

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Monday, 27 Oct, 1997)**

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- (1) Shwedagon Pagoda's northern stairway to be renovated within six months**
  - (2) Secretary-2 and family offer Kathina robes to members of Sangha in North Okkalapa**
  - (3) Aungzeya Bridge Construction inspected**
  - (4) Maintenance of roads inspected in Mandalay Division**
  - (5) Livestock and Fisheries Development Bank opens branch in Mandalay**
  - (6) Dipavali Festival preliminary ceremony held at Padonma Theatre**
  - (7) Delegation arrives back from Thailand**
  - (8) Minister inspects Thanlyin Satellite Ground Station**
  - (9) 33 gem lots fetch over \$ 1.5m**
  - (10) Membership certificates presented to 180 MCWA members of Records Office**
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**(1) Shwedagon Pagoda's northern stairway to be renovated within six months**

YANGON, 26 Oct - A ceremony to receive Shwedagon Pagoda Ovadacariya Sayadaws' counsel on reconstruction of the northern stairway was held in conjunction with the first cash donation ceremony at the Old Museum Tazaung on the platform of the pagoda this morning.

Patron of the Leading Committee for Perpetual Renovation of the Shwedagon Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt supplicated to the Sayadaws on allround general renovation of the pagoda and accepted the cash donations.

Also present were Minister at the Office of the Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Brig-Gen Myo Thant, Minister at the Office of Deputy Prime Minister U Khin Maung Yin, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Ko Lay, Chairman of the Leading Committee for Perpetual Renovation of the Shwedagon Deputy Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, officials of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Office, departmental heads, members of the Leading Committee, members of the Board of Trustees and wellwishers.

State Ovadacariya Shwedagon Pagoda Ovadacariya Bahan Shwehintha Tawya Thirimanta Sankyaung Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa invested the congregation with the Nine Precepts.

In his supplications to the Sayadaws, the Secretary-1 said that in keeping with Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe's guidance, various committees were formed for allround renovation of the pagoda, and plans were laid down and tasks are being carried out for preservation of old religious buildings in their original style.

He attributed the successful completion of projects within a short time to generous donations poured in by wellwishers.

Ovadacariya Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Rajindabhivamsa gave counsel.

Today's donations were K 300,000 by Daw Than Shein and family in memory of the late President U San Yu, and K 25 million by U Thein Win-Daw Ni and family of Shwe Than Lwin Co, as a first instalment.

The Secretary-1 accepted the donations and presented certificates of honour to the donors.

They later offered alms to the Sayadaws.

After the ceremony, officials briefed the Secretary-1 on the plans for renovation of the northern stairway.

He later inspected allround renovation work and arrangements being made for renovation of the northern stairway.

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## **(2) Secretary-2 and family offer Kathina robes to members of Sangha in North Okkalapa**

YANGON, 26 Oct - The 6th Communal Kathina ceremony of Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo and family was held at Dhammisara Kyaungtaik, Ward 2 in North Okkalapa Township this morning, attended by Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo and wife Daw Khin Than Nwe and family.

Present also were members of Sangha, wife of Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Ko Lay, Chairman of Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Than, Director of Resettlements Col Thaik Tun, Camp Commandant of the Ministry of Defence Col Hla Aung Thein, senior Tatmadaw officers, wellwishers and guests.

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## **(3) Aungzeya Bridge Construction inspected**

YANGON, 26 Oct - Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo inspected the Construction Project of Aungzeya Bridge across Hline River linking Insein Township and Hlinethaya Township this afternoon, and gave instructions to officials.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo arrived at the project site on the bank of Insein Township at 2.00 pm.

He was welcomed there by Minister at the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister U Khin Maung Yin, Chairman of Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Than, Vice-Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Vice-Mayor Col Maung Pa, Officer on

Special Duty at the Office of the State Law and Order Restoration Council  
Lt-Col Than Tint and officials of Public Works and the Project.

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#### **(4) Maintenance of roads inspected in Mandalay Division**

YANGON, 26 Oct Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, together with Chief Engineer U Thant Zin of Public Works, Mandalay Division Superintending Engineer U Yan Aung and senior engineers, inspected road and bridge projects in Mandalay Division on 24 and 25 October.

He inspected maintenance of Mandalay-Mogok Road on his way to Mogok on 24 October.

On 25 October, he inspected laying of asphalt at Mile Post No 116/3 on Mandalay-Mogok Road and mining of paving stones between Mile Post No 99/6 and No 99/7.

At Mandalay-Mogok Road Special Maintenance Project Office, Executive Senior Engineer U Thaw Ka briefed him on progress of work for 1996-97 financial year and plans for 1997-98.

Later, the minister and party inspected repair of Letpanhla-Yaykyaw section eroded by floods in the rainy season and the site designated for construction of Shwepyi Yaykyaw Bridge near Mile Post No 40.

At the work office at Mile Post No 22, Senior Engineer U Thaw Ka briefed them on maintenance of Mandalay-Mogok Road and conditions of roads in Sintgu and Madaya townships.

Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun gave suggestions on durability of roads, prevention of loss and wastage in maintenance work, effective use of machinery and building of bridges at the places which are usually flooded in the rainy season.

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#### **(5) Livestock and Fisheries Development Bank opens branch in Mandalay**

YANGON, 26 Oct Minister for Commerce Lt-Gen Tun Kyi attended the inauguration ceremony of Livestock and Fisheries Development Bank's branch in Mandalay yesterday.

He formally unveiled the signboard of the bank on 26-B Street, between 80th and 81st Streets.

Speaking at the ceremony to mark the inauguration of the branch, Lt-Gen Tun Kyi said banking is essential for the public and instructed the staff to offer reliable and efficient service.

He said the Livestock and Fisheries Development Bank was founded in Yangon on 15 February last year, and it is providing financial assistance to the livestock and fishery entrepreneurs and other entrepreneurs.

It was founded with a capital of K 2 billion and it has 4,000 shares valued at K 500,000 each, he said, adding a share-holder can purchase 200 shares and one who has purchased 10 shares and above can be elected a director.

Continuing, Lt-Gen Tun Kyi said the bank has opened its branches in Myeik and Muse offering efficient services, and programmes are also under way to open branches in Kawthoung and Thandwe.

Chairman of Mandalay Division Law and Order Restoration Council Commander of the Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint also spoke.

Earlier, the minister inspected rice warehouses of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading and Myanmar Department Store at Mandalay Zegyodaw.

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#### **(6) Dipavali Festival preliminary ceremony held at Padonma Theatre**

YANGON, 26 Oct - A preliminary ceremony for the Dipavali Festival organized by All Myanmar Hindu Central Board was held at Padonma Theatre in Sangyoung Township this evening, attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt.

Also present were diplomats of the embassies of India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, Director-General of Religious Affairs Department U Arnt Maung, Director-General of Department for Promotion and Propagation of Sasana U Sann Lwin, Chairman of All Myanmar Hindu Central Board Shri G S Sharma and EC members, Chairman of the committee for organizing the preliminary ceremony Dr D B Limbu and members, and Hindus.

Dr D B Limbu extended greetings.

Shri G S Sharma spoke about the ceremony.

Next, Minister Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt delivered an address.

Dipavali Message of All Myanmar Hindu Central Board were then read in Myanmar, Tamil, Hindi and Telegu, followed by Hindu cultural performance.

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#### **(7) Delegation arrives back from Thailand**

YANGON, 26 Oct Myanmar delegation led by Minister at the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission Brig-Gen Maung Maung arrived back here by air yesterday from Thailand. It visited Thailand at the invitation of Minister of Commerce of

Thailand.

The delegation was welcomed back at the airport by Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen Abel, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Soe Tha, officials of Thailand Embassy and their relatives.

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#### **(8) Minister inspects Thanlyin Satellite Ground Station**

YANGON, 26 Oct Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Soe Tha inspected the Satellite Ground Station at Pyinhtaung Kyaung in Thanlyin this morning.

Officials briefed him on the station's functions, overseas communications projects and greening of the compound.

After inspecting the station, the minister gave necessary instructions.

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#### **(9) 33 gem lots fetch over \$ 1.5m**

YANGON, 23 Oct - Gem merchants purchased 33 gem lots valued at over \$1.5 million through competitive bidding at the Mid-Year Gems Emporium today.

Among the sales, 89.83carat sapphire (Lot No 281) fetched \$ 504,800 and 289.5carat ruby also fetched \$ 290,000

Gems and jewellery being sold at fixed prices fetched \$ 61,329.

Pearl lots will be sold through competitive bidding tomorrow.

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#### **(10) Membership certificates presented to 180 MCWA members of Records Office**

YANGON, 26 Oct-Defence Services Records Office Maternal and Child Welfare Association organized membership certificates presentation and cash donation ceremony in the meeting hall No 1 of the Record Office today.

Present on the occasion were Commander of No 4 Military Region, Commander of Yangon Station, Commandant of Records Office Col Myo Myint, Deputy Commandant Lt-Col Thein Toe and officers, Secretary of MMCWA Dr Nyo Nyo, Secretary of Yangon Division MCWA Supervisory Committee Dr Ni Ni Sein and 825 members.

Permanent membership certificates were presented to 180 members and K 224,500 was donated to the Records Office MCWA.

