afterwards, they visited MCC Computer Centre.

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