

**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Thursday, 27 Nov 1997)**

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- (1) Secretary-1 receives Asia and Pacific ICRC delegation**
  - (2) Deputy Prime Minister receives Ambassador of Austria**
  - (3) National Convention Convening Commission meets**
  - (4) Minister explains three methods of paddy purchase**
  - (5) Secretary-2 attends cash donation ceremony for Buddha images to be enshrined in Lawka Nanda Pagoda in Sittway**
  - (6) Minister inspects MHI factories**
  - (7) UMEHL Empo First-day sales realise over K 564 million and \$ 1.5 million**
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**(1) Secretary-1 receives Asia and Pacific ICRC delegation**

YANGON, 26 Nov-Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt received Delegate General for Asia and the Pacific International Committee of the Red Cross Mr Jean Michel Monod and members of the delegation at Dagon Yeiktha of the Ministry of Defence at 4 pm today.

Also present together with the Secretary- 1 were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Attorney-General U Tha Tun and Director-General of the Protocol Department Thura U Aung Htet.

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**(2) Deputy Prime Minister receives Ambassador of Austria**

YANGON, 26 Nov Deputy Prime Minister ViceAdmiral Maung Maung Khin, on behalf of the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council, received Ambassador of Austria Dr Nikolaus Scherk, who has completed his tour of duty, at Dagon Yeiktha at 3 pm today.

Present also were Minister for Foreign Affairs U Ohn Gyaw and Director-General Thura U Aung Htet of the Protocol Department.

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**(3) National Convention Convening Commission meets**

YANGON, 26 Nov- National Convention Convening Commission held a meeting at the Commission office this afternoon.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the Commission Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt, Vice-Chairmen Lt-Gen Maung Thint and Brig-Gen Myo Thant and Commission members.

Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt spoke on the occasion. Officials of committees concerned submitted reports on the National Convention.

NCCC members took part in discussions on the reports.

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#### **(4) Minister explains three methods of paddy purchase**

YANGON, 26 Nov-Minister for Commerce Maj-Gen Kyaw Than met Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Myo Tint and Col Kyaw Shwe and members of Departmental Paddy Purchase Supervisory Committees and explained paddy purchase methods at the Ministry today.

The Minister said the Ministry has invited tenders for paddy purchase for the benefit of farmers. After consultations with merchants, millers and farmers in different parts of the country, certain tender rules have been revised, he said, adding last date for the tenders has also been extended to 31 December.

After discussing the requisites in paddy purchase method, the Minister said, quality standards have been re-set for the benefit of both parties-sellers and buyers. He emphasized that bidders do not have to pay commercial tax in paddy purchase. At the same time, he said, representatives will be sent to farmers to purchase paddy from farmers at suitable market prices.

He pointed, out that in addition to tender and representative methods, farmers can sell the produce directly. Both sellers and buyers can make transactions out of free will, he said.

The three methods are to be applied in accordance with the market oriented economic policy, in the interest of farmers and national economic progress, the Minister said.

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#### **(5) Secretary-2 attends cash donation ceremony for Buddha images to be enshrined in Lawka Nanda Pagoda in Sittway**

YANGON, 26 Nov-Secretary-2 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Tin Oo donated cash towards the funds for Buddha images to be enshrined at the Lawka Nanda Pagoda in Sittway in the Chanthagyi Tazaung of the Shwedagon Pagoda this morning.

Also present were Secretary-3 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Win Myint, Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Khin Maung Than, Minister for Cooperatives U Than Aung, Minister for Religious Affairs Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister at the Office of the Prime Minister Maj-Gen Tin Ngwe, Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor U Ko Lay, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs U Aung Khin, Deputy Minister for Forestry Col Thaik Tun, Deputy Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Yan Thein, Secretary of YCDC U Kyaw Win, the Directors-General and officials of the Religious

Affair Department and the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana those of the YCDC and wellwishers.

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#### **(6) Minister inspects MHI factories**

YANGON, 26 Nov Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe inspected factories under Myanmar Heavy Industries today.

Accompanied by Deputy Minister U Thein Tun and officials, the minister first arrived at MHI Factory No 2 in Thamaing this morning.

He was briefed by Factory Manager U Hlaing Thein on the history of the factory, products and productivity, strength of employees and welfare programmes for them and research and innovation.

The minister spoke of the need to boost production, meet the set standards and minimize loss and wastage, saying technicians are needed for the factory to be able to meet good standards in production.

He stressed the importance of producing new generation technicians for progress of the factory.

Afterwards, the minister and officials inspected the factory's products and gave instructions on exceeding the set target in production.

The minister then inspected MHI Factory No 3 in Insein Township.

After hearing reports on facts about the factory by Factory Manager U Aung Win, the minister gave instructions on research and innovation, quality control and minimizing of loss and wastage.

In the afternoon, the minister inspected construction of lamp factory and warehouses of MHI in Dagon Myothit (South) Industrial Zone and gave instructions after hearing reports on the project by Managing Director U Ye Tun of Technical Services.

He also inspected construction of factory of Myanmar Daewoo Electronic Co Ltd there.

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#### **(7) UMEHL Empo First-day sales realise over K 564 million and \$ 1.5 million**

YANGON, 26 NOV The seventh gems emporium of Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd sold 192 gem lots at K 564.28 million and 71 jade lots at \$ 1.5 million on the first day today.

Local and foreign merchants bought the gem and jade lots under bargain system and on auction at the Gems Mart at Kaba Aye, the venue of the emporium.

The emporium, formally opened by Chairman of UMEHL Maj-Gen Than Oo, has displayed 286 gems lots at reserve prices of K 461.88 million and \$ 8.8 million and 229 jade lots at a reserve price of \$ 3.07 million.

Thirty-five local gem traders have also displayed 108 gem and jade lots at reserve prices of K 90.45 million and \$ 1.12 million.

Ten foreign merchants and 546 local merchants are attending the emporium which continues on 27 November.

Managing Director BrigGen Win Hlaing of UMEHL gave a speech at the opening ceremony which was also attended by Director Col Aung San and members of the Board of Directors and local and foreign merchants.

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## **(7) Opium seized in Kutkai**

YANGON, 26 Nov Acting on information that a hand bag left by a passenger was found at Hteiktanaung Bus Terminal, members of Defence Services Intelligence went and checked the bag at the bus terminal in Kutkai on 15 November afternoon.

They found four packets of opium weighing 7.185 kilos in the bag.

After seizing the opium, DSI and Myanmar Police Force members conducted an investigation to expose and arrest the culprit in connection with the case.

On 20 November afternoon, the authorities arrested the culprit, Daw Yin San To, daughter of U Yan Chan Khwe, of No 4, Ward 4, Kutkai, who left the hand bag at the terminal when she came back to the bus terminal to take back her t lag containing the opium.

Kutkai Police Station booked her under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

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