

# VICTORIES *of the* STATE, *the* PEOPLE *and the* TATMADAW

*by* Tekkatho Tin Kha

THE STATE PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL is making energetic endeavors for ensuring the emergence of a new peaceful, modern and developed nation.

The Government pays serious attention to the proportionate development of all States and Divisions. Accordingly, the education, health, economic, transportation and other affairs of all States and Divisions are developing.

Emphasis has been paid on development of agriculture as our country is an agro-based one. The combined force of the State, the people and the Tatmadaw is collectively striving for the agricultural development.

State Peace and Development Council Chairman Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Than Shwe gave guidance on national economic development in meeting with national entrepreneurs at the meeting hall of the Southern Command in Toungoo on 10-5-99. The Head of State gave guidance that our national economic strength will improve only when our natural resources including land and water are utilized effectively. In this way, per capita income can also increase, he added.

Myanmar is rich in natural resources and is an agro-based country. As much as we can boost the agricultural output, it will be very beneficial to our country.

Today, the national entrepreneurs are invited to reclaim virgin, fallow, vacant and wetlands for the development of the agriculture sector.

## GOLDEN FRUITS FROM LAND IN MYANMAR

*Building monasteries and pagodas  
Making good things get better  
Just look all round here or there, my dear  
Things look most encouraging everywhere  
All over our country that is Myanmar  
Dams, lakes, and canals filled with water  
With stalks of crops emerald green  
Swaying and dancing in gentle breeze  
Golden fruits our land bears in Myanmar  
Yielding harvests in abundance crops are  
Yields increasing in bumper harvests  
Golden crops from valuable land resources  
The golden era has come to Myanmar  
Unceasingly the people will prosper  
Great prosperity the rains are bringing  
In the air are golden drums reverberating.*

— From the September 26, 1999 issue  
of *The New Light of Myanmar*.

To grow paddy and other crops, there remain many virgin, fallow, vacant and wetlands in our country.

In Myanmar, the total cultivated acreage is over 22.5 million acres. There still remain over 22 million acres of virgin, fallow, and vacant lands.

Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has made arrangements for national entrepreneurs to reclaim those virgin, fallow, vacant and wetlands for cultivation of various crops. Moreover, the Head of State himself made field inspection tours of the reclamation sites of wetlands. He urged the private entrepreneurs to strive for the success of work with good attitude towards the country and make endeavors in the interest of the country and the people. He also urged them to set up industries based on the agriculture.

With the assistance rendered by the State, the national entrepreneurs with sufficient capital strength are now engaged in agriculture by reclaiming virgin, fallow, vacant and wetlands in Ayeyawady, Magway, Bago, Taninthayi and Yangon Divisions as well as in Shan State.

Our nation is an agricultural country. Hence, national entrepreneurs are now actively participating in the agricultural production activities. It is very impressive and encouraging to see them turning the conventional manual cultivation into mechanized modern cultivation.

Energetic efforts are being made in all States and Divisions including Kayin State for boosting the agricultural output.

State Peace and Development Council Secretary-3 Lt-Gen Win Myint and party toured

Kayin and Mon States recently and discussed matters on the agricultural development.

Secretary-3 Lt-Gen Win Myint arrived Chaungzon Township in Mon State and met with Township authorities, departmental personnel, those of social organizations and USDA members. He discussed that collective efforts must be made for achieving all-around development in building up a new modern and developed nation today. He pointed out that earnest efforts must be made for harmonious development of the agriculture sector and the industrial sector.

During his trip to Kayin and Mon States, Secretary-3 Lt-Gen Win Myint toured Hpa-an, Papun, Mawlamyine, Yay, Chaungzon, Kya-in-Seikkyi and Kawkareik towns.

Only when the respective regions are peaceful and tranquil, development endeavors can be made.

The entire people have known that nowadays the political, economic, and social objectives have been laid down and being implemented with might and main for the emergence of a new peaceful, modern and developed nation. One of the Political Objectives is "National Reconciliation." Accordingly, a peaceful situation has been brought about and some regions have become peaceful. However, there remain some regions which cannot yet fully enjoy the peace. Kayin State cannot yet fully enjoy peace. To ensure Kayin State to enjoy peace fully like other States and Divisions, remnant KNU armed group must be annihilated by the State, the people and the Tatmadaw collectively. Then, regional development can be carried out there.

Kayin State has favorable conditions for cultivating crops. Regional economic development can

be made by earnest efforts of the local people with patriotic spirit. In this way, the region will develop in faster pace and it will contribute towards the national economic development. And our country can keep abreast with the world's developed nations.

As regards border areas and national races development works, the regional supervision office is open in Hpa-an. Border areas development works are being carried out in Myainggyi-ngu region as well as in Hlaingbwe, Myawady, Kawkareik, Hpapun and Kya-in-Seikkyi Townships. As much as each region is peaceful, development can be brought about.

Regional development of Kayin State is based on agriculture. Paddy and other crops are being cultivated there. In some hilly places, horticulture is being carried out.

Kayin State is favorable for agriculture and livestock breeding. Hence, livestock breeding works there should be extended properly.

In some places which are not suitable for cultivation of paddy and seasonal crops, perennial crops should be grown. Poultry farms should also be established for economic development.

In this way, agriculture, livestock breeding and fishery sectors will develop rapidly. It will contribute surely towards the regional economic development.

The enthusiastic endeavors of the State, the people and the Tatmadaw for developing all States and Divisions will bear fruit certainly.

*This article first appeared in the September 12, 1999 issue of The New Light of Myanmar, Burma's state-controlled daily newspaper.*

### TO DEVELOP AGRICULTURE AS THE BASE

The Union of Myanmar is an agro-based country. Hence, the national development depends on the agricultural development of the nation. All-out efforts are thus made in the direction of developing the agriculture sector.

One of the Four Economic Objectives laid down by the State is "Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well".

#### Ministry's three objectives

To develop agriculture sector, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has laid down three objectives. The three objectives are:

- to produce surplus paddy;
- to be self-sufficient in edible oil;
- to boost production of beans and pulses and industrial raw material crops.

#### Five reforms

To meet these targets, the following five reforms are being carried out with might and main.

- extension of arable land;
- adequate supply of water;
- farm mechanization;
- change of cultivation methods; and
- production and utilization of quality seeds.

#### Six means to obtain water

Adequate water supply is the basic requirement for boosting the production of crops. Hence, six means for exploiting water resources are being applied by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. The six means are:

- (1) Construction of new dams and reservoirs;
- (2) Storage of water flowing from watershed areas;
- (3) Renovation of existing dams and reservoirs;
- (4) Damming of creeks and rivers when they are in spate;
- (5) Pumping water from rivers and creeks; and
- (6) Utilization of underground water.

*The above appears frequently in The New Light of Myanmar.*