

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Friday, 3 Oct, 1997)

- (1) Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to President of the Federal Republic of Germany**
 - (2) Senior General Than Shwe inspects irrigation, oil and gas projects**
 - (3) General Maung Aye receives Defence Attaches of Embassy of ROK**
 - (4) Secretary-1 enjoys drama competition at National Theatre**
 - (5) Fifth Myanma Traditional Performing Arts Competitions ceremony opened**
 - (6) Secretary-1 receives Ambassador of SRV**
 - (7) Minister meets officials, physicians**
 - (8) Education officials return from Thailand**
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- (1) Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to President of the Federal Republic of Germany**

YANGON, 3 Oct-Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Roman Herzog, President of the Federal Republic of Germany, on the occasion of the Day of German Unity which falls on 3 October 1997.

- (2) Senior General Than Shwe inspects irrigation, oil and gas projects**

YANGON, 2 Oct Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe and entourage, together with Chairman of Sagaing Division Law and Order Restoration Council Commander MajGen Hla Myint Swe and Chairman of Magway Division-Law and Order Restoration Council Col Thein Nyunt, left Bagan-IqyaungU for Pakokku by helicopter yesterday morning.

In Pakokku, the Senior General and entourage were welcomed by Commander of No 101 Light Infantry Division Col Aung Thein Lin, other military officers, families of the military units, district and township authorities, departmental personnel and members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association.

They paid obeisance to Thihoshin Buddha.

The chairman of the Board of Trustees briefed the Senior General on renovation of the sacred image without loss of its original splendour and grandeur.

The Senior General gave necessary instructions and donated cash towards the pagoda founds.

They next proceeded to Shwetanttit Village in the township and inspected the river-water pumping project of the Water Resources Utilization Department (WRUD).

Director-General of WRUD Lt-Col Win Shwe briefed the Senior General and entourage on irrigation, cultivation of crops, the irrigated acreage and plans for expansion of the irrigated acreage.

The Senior General gave suggestions on the work to permanently irrigate the projected acreage, power supply to the river water-pumping projects, expansion of sown acreage and boosting per-acre yield.

Later, they inspected Shwetanttit River Water Pumping Project and farms.

Energy projects

They helicoptered to the small-scale natural gas power station project in Kamma Sanpya Village.

They were welcomed there by Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein, Managing Director of Myanma Electric Power Enterprise U Zaw Win and personnel, members of Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigades, pupils, members of USDA and local people.

Minister U Khin Maung Thein and Managing Director U Zaw Win briefed them on the project for establishment of a small-scale -power- station -to be run with natural gas produced from Kyaukkhwet Natural Gas Field and programmes for power supply from Kamma to Myitchay, Myaing, Pauk, Letpando, Kyaukkhwet and neighbouring villages.

Senior General Than Shwe gave suggestions on the tasks for regional development.

Next, the Senior General presented cash awards to the project personnel.

They proceeded to Letpando Oil and Gas Field in Pauk Township.

They heard reports on the oil and gas field, drilling, storage and transport of crude oil, distribution of natural gas and oil refining, presented by Managing Director U Kyaw Nyein of Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise and Project Director U Kyi Shein.

After inspecting drilling at No 11 Well, the Senior General Presented cash awards for project personnel.

They toured the crude oil distribution station and No 21 Well of Kyaukkhwet Oil and Gas Field before returning to BaganNyaungU.

This morning, Senior General Than Shwe and entourage visited Hsinmyashin Pagoda and Alodawpyi Pagoda, and inspected Bagan Myothit.

They later visited Maha Hgnetpyittaung Pagoda and Shin Araham Okkyang.

The Senior General-instructed Minister for Culture U Aung San and officials on systematic preservation of ancient cultural heritage.

They arrived back in Yangon this afternoon.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo and ministers inspected Sun-Set Garden Restaurant in Bagan Myothit and NyaungU People's Hospital.

During his meeting with district and township authorities, departmental officials, members of USDA and entrepreneurs, the Secretary-2 gave suggestions on regional development projects.

He stressed the need of district and township authorities to provide close supervision to departments for successful implementation of the Five-Year Plan, and also spoke of the need to make continued efforts to build Bagan-NyaungU as a model town.

(3) General Maung Aye receives Defence Attaches of Embassy of ROK

YANGON, 2 Oct Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander -in-Chief (Army). General Maung Aye received Defence Attache of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea Col Kwan Soo Oh, who has completed his tour of duty, and his successor Lt-Col Lee - Nae Chan at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence this morning.

Present also were Chief of the Office of Strategic Studies and Director of Defence Services Intelligence Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, Chief of Staff (Navy) Commodore Nyunt Thein and Chief of Staff (Air) Brig-Gen Kyaw Than.

(4) Secretary-1 enjoys drama competition at National Theatre

YANGON, 2 Oct - Patron of the Leading Committee for Organizing Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions Secretary- 1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt together with members of the Panel of Patrons enjoyed drama competition at National Theatre this evening.

Minister at the Office of the Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Brig-Gen Myo Thant, Chairman of the Leading Committee Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Than, Vice-Chairman Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt and Deputy Minister for Labour U Kyaw Aye also enjoyed song competitions at National Museum, song composing competitions at Fine Arts Department and music competitions at Padonma Theatre.

Contestants from States and Divisions took part in women's amateur level religious song contest at the National Museum. Basic education level boys' (5 to 10) modern song contest and institutions of higher learning level men's

modern song contest were also held there.

Basic education- level boys' (5 to 10) classical song contest and religious song contest and men's amateur level religious song contest will be held on 3 October.

At the National Theatre, institutions of higher learning level women's dance contest and men's amateur level contest were held.

In the evening, Thuwunnashan Drama Troupe of Sagaing Division performed at the theatre.

Basic education level boys' (10 to 15) dance contest, women's amateur level contest and basic education level girls' (10 to 15) dance contest will be staged on 3 October.

Song composing contests are being held at Fine Arts Department. Contestants of institutions of higher learning level and basic education level (15 to 20) took part in today's events.

Basic education level (10 to 15) and basic education level (5 to 10) competitions will be held on 3 October.

Music competitions held today at Padonma Theatre were institutions of higher learning level men's xylophone contest, basic education level boys' (15 to 20) harp contest, basic education level girls' (5 to 10) contest and basic education level boys' (5 to 10).

Music competitions continue on 3 October.

(5) Fifth Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions ceremony opened

YANGON, 2 Oct - The following is the address delivered by Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt at the opening ceremony of the Fifth Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions:

I extend my greetings to the Ministers, heads of department, distinguished guests, commanders and deputy commanders, members of the diplomatic corps, representatives from the United Nations agencies, doyen artistes of the panel of judges and participants of the Fifth Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions present at this opening ceremony, wishing "May you cherish and preserve national culture, and safeguard and uphold national prestige."

It is the way of respective culture of each and every national race in this world to evolve in own style with own norms on the basis of the experiences and events throughout history, teachings of the religion revered by the respective race, and customs and traditions practiced.

Only the races who can preserve and safeguard their national characteristics, promoting and upholding their own cultural standards, will be able to stand prestigiously and grandly among the world's nations as the ones with high national prestige and integrity.

Not only the classical, historical and religious literature of the nation but also archaeological records and foreign contemporary historical records endorse the fact that Myanmar Naing-Ngan and Myanmar people have developed and possessed own literature, own performing arts and own culture for over two thousand years.

Even at the time the Lord Buddha attained Enlightenment, Myanmar people's cultural and intellectual standards were high and mature, enough to follow and comprehend His profound discourses.

It can be found that Myanmar's true culture characterised with high standards in all aspects religious, intellectual and artistic-which has evolved since the time immemorial, exists till today without loss of any national traits and still remains as manifestation to distinguishing characteristics of Myanmar people.

Subsequent to being able to uphold traditions and culture without losing national characteristics was that Theravada Buddhist teachings, refuge of Myanmar people, and their beliefs and convictions are homogeneous with the people's traditional cultural traits and they have endeavored to safeguard their traditions and culture devotedly and striven to uphold these norms in Myanmar way and style since ancient times.

Therefore, the State Law and Order Restoration Council, in striving for the nation to emerge peaceful, modern and developed, laid down preservation and safeguarding of Myanmar cultural heritage and national character, uplift of national prestige and integrity, and uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit as social objectives and is implementing them for ever-augmenting of Myanmar people's prestige and flourishing of the existing characteristics.

(6) Secretary-I receives Ambassador of SRV

YANGON, 2 Oct - Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt received Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Tran-Viet Tan at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence this evening.

Present also were Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Nyunt Swe, Director-General of Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet and Director-General of Political Department U Khin Maung Win.

(7) Minister meets officials, physicians

YANGON, 2 Oct - Central Executive Committee member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Health U Saw Tun met directors-general and deputy directors-general of his ministry and medical superintendents of hospitals here this afternoon at the Health Department.

Although hospitals under the ministry are gaining progress in their functions they still have disadvantages, he said. Specialist physicians have been assigned duties at State, Division and District hospitals to ensure effective medical treatment for patients, he noted. These physicians should make field tours in their respective regions to treat patients and to conduct disease control and health education, he stressed. Arrangements should be made to assure free medicare for the needy and cost-sharing health system for those who can afford.

The minister spoke of the need to upgrade hospitals and to control spreading of unlicensed medicines and harmful foods.

He also attended to the needs of medical superintendents.

(8) Education officials return from Thailand

YANGON, 2 Oct- Director-General of Higher Education Department U Myo Nyunt and Director-General of Basic Education Department U Bo- Win arrived back from Thailand by air yesterday evening after attending the Fifth Meeting of the ASEAN Sub-committee on Education held in Thailand from 29 to 30 September.

They were welcomed back at the Yangon International Airport by Deputy Minister for Education Col Kyi Maung families and departmental officials.
