

The New Light of Myanmar (Friday, 11 August, 2000)

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(1) Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Image arrives at the foot of Mindhamma Hill

YANGON, 10 Aug- Conveying of Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Image from Yadana Shwephaungdaw Jetty at Gyogon to Mindhamma Hill in Insein Township by Mingala Natpan Yahta (train) began yesterday and the image arrived at the foot of the hill this evening. Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt paid homage to the Image.

Ministers, deputy ministers, the deputy commander, the chairman and members of the Subcommittee for Conveyance of the Image (Yangon), officials of various subcommittees, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, heads of department and thousands of people paid homage to the Image.

The Image, which was kept at Thiri Yadana Dham mayon in Ashe Gyogon Ward, Insein Township, was conveyed by Mingala Natpan Yahta (train) this morning. Along the road, vast multitudes of monks and people paid homage to the Image. The Image arrived at the foot of Mindhamma Hill in the evening. While the Image was

being conveyed along to route from Yadana Shwephaungdaw Jetty to Thiri Yadana Dhammayon, people donated K 367,590 at Yangon North District Peace and Development Council office and K 314,769, three ringits, 10 pesos, 20 Hong Kong dollars, 1,000 Indonesia rupees, seven precious stones and one emerald ring at Yangon North District Pandal.

(2) Off-shore support ship Jaya Gold handed over

YANGON, 10 Aug - A ceremony to hand over the off-shore support ship Jaya Gold built by Myanmar Shipyards under the Ministry of Transport, to Java Marine Lines Pte Ltd, Singapore, was held at Nanthida Jetty this morning, attended by Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt.

Also present were ministers, deputy ministers, directors-general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Transport and officials and Mr Wong Sun and officials of Java Marine Lines Pte Ltd. The Secretary-1 and party inspected the 56-metre long Jaya Gold. Managing

Director of Myanmar Shipyards U Percy Maung Maung and Mr Wong Sun of Java Marine Lines Pte Ltd signed and exchanged documents.

Myanmar Shipyards and Java Marine Lines Pte Ltd of Singapore signed an agreement on building two 56metre-long off-shore support ships on 20 May 1997; the present one is 56 metres long, 13.6 metres wide and 5.2 metres deep and has 4.5 metres draught. It can be manned by a crew of 42; the 1,200-ton capacityship was designed to transport cargo such as chemicals, fuel, fresh water, pipes and machinery which are needed for offshore oil rigs. It is installed with two 1,500 horsepower diesel engines, three 340-kilo-watt generators and modem equipment, and can cruise at a speed of 12.6 nautical miles per hour. The ship has been built in accord with the rules of the Singapore government and international rules, and has undergone the inspection of American Bureau of Shipping.

(3) Ninth ASEAN Youth Day Meeting (AYDM IX) opens

YANGON, 10 Aug- The opening ceremony of the Ninth ASEAN Youth Day Meeting (AYDM IX) was held at the Hotel Equatorial this morning, addressed by Chairman of the Central Committee for Hosting the AYDM IX Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa.

The minister said. Firstly, I am very pleased to meet our friends from ASEAN nations on this auspicious occasion. All members of delegation are warmly welcomed.

In accordance with the resolution of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth of 1992, 8th August of every year is recognized as ASEAN Youth Day and from that day onwards, ASEAN Youth Day is held in August of the year. The 8th meeting of ASEAN Youth Day was held in Vietiane, Laos, in August Last year. And now, in the year 2000, ASEAN Youth Day which falls on 8th August will be held in Yangon, the capital of Myanmar, in conjunction with International Youth Day, which falls on 12th August.

Development of youth programmes and development of youth policies were adopted by the Second ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth which was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in November 1997. The sub-committee of ASEAN Youth Affair implemented the programmes in accordance with development of youth policies.

The present meeting accepted by the Union of Myanmar as a host-nation, will discuss the following.

- To disseminate ASEAN information, the idea of self-reliance unity, stability, peace and prosperity among ASEAN youth.

- To promote policies, Social and cultural values among ASEAN youth without discrimination.

- To implement development policies and demonstrate that the force of youth is essential human resources f6r regional development. In addition, the following topics described in Kuala Lumpur Agenda will be discussed:

- To promote knowledge of ASEAN.

- To develop human resources in keeping up with rapid economic progress.

- To gain lasting success.

- To upgrade research and development of effective website technology and youth affairs.

- To upgrade and preserve values of ASEAN cultural norm.

- To upgrade development of youth on the same level as national development.

- To enhance increased participation of non-Governmental organizations in activities of youth.

At today s meeting, we will have a chance of exchanging views on youth development plans, experiences and informations related to youth. In order to have peace, stability, development and

prosperity of ASEAN region, we have to enhance the role of youth and to search for ways and means to get the cooperation of the youth.

As the Theme of the meeting is youth and promotion on cultural identity we will have a chance to know and understand different traditions and culture of ASEAN nations. We believe that knowledge of culture could lead to better understanding among ASEAN nations and more cooperation on youth development programme. Also present on the occasion were Minister at the State Peace and Development Council Chairman's Office Brig-Gen Abel, Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, Minister for Information Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, Minister for Culture U Win Sein, Minister for Education U Than Aung, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Minister for Health Maj-Gen Ket Sein, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office U Than Shwe, deputy ministers, ambassadors and charges d Affaires of ASEAN member countries, the ambassador of Republic of Korea, charges d Affaires of the Embassies of the People's Republic of China and Japan, Chairman of the ASEAN Subcommittee on Youth (ASY) Y Bhg Dato Paduka Hj Talib Bin Hj Berudin, senior official of the ASEAN Secretariat Mr Yong Chanthalangsy, delegates of ten ASEAN nations, members of the respective committees to host the meeting, heads of department, Chairperson of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Prof Daw Kyu Kyu Swe, Vice-Chairperson of Myanmar National Working Committee for Women's Affairs Dr Daw May May Yi and member Dr Daw Khin win Shwe and member, local and foreign Journalist and guest. Mr Yong Chanthalangsy of the ASEAN Secretariat gave a speech.

He said: I should like to express my warm wishes and congratulations to the Government and the people of the Union of Myanmar for their commendable effort in organising the ASEAN Youth Day IX, in the traditional ASEAN spirit of friendship, understanding and regional solidarity. May I also express sincere appreciation to the Japanese Government for supporting the organisation and convening of the ASEAN Youth Day Meetings annually in ASEAN Member Countries.

The annual ASEAN Youth Day Meetings have consistently provided an opportunity for the youth of ASEAN to meet, share and exchange views and experiences, at the same time contributing towards raising an awareness of ASEAN and deepening the sense of identity among the young people of ASEAN as the region's future. The spirit of friendship and understanding developed during the annual programmes has been reinforced time and again at both the national and regional levels with a link being forged between each batch of young people joining the events. With the expansion of ASEAN's membership, the Youth Day Meeting has retained its relevance with a renewed focus on further strengthening the ties of friendship forged among the young people of ASEAN participating in the programmes of the meeting, as well as to deepen the sense of regional awareness and identity among these young people. The ASEAN Youth Award, with its yearly themes focusing on the relevant areas of interest for developing the skills of ASEAN youth, also contributes significantly to this process.

Minister Maj-Gen Sein Htwa presented ASEAN Youth Awards on Community Service to the winning associations of Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Mr Comlat Cedric of the Philippines, on behalf of the ASEAN Youth Awardees, spoke words of thanks.

He said: Our national hero Mr Jose Rizal once said 'The youth is the hope of the fatherland. Nothing perhaps can be more true whether we like it or not, whether I believe it or not the time will come when the youth of today shall be tomorrow's leaders responsible for our respective countries' future and eventually responsible to the next generation's young people.

On behalf of the ASEAN Youth Awardees, I would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for this significant recognition you gave us. I am sure my fellow comrades will agree with me that thus was a very pleasant surprise in a sense. Receiving an award always boosts the morale of the recipient but it is not an end itself, it is not a motive behind our action; it is not the objective of what

we do. As a young person and for the youths serving organizations as well our satisfaction and sense of fulfillment lies in being of service to our fellowmen, to our community, to humanity. And with this award, please be rest assured that we will be inspired toward better and harder-for the youth, our hope and our future Maraming Salamat Po At Po Mabuhay!

(4) Myanmar hosts Ninth ASEAN Youth Day Meeting

YANGON, 10 Aug- The Ninth ASEAN Youth Day Meeting (AYDM IX) hosted by Myanmar for the first time began at the Hotel Equatorial this morning.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the ASEAN Subcommittee on Youth (ASY) Y Bhg Dato Paduka Hj Talib Bin Hj Berudin, senior official of the ASEAN Secretariat Mr Yong Chanthalangsy, Chairman of Work Committee for Hosting AYDM IX Director-General of Social Welfare Department U Sit Myaing, delegates to the meeting of the ten ASEAN member nations and observers, who are secretaries and executives of State/Division Union Solidarity and Development Associations.

Y Bhg Dato Paduka Hj Talib Bin Hj Berudin presided over the meeting and Director of ASEAN Affairs Department U Than Tun acted as Vice-Chairman.

First, the meeting adopted the agenda. The delegates of the ten ASEAN member nations read country reports on Youth and Promotion on Cultural Identity. Mr Yong Chanthalangsy read the ASEAN Declaration on Cultural Heritage.

The meeting discussed matters arising from the 17th Meeting of the ASEAN Sub- committee on Youth (ASY) which was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 2 to 5 July 2000; preparation of the Third ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY III); dates and venue of AYDM X; consideration and adoption of the report of the AYDM IX; and other matters.

It ended with concluding remarks by the chairman. The second day meeting continues on 11 August. Director-General U Sit Myaing hosted dinner in honour of the delegates at the hotel.

(5) Commander inspects Yangon Division Vegetable Centre

YANGON, 10 Aug - Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander Maj-Gen Khin Maung Than visited Yangon Division Vegetable Production Centre at Nyaunghnapin Village near Hsathwadaw Village in Hmawby Township, Yangon North District, this afternoon.

The Commander arrived at the Centre at 2.45 pm and was welcomed by members of the supervisory committee of the Centre. Then, the Commander said that plots of land in the Centre have already been allotted to poultry farming entrepreneurs; now, agricultural entrepreneurs have been working the land; so, livestock breeding entrepreneurs are required to carry out work as soon as possible; measures have been taken to fulfil the requirements of entrepreneurs; agricultural entrepreneurs need to sink artisan wells in their allotted plots; Lin Mat Agricultural Group will undertake ploughing work by pitching up temporary power-tiller camps.

Afterwards, entrepreneurs took part in the discussions, and the Commander attended to their requirements. The Commander left the Center in the evening.

(6) Minister for H&T meets guests from Thailand

YANGON, 10 Aug - Minister for Hotels and Tourism Maj-Gen Saw Lwin met Director Mr Graham Frost of South East Asia Liveboards Co Ltd at his office at 3 pm today. Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, the director-general, the managing director and officials.

(7) Minister inspects road construction projects in Shan State

YANGON, 10 Aug - Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun inspected construction of a road linking Ayethaya Industrial Zone in Taunggyi and Nyaungshwe on 6 August, at Heho in Shan State. Accompanied by officials, the minister heard a report on progress in building the road presented by the project engineer. It is important for the new road to meet the required standard, noted the minister.

On 7 and 8 August, the minister inspected the Taunggyi-Kalaw motorway, Nantpantet road and met officials of Nantpantet road project. Maintenance of the Nantpantet road is an important task as it serves as a linkage between Taunggyi and Mandalay. In the afternoon, the minister inspected Kawliya Bridge.

Minister inspects Bran Oil Mill No 03 of MAPI

YANGON, 10 Aug - Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Pyi Sone, together with Managing Director of Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading U Min Hla Aung and officials, arrived at Bran Oil Mill No 03 of MAPT in West Ywama Ward, Insein Township yesterday evening.

The minister inspected sample raw materials of bran shown at the briefing hall and gave instructions.

Then, the minister and party also inspected domestic sieves made by the maintenance division of the mill and installation of purifier for edible palm oil, and left instructions on timely completion for production of domestic sieves and local production of spare parts.

(8) Gem, jade mining permits to be issued through competitive bidding

YANGON, 10 Aug - The Central Supervisory Committee for Gems, Ministry of Mines, will issue permits for gems mining blocks, which are due to expire in October, November and December 2000, through competitive bidding in accordance with rules and regulations.

Registration and drawing application forms for expired mining blocks and new mining blocks are to be done starting 9- August and the application forms are to be submitted from 9 August to 15 September 2000 at Myanmar Gems Enterprise (Head Office), No 66, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road.

Contact is to be made to Myanmar Gems Enterprise (Head Office) in Yangon, Mining Offices based in Mogok, Lonkhin and Hpakant, camps based in Mandalay, Myitkyina, Khanti, Mongshu and Loihsaunghtauk for more information.

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(9) Agreement signed to build Kengtung-Tachilek Road

YANGON, 10 Aug - Public Works of the Ministry of Construction and Honpan Construction Company Ltd signed an agreement on construction of Kengtung-Tachilek Section of Meiktila-Taunggyi-Kengtung-Tachilek Union Road at Public Works (Head Office) on Shwedagon Pagoda Road this evening.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, Deputy Ministers U Tint Swe and Brig-Gen Myint Thein, heads and officials of Public Works, the Human Settlement and

Housing Development Department and Construction Inspection Department, officials of Honpan

Construction Company Ltd and guests.

On the occasion, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun said that the Ministry of Construction is undertaking the task of ensuring secure and smooth transport, which has been assigned by the State Peace and Development Council; in this regard, emphasis has been placed on participation of the private sector and private investment; in the transport sector, companies owned by national entrepreneurs and Public Works have signed agreements on building roads by Build, Operate and Transfer System. Kengtung-Tachilek Section is 102 miles and 2 furlongs long, and will be built into a 24-foot-wide tarred road; with the three-foot-wide road shoulders on both sides, the road will be 30 feet wide; according to the agreement, construction work will be completed in two years time.

Director of Hompan Construction Company Ltd U Khin Maung Myint explained matters related to construction of the road. Managing Director of Public Works U Nay Soe Naing and Director of Honpan Construction Company Ltd U Khin Maung Myint signed the agreement and exchanged documents. Afterwards, Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun presented the permits of Myanmar Investment Commission and the Ministry of Construction to U Khin Maung Myint.

(10) Briefing on organizing Myanmar London Golf Tour health

YANGON, 10 Aug-A briefing on Myanmar London Golf Tour 2000-2001 organized by Myanmar Golf Federation to be sponsored by Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd was held at Ruby Room of Renaissance Inya Lake Hotel, here, at 2 pm today.

It was attended by President of MGF Brig-Gen Win Hlaing, Vice-Chairmen Dr Myint Sein and U Chit Khaing, General Secretary U Aung Kyi and Sein Win, President U Sao Kai Hpa and members, Deputy Managing Director Col Aung Sann of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd, Secretary of Myanmar Professional Golfers Association U Chan Han and executive committee members, Director of Tour Development Asian PGA and PGA Representative Mr David Parkin and officials and guests. Speaking on the occasion, President of MGF Brig-Gen Win Hlaing said: on behalf of the Professional Golfers Association of Myanmar and the Myanmar Golf Federation, I am very happy and honoured to announce the second full year schedule of the London Golf Tour 200-2001.

As last year; we will be testing the skills of our players at challenging courses throughout Myanmar. This year, in addition to visiting Bagan, Mandalay, Lashio, Taunggyi, Kengtung, Mawlamyine and Bago we will be venturing further up north to a new destination, Myitkyina Deputy Managing Director Col Aung Sann of Rothmans of Pall Mall Myanmar Pte Ltd also spoke. Director of Tour Development Asian PGA and PGA Representative Mr David Parkin spoke words of thanks.

(11) Drug trafficker gets twenty years

YANGON, 10 Aug- A combined team comprising members of the local intelligence unit and local station, acting on information, searched the house of Aiklon, 40, of Tawkothnine Village in Tachilek Township and arrested him together with 101,600 stimulant tablets bearing the word WY on 10 February 2000. The Tachilek Police Station filed Aiklon under section 15/19(A) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. The Tachilek District Court handed down twenty years imprisonment under section 19 (A) on him on 12 July.

(12) Over 400,000 eligible voters of six townships in Toungoo District unanimously petition for

dissolving NLD

YANGON, 10 Aug- The voters from six townships of Toungoo District, Bago Division, unanimously expressed no support for pessimist NLD and demanded the dissolution of the party at six venues in the district on 8, 9 and 10 July. Over 2,000 local people rallied at Aung San Hall of Basic Education High School in Yedashe Township on 8 July.

On behalf of attendances, merchant U Tin Win expressed no support for pessimist NLD and petitioned for dissolving it. On behalf of local people, Merchant U Maung Maung Thet presented petitions signed by the people, to member of Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission - U Ko Gyi. There are 38,874 eligible voters in Yedashe Township. The number of people, who expressed no support for pessimist NLD and demanded the dissolution-of the party, was 38,050 voters or 97.88 percent Altogether 2,000 local people rallied at the Sports Hall in Phyu Township on 9 July. On behalf of attendances, U Soe Naing expressed no support for pessimist NLD and petitioned for dissolving it. Farmer U Nyunt Win, on behalf of local people, presented petitions signed by the people to Chairman of Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission U Aung Khin.

There are 111,242 eligible voters in Phyu Township. The number of people, who expressed no support for pessimist NLD and demanded dissolving it, is 100,695 voters or 90.51 per cent. Over 3,000 local people rallied at Thiri Yadana Hall in Ottwin Township on 9 July. On behalf of attendances, rice mill owner U Thein Swe tabled motions calling for no support for pessimist NLD and dissolving it. Other representative U Myo Aung, on behalf of local people, seconded the motions. Then, farmer U Thein Swe, on behalf of local people, presented petitions signed by the people to Chairman of Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission U Shan Lwe. There are 81,862 eligible voters in Ottwin Township. The number of people, who expressed no support for pessimist NLD and demanded dissolving it, is 74,495 voters or 91 per cent. people rallied at the Gymnasium in Toungoo Township on 10 July.

On behalf of attendances, U Maung Khin expressed no support for pessimist NLD and petitioned for dissolving it. U Aye Pe, U Myint Oo and U Myo Myint, on behalf of local people, presented petitions signed by the people to member of Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission U Saw Tun. There are 107,681 eligible voters in Toungoo Township. The number of people, who expressed no support for pessimist NLD and demanded dissolving it, is 98,852 voters or 91.8 per cent.

Altogether 4, 500 local people rallied at the Town Hall in Htantabin Township on 10 July. On behalf of attendances, farmer U Than Tun expressed no support for pessimist NLD and petitioned for dissolving it. U Hla Sein, on behalf of local people, presented petitions signed by the people to Chairman of Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-,commission U Soe Than. There are 56,100 eligible voters in Htantabin Township. The number of people who expressed no support for pessimist NLD and demanded dissolving it, is 53,602 voters or 95.5 per cent.

Similarly, 37,786 local people rallied at Township Sports Ground and U Mone Hall in Kyaukkyi Township on 10 July.

On behalf of attendances, Daw Khin Mya Aye expressed no support for pessimist NLD and petitioned for dissolving it. U Tin Thaung and U Shwe Maung, on behalf of local people, presented petitions signed by the people to member of Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission U Tin Kyaing. There are 37,786 eligible voters in Htantabin Township. The number of people, who expressed no support for pessimist-NLD and demanded dissolving it, is 37,786 voters or 100 per cent. In Toungoo District, a total of 403,480 eligible voters of six townships unanimously expressed no support for pessimist NLD and demanded dissolving it.

(13) 20 Myinmu Township NLD members resign of own accord

YANGON, 10 Aug- Twenty members resigned from the National League for Democracy of Myinmu Township, Sagaing Division. Twenty members of Myinmu Township NLD, Sagaing Division, of their own accord, resigned by sending letters of resignation to Myinmu Township Multiparty Democracy General Election Sub-commission and the party concerned on 9 February 2000 as they no longer wished to participate in party politics of NLD.

WEATHER REPORT TODAY

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 11th, August 2000: One or two rains or rainshowers. Degree of certainty is 80%.