

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (Thursday, 11 Dec 1997)

- (1) Speedy completion of special projects earlier than schedule stressed to enjoy benefits sooner**
 - (2) Cornerstone laid for construction of northern stairway of Shwedagon Pagoda**
 - (3) Minister for Energy receives GM of Sumitomo Corporation, Chairman of Gold Water Company**
 - (4) Producers of RSI call on Minister for H & T**
 - (5) Vice-President of Koor Trade calls on Deputy Prime Minister**
 - (6) Minister looks into construction of Attaran Bridge in Mon State**
 - (7) National Eye Bank Committee meets**
 - (8) CEC member tours Magway Division**
 - (9) Myanmar May Flower Bank Ltd hands over International Golden Award for Commercial Prestige 1997 to Ministry of F & R**
 - (10) Minister for Sports opens Staff Officers Refresher Course 1/97 of SPED**
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- (1) Speedy completion of special projects earlier than schedule stressed to enjoy benefits sooner**

Y ANGON, 10 Dec-Special Projects Implementation Committee held its meeting No 2/97 at the meeting hall of the Office of the commander-in-Chief (Army) at 1 pm today and Chairman of the Special Projects Implementation Committee Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe attended it and gave guidance.

Also present were Vice Chairman of the Special Projects Implementation Committee Vice-Chairman of State Peace and Development Council Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Maung Aye, members of the Special Projects Implementation Committee Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt, Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Secretary-3 Lt-Gen Win Myint, Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Tin Tun, Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Minister for Industry- 1 U Aung Thaung, Minister for Industry-2 Maj-Gen Hla Myint Swe, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen Abel, Minister for Cooperatives U Than Aung, Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein, Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen Win Tin, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung, Minister for Electric Power Maj Gen Tin Htut and Minister for Forestry U Aung Phone, special guests Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and Deputy

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Myint, Deputy Ministers for Energy U Tin Tun and Brig-Gen Thein Aung and heads of department. Director-General of the Office of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Pe Nyein emceed the meeting. In his opening address, the Senior General gave guidance that the Special Projects Implementation Committee was formed to pass decisions as necessary on the special projects expeditiously and implement them as speedily as possible.

Hence, he said efforts be made to try to accomplish tasks submitted to the Committee without delay. He spoke of the need to implement the projects during the prescribed period and called for efforts to see that the projects are implemented earlier than schedule. The nation will benefit earlier if the projects are implemented sooner, he noted, adding costs will then be reduced. All should always keep in mind that the work is being done in national and public interest, he said. He spoke of the need to ask for as less funds as possible for the projects.

He called on the ministries concerned to seek funds only after correct appraisals and utilize them most efficiently. Next, Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein reported on signing of a contract with a foreign company on exploration and production of oil in the Yenamma area in Magway Division; Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut on implementation of Donban Hydro-electric Power Project in Waingmaw Township, Kachin State; Minister for Forestry U Aung Phone on establishment of the wood based Dagon Industrial Zone; Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun on founding the Hlaing River Golf and Country Club CO for the establishment of a world class golf course and construction of a modern housing estate; Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen Nyunt Tin, Deputy Minister U Ohn Myint and officials on construction of new sugar mills in eastern and western sectors of Bago Yoma and repair and renovation of flood prevention embankments and dykes in Ayeyawady, Yangon, Bago Divisions. Senior General Than Shwe then appropriate guidance. The meeting concluded 3 pm.

(2) Cornerstone laid for construction of northern stairway of Shwedagon Pagoda

YANGON, 10 Dec-A cornerstone laying ceremony for construction of northern stairway of the Shwedagon Pagoda was held at the stairway this morning, attended by Patron of the Committee for Renovation of the Shwedagon Pagoda Secretary- I of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt.

Present also were member of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Maj-Gen Khin Maung Than, Ministers, the mayor, the deputy ministers, officials of the office of the State Peace and Development Council, members of Leading Committee for Renovation of Shwedagon Pagoda, Chairman of Sub-committee for Construction of northPrn stairway Commander of No 3 Military Region Col Saw Hla Min and members, members of District and Township Law and Order Restoration Councils, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, members of the Board of Trustees, wut associations and donors. Staff Officer (In-charge) Daw Than Than Win of Myanmar Radio and Television emceed the ceremony. Member of the State Calendar Advisory Board U Kyaw read inscription. The Secretary-1 laid the inscription and sprayed scented water and showed confetti.

The Secretary-1 inspected construction of the stairway. In the early morning, soon was offered to Shwedagon Pagoda Ovadacariya Sayadaws.

(3) Minister for Energy receives GM of Sumitomo Corporation, Chairman of Gold Water Company

YANGON, 10 Dec- Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein received General Manager Mr T Moriyama and party of Sumitomo Corporation of Japan and Chairman Mr Edwin Soeryadjaya and party of Gold Water Company Limited of Indonesia at his office this evening.

Present also were Deputy Ministers U Tin Tun and Brig-Gen Thein Aung and Director-General

U Soe Myint of the Energy Planning Department.

(4) Producers of RSI call on Minister for H & T

YANGON, 10 Dec- Producers Mr Suresh Kumar and Ms Oh Kwee Ngor of Radio Singapore International (RSI) paid a courtesy call on Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Saw Lwin at his office this afternoon.

Present were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, Director-General of Directorate of Hotels and Tourism U Khin Maung Lat and officials.

(5) Vice-President of Koor Trade calls on Deputy Prime Minister

YANGON, 10 Dec- Vice President Mr Carnel Dahan of Koor Trade of Israel and party called on Deputy Prime Minister Lt-Gen Tin Tun at his office this morning.

(6) Minister looks into construction of Attaran Bridge in Mon State

YANGON, 10 Dec- Minister for Construction Maj Gen Saw Tun, accompanied by Deputy Commander of South-East Command Brig Gen Aung Thein, yesterday arrived at the Bridge Construction Project site across the Attaran River in Mon State. They were met by Commander of South-East Command Brig-Gen Myint Aung, Senior Engineer U Tint Lwin and officials.

They next inspected the erection of the tower pier on the bank of Mawlamyine that is 10() per cent complete, that on the bank of Nyaungbinseik that is 50 per cent complete and flooring of the bridge which is 97 per cent complete, building of the approach roads on either banks, collection of materials such as cement, iron rods' and fuel oil and future tasks.

The Minister assured that necessary machinery would be provided and called for meeting the set standards and completing the project in time.

The Minister, the Commander and party oversaw installation of girders and the flooring between the piers T2 and Ps on the bank of Nyaungbinseik.

Engineers and white collar and blue collar workers of Public Works are building the Attaran Bridge day and night to be able to open it in March next year.

The Minister, the Commander and party then inspected the road junction at the head of the Attaran Bridge. They proceeded to the site for the construction of the Mawlamyine-Mottama bridge across the Thanlwin River. Superintending Engineer U Hla Myint reported to them on the project sites with the help of the approach road map and temporary accommodations for employees of the project.

The Minister and party left Mottama at 11.40 am and arrived at Htaukkyant toll gate at 6 pm. Yangon Division Superintending Engineer U Than Ngwe and engineers greeted them and explained collection of tolls and methods applied.-

(7) National Eye Bank Committee meets

YANGON, 10 Dec-There are over 20,000 blind people who need cornea in the country and 4,000 people become blind yearly due to injury, deficiency of vitamin, trachoma and cataract of the eye, said Chairman of National Eye Bank Committee Minister for Health Maj-Gen Ket Sein at the first meeting of the committee held at the Head Office of Health Department this afternoon.

Those who suffers from cataract of the eye are in need of cornea for treatment. After establishment of the Eye Bank, over 100 patients can be operated yearly. The world class National Eye Bank was opened in Myanmar on 22 July 1993 and 1,493 corneas have been received.from donors so far, he said.

These donations were due to strong generosity of Myanmars, he remarked and called for cooperation of NGOs in the task for obtaining cornea.He also spoke of the need to extensively carry out activities on health education so that the people will be interested in donation of cornea, saying Myanmar signed an MoU with International Federation of Eye Banks on 29 July 1993 for cooperation.

Secretary of NEBC Deputy Director Dr Tun Aung Kyaw submitted a report on functions of National Eye Bank in cooperation with international organizations and operation, research and quality test of cornea.Deputy Minister Dr Mya Oo and members of the committee then took part in discussions on future tasks of the bank.Also present on the occasion were officials of the ministry.

(8) CEC member tours Magway Division

YANGON, 10 Dec-CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Culture U Aung San and officials arrived at Kyin Village in Htilin Township on 7 December. The minister met local people, EC members of USDA and explained current development in the country and organizational matters.

CEC member U Aung San met townselders, service personnel and USDA EC members at Htilin USDA office. On 8 December, U Aung San discussed regional development, development in the country and organizational matters with local people, teachers and USDA members at Basic Education High School in Nyaungkan Village.

U Aung San presented cash for outstanding students and sports equipment to Headmaster U Myo Tint. CEC member U Aung San met local people, service personnel and USDA EC members in Saymintaw and Yaymyatni Villages in Htilin Township, Kyaw Village in Gangaw Township.

He also attended a ceremony to construct Kyaw station hospital. He arrived back here yesterday evening.-

(9) Myanmar May Flower Bank Ltd hands over International Golden Award for Commercial Prestige 1997 to Ministry of F & R

YYANGON, 10 Dec-Myanmar May Flower Bank Limited which won the International Golden Award for Commercial Prestige 1997 was honoured and the award was handed over to the Ministry of Finance and Revenue at a ceremony at the Yuzana Garden Hotel this morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig-Gen Win Tin, Deputy Minister Brig Gen Than Tun, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Kyaw Kyaw Maung and officials, local and foreign correspondents, the Chairman and personnel of Myanmar May Flower Bank Limited, the Chairmen and personnel of private banks and guests.

First, Managing Director (International Banking) of Myanmar May Flower Bank Limited and leader of the team which had accepted the award U Khin Maung explained salient points on the award and the benefits.

Next, Minister Brig.-Gen Win Tin spoke in honor of the Myanmar May Flower Bank Limited. He said the award was presented to the Myanmar May Flower Bank by the private Publishing Group in Spain in Europe with the joint sponsorship of the Trade Leaders' Club and the most experienced 35-year-old Merced Mundial Journal in Spain. It was awarded to the bank out of many companies around the globe, he said.

He noted that the selection was made based on the performance last year of enterprises engaged in manufacturing, processing and services and the award was then presented to the Myanmar bank at the 27th ceremony held grandly at the Melia Castilla Hotel in Madrid, Spain, on 1 December this year. He said he learned that the award was presented at a gala ceremony since it coincided with the 35th anniversary of the Mercado Mundial Journal.

At the ceremony, he said, 187 companies from 75 nations out of other manufacturing, processing and services enterprises were selected and awarded. He said he was delighted to learn that Myanmar May Flower Bank Limited was one of the recipients.

He emphasized that the bank was the only winner of the award from Myanmar and this was due to appropriate assistance and necessary guidance of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue in accordance with the State economic guidelines, close supervision of the Central Bank of Myanmar and the bank's rendering better services through initiation of modern banking services such as ATM and POS. Afterwards, U Kyaw Win handed the International Golden Award for Commercial Prestige 1997 to Minister Brig-Gen Win Tin.

U Kyaw Win then thanked the guests. At a press conference later, responsible personnel of Myanmar May Flower Bank Limited answered questions asked by the local and foreign correspondents.

(10) Minister for Sports opens Staff Officers Refresher Course 1/97 of SPED

YANGON, 10 Dec- The opening ceremony of Staff Officers Refresher Course 1/97 of Sports and Physical Education -Department was held in the hall of the Sports and Physical Education Institute at Kyaikkasan grounds at 2 pm today. It was attended by Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Sein Win, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Deputy Minister for Finance and Revenue Brig Gen Than Tun, Director General Col Hla Myint Kyaw of SPED, Officer on Special Duty Col Thaung Htaik, Adviser Col Ngo Ciin Pau, officials of SPED, presidents of sports federations, the Principal and instructors of the Sports and Physical Education Institute and trainees.

The Minister delivered a speech and met staff officers. Altogether 45 staff officers are attending the course.
