

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Wednesday, 24 Sept, 1997)

- (1) Minister for Forestry receives officials of Russian Federation**
- (2) Hovercraft goes into service**
- (3) National Workshop on Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders in Myanmar begins**
- (4) Pujaniya of Buddha's Tooth Relic Pagoda on 14 November**
- (5) Minister for SWRR receives Ambassador of PRC**
- (6) Minister visits Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department**
- (7) Cash donation for Kayah State USDA**

(1) Minister for Forestry receives officials of Russian Federation

YANGON, 23 Sept- Deputy Director-General of the Federal Service of Geodesy and Cartography of Russia Mr Anatoli M Rubakha and party paid a courtesy call on the Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen Chit Swe in his Office on Thrimingala Lane on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning to discuss technical cooperation with the ministry of Forestry.

Also present were heads of department under the Ministry of Forestry.

(2) Hovercraft goes into service

YANGON, 23 Sept-A ceremony to launch hovercraft of Norasia Hovercraft Ltd was held at Central Floating Hotel this morning.

It was attended by Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Lt-Gen Myint Aung, Minister for Commerce Lt-Gen Tun Kyi, Minister at the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win, Minister at the Office of the Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Min Thein, Chairman of Norasia Hovercraft Ltd Mr Hans W Steiger, departmental officials and guests.

In his address, Minister Lt-Gen Tun Kyi said ensuring smooth and secure transport, one of the Four Main Tasks, was laid down by the State Law and Order Restoration Council, adding the Head of State also gave guidance on transport and communications for national solidarity and economic progress.

He said the government has built roads, railroads and bridges nationwide in accord with the guidance of the Head of State. Recently, Yoma Beltway Railroad and Nawade Bridge were opened, he added.

Double-and-triple-deckers were added to improve water transport and the hovercraft can be used in delta regions for health services, relief and coastal security, he said.

Mr Hans W Steiger then spoke.

Ministers Lt-Gen Tun Kyi and Lt-Gen Thein Win, Mr Hans W Steiger and Mr Robert C Kwok formally launched the hovercraft and the guests then inspected it.

It is 10.9 metres long, 4.76 metres wide and 3.2 metres high, weighs two tons and its model is GHL 2000 TDX MK II.

It can carry 20 persons with a speed of 35 nautical miles per hour and cost US \$ 1.2 million.

The service is a joint undertaking of the Swiss Norasia and the Flying Tiger Engineering Co Ltd.

(3) National Workshop on Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders in Myanmar begins

YANGON, 23 Sept- Minister for Health U Saw Tun addressed the opening ceremony of the National Workshop on Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders in Myanmar at the meeting hall of Medical Research Department in Dagon Township this morning.

Present were Deputy Minister for Health Col Than Zin, directors-general, rectors, directors and research officers of departments and universities under the ministry, officials of non-governmental organizations, resident representatives of UNDP, WHO and UNICEF, private entrepreneurs and guests.

(4) Pujaniya of Buddha's Tooth Relic Pagoda on 14 November

YANGON, 23 Sept - Officials this afternoon discussed holding of Pujaniya of Buddha's Tooth Relic Pagoda on Dhammapala Hill, Mayangon, Yangon, with an address by Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt.

The Buddha Pujaniya will be observed at the pagoda on 14 November 1997, he said, stressing the need to give suggestions for holding of this religious ceremony in accord with the Buddhist tradition and on a grand scale.

Local authorities and officials should make arrangements for the ceremony, which will include offering of Matho Thingan to Nine Mudra Buddha Images in the Gandhakudi (special chamber) of the pagoda, offering of 'soon' and dry rations to Sayadaws and offering of fruits to the Buddha, to be in line with the religious traditions, he noted.

Director-General U Arnt Maung of Religious Affairs Department explained successful enshrining of religious artifacts in the upper reliquary of the pagoda and offering of Shwekya Thingan last year.

Participants then presented suggestions sector-wise.

The meeting announced the lists of persons of the Leading Committee for Holding the Buddha Pujaniya, work committees and subcommittees. The minister urged the respective committees to strive for successful holding of the ceremony.

The meeting at the Ministry of Religious Affairs was also attended by No 1 Military Region Commander Col Thaik Tun, Director General U Sann Lwin of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, local authorities,

members of the Boards of Trustees of pagodas in Yangon, the secretary of Yangon Division Union Solidarity and Development Association the president of Myanmar Red Cross Society, officials of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of Transport and guests.

(5) Minister for SWRR receives Ambassador of PRC

YANGON, 23 Sept - Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Soe Myint received Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Mr Liang Dong at his office this afternoon.

Present also were Deputy Minister for SWRR Brig-Gen Maung Kyi, Director-General of Fire Services Department U Win Lwin, Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Than Po, Director-General of Relief and Resettlement Department U Saw Thein and Head of Office U Maung Pi.

(6) Minister visits Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department

YANGON, 23 Sept - Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Aung Thaung visited the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department in Insein Township this morning.

He was accompanied by Deputy Minister U Aung Thein, Director-General U Kyaw Lwin of the Directorate of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries and Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, Managing Director of Livestock, Feedstuff and Dairy Product Enterprise U Maung Maung Nyunt and officials.

The minister inspected warehouses there.

He gave instructions on systematic storage of State property, issuing and storing of goods according to the rules, keeping systematic attendance books and proper discharge of duties.

Next, the minister and party proceeded to the vehicle depot of the department, where they inspected the vehicles.

The minister gave instructions on systematic use of vehicles, carrying out repair work correctly and keeping records for fuel use.

(7) Cash donation for Kayah State USDA

YANGON, 23 Sept-Kachin Nationals Development Co Ltd of Special Region 5 KDA and Chinthay Nyinaung Construction Co Ltd presented K 100,000 to Kayah State Union Solidarity and Development Association at the Office of the Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement this afternoon.

Member of the Board of Directors of Kachin Nationals Development Co Ltd U Soe Myint and Managing Director of Chinthay Nyinaung Construction Co Ltd U Win Kyon presented the donation to Secretary of Kayah State USDA U Baw Reh.

Present were CEC member of USDA Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Maung Kyi and officials.