

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Tuesday, 7 Oct, 1997)

- (1) **Fifth Myanma Traditional Performing Arts Competitions continues**
 - (2) **Minister receives Ambassador of SRV**
 - (3) **Feasibility study of Golden Gateways Deep-sea Port Construction Project presented**
 - (4) **Joint ventures' entry to stocks & shares market coordinated**
 - (5) **Total signs \$ 2 billion gas deal with-Iran in defiance of US protest**
 - (6) **\$ 2.37m equipment for No 1 Copper Project arrive**
 - (7) **Part-time English for General Purposes course on 15 Oct**
 - (8) **Ministry of Education holds coordination meeting**
 - (9) **ASEAN Sub-Regional Air Services Arrangement discussed**
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(1) **Fifth Myanma Traditional Performing Arts Competitions continues**

YANGON, 6 Oct - The fifth day events of the Fifth Myanma Traditional Performing Arts Competitions continued at the respective venues today.

Song contests were held at National Museum, dance and drama in National Theatre, song composing at Fine Arts Department and music in Padonma Theatre.

Amateur level

Patron of Leading Committee for Organizing the Fifth Myanma Traditional Performing Arts Competitions Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt attended women's amateur level modern song contest at National Museum and basic education level individual saing contest in Padonma Theatre this evening.

Members of Panel of Patrons Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt, Minister at Office of the Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Brig-Gen Myo Thant and Minister for Culture U Aung San, Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Fifth Myanma Traditional Performing Arts Competitions chairman of Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Than, Vice-Chairman Deputy Minister for Culture U Soe Nyunt and officials also viewed the performing arts competitions.

(2) **Minister receives Ambassador of SRV**

YANGON, 6 Oct-Member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen Maung Thint received Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Tran Viet Tan, who has completed his tour of duty, at his office this afternoon.

Present also were Deputy Minister U Kyaw Tin, Director-General of the Department for Development of Border Areas and National Races Lt-Col Thein Han, Director-General of Development Affairs Department U Tin Maung Lay, Head of Office U Wan Tin and officials.

(3) Feasibility study of Golden Gateways Deep-sea Port Construction Project presented

YANGON, 6 Oct-A ceremony to present feasibility study of Golden Gateways Deep-sea Port Construction Project was held at the Ministry of Transport this morning.

Present were Minister for Transport Lt-Gen Thein Win, officials of ministries concerned and members of the board of directors led by Mr Adisak Lowjun of Sahaviriya Group Corporation Ltd. Minister Lt-Gen Thein Win spoke on the occasion Mr Adisak Lowjun and members reported on the feasibility study with the aid of video slide.

Officials of Sahaviriya Group Corporation Ltd replied queries of those present.

(4) Joint ventures' entry to stocks & shares market coordinated

YANGON, 6 Oct - A coordination meeting on joint venture corporations' entry to stocks and shares market was held at the Ministry of Commerce this afternoon.

In his address, Minister Lt-Gen Tun Kyi said the joint ventures have already held their annual general meetings and formed new boards of directors.

He spoke of the need for the boards of directors not to make decisions only by the chairman and two directors, but to organize meetings to coordinate to make proper decisions.

He called for efforts to boost export items which have markets and also to make investment.

He urged the joint ventures to thoroughly study stocks and shares market and discuss properly so as to lay down the decision on the entry to stocks and shares market at the next meeting.

A general round of discussions followed. Also present at the meeting were advisers to the ministry, departmental heads, and chairmen and executive directors of local joint venture corporations.

(5) Total signs \$ 2 billion gas deal with-Iran in defiance of US protest

YANGON, 6 Oct-Total SA, the French oil giant, signed a \$ 2 billion gas deal with Iran in defiance of US pressure on 28 September.

Total has a 40 per cent stake and Russia's Gazprom and Malaysia's Petronas 30 per cent each in the multinational contract signed with the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC).

The contract was signed last Sunday despite a formal protest delivered last week to French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine by US Ambassador to France Felix Rohatyn.

Defending the contract, French Foreign Ministry Spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt said Monday it was "compatible with our policy toward Iran". He said the US should weigh the consequences before retaliating invoking the d'Amato law and that it would be counterproductive to impose restrictions on the development of commerce with Iran.

French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin told a TV interviewer the US "cannot impose its laws on other states".

In Brussels, European Union Spokesman Peter Guilford said "US retaliation would be unlawful and unacceptable".

The US Iran-Libya Sanctions, known as the d'Amato law after its main author Senator Alfonse d'Amato, requires imposition of sanctions on companies investing more than \$ 20 million a year in the two countries.

Total Chairman Thierry Desmarest also told the French daily Le Monde that his company had obtained the support-of the French Government and the European Union and brushed aside as baseless the US accusation that French investment would help terrorists more, help buy more guns. He said Iran is currently producing 3.6 million barrels of crude per day and would be producing gas in the next four years and it is meaningless for the US to assert that the gas income from Total's investment would be used to fund terrorists. Through the ongoing production, Iran has made, he said adding Total has the right to invest in Iran under French law, the EU law or International law. Comments on the US action on the Iran-Total deal underscored the US attempts to impose policies rather than consult its partners in the post-Cold War world, through hegemonistic acts such as applying the d' Amato law and interpreted the french action as defiance and repulsing of hegemonistic encounters.

(6) \$ 2.37m equipment for No 1 Copper Project arrive

YANGON, 6 Oct-Member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Minister for Mines Lt-Gen Kyaw Min, Chairman of the Committee for Ensuring Efficient Freight-Handling and Full Operation Lt-Gen Min Thein and Deputy Minister for Mines U Myint Thein inspected unloading of machines imported for No 1 Copper Project at Bo Aung Kyaw Wharf this afternoon.

At Bo Aung Kyaw Wharf, the minister and party were welcomed by Secretary of the Committee for Ensuring Efficient Freight-Handling and Full Operation Brig-Gen Win Shein, Acting Managing Director of No 1 Mining Enterprise-U Soe Myint, Director U Nyunt Pe, Deputy General Manager of Myanma Port Authority U Tin Ngwe and officials.

The Ministry of Mines has established Myanmar Ivanhoe Copper Co Ltd and will produce 25,000 tons of Cathode Copper by Bleaching Solvent Extraction and Electrowinning (SX-EW) method beginning next April.

The machines which arrived in the third batch included 100 Electrowinning Cells, totalling \$ 2.37 million.

Construction materials for housing of 600 personnel of the factory valued at \$ 1.26 million arrived for the first batch in June and 15 dump trucks and factory equipment valued at \$ 1.91 million for the second batch in August.

(7) Part-time English for General Purposes course on 15 Oct

YANGON, 6 Oct-A fourmonth part-time course on English for General Purposes will open 15 October at Yangon Institute of Technology under the arrangement of Myanmar Engineering Association and YIT Welfare Committee.

Those who passed placement test may attend.
Additional information can be obtained by dialling 642560 or 642557.

(8) Ministry of Education holds coordination meeting

YANGON, 6 Oct - The Ministry of Education held its coordination meeting at the meeting hall of Universities Central Council, Higher Education Department, this morning, attended by Minister for Education U Pan Aung.

Present also were Deputy Ministers for Education Col Kyi Maung and Dr Than Nyunt, advisers to the ministry, directors-general of Higher Education Department, Basic Education Department and Department of the Myanmar Language Commission, chairmen of Myanmar Board of Examinations and Myanmar Educational Research Bureau, rectors of Universities, directors, deputy directors, Division and State Education Officers of the Basic Education Department and guests.

Minister U Pan Aung delivered an address. The Division and State Education Officers reported to the minister on departmental undertakings and rectors on their activities.

The meeting will continue tomorrow.

(9) ASEAN Sub-Regional Air Services Arrangement discussed

YANGON, 6 Oct-Aviation officials of Vietnam and Myanmar, members of ASEAN Sub-Regional Countries namely Myanmar, Vietnam and Laos, discussed ASEAN Sub-Regional Air Services Arrangement at the Department of Civil Aviation today.

Myanmar representatives included Director-General of the Department of Civil Aviation U Tin Aye and officials of the Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanma Airways, Yangon Airways and Myanmar Airways International, and Vietnamese representatives included officials of Civil Aviation Administration of Vietnam, officials of the Government Office and Vietnam Airlines Corporation.

The meeting continues tomorrow.
