Prime Minister General Thein Sein attends opening of 3rd...

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First, the players saluted the MOC Chairman.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint said that the Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Men’s Football Tournament is organized with the participation of football teams representing 35 ministries. In accord with the guidance of Head of State Senior General Than Shwe, the football tournament is aimed at supporting the national fitness, ensuring relaxation, happiness and unity for the staff of ministries and enabling the staff to actively discharge their duties, he said. He urged all the persons to participate in realization of the aims. He added that it is known to all that while striving for building a peaceful, modern and developed nation, the government is giving priority to raising the sports standard of the nation similar to that of other sectors. One of the social objectives “Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation” is directly related to the tasks of the government to uplift the sports standard, he said.

The minister continued to say that the government is implementing the short-term and long-term plans for ensuring development of the sports standard by adopting the aim “Myanmar sports to conquer the world”. As part of efforts to undertake development of national sports standard as a national duty, the government sets the player selection plan, the training plan and the plan to ensure success for uplift of Myanmar football standard, he said.

The plan is under way to transform the mass football sport to the skillful football sport, and today’s football tournament is the staff sports activity, he said. The football tournament will be held for ensuring fitness and happiness of the staff, and then the selected players will be chosen. He stressed the need for the players to happily take part in the football tournament in amity while realizing the aims of the tournament. Likewise, he continued to say that the referees are to make fair decisions in the matches in line with the rules and regulations of the football sport. In conclusion, the minister urged the athletes to compete in the football tournament by showing off their superb football skills and good characters in accord with the fare play acts and to try their best to become the good service personnel.

Next, the minister opened the football tournament.