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entirety. While some errors are the typists; others remain as
found in the original, although some general editing has been done.*
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Mottoes of the Day:

DHAMMACARIYA CA, LAWFUL CONDUCT; THIS IS THE WAY TO AUSPICIOUSNESS.

THE TATMADAW HAS BEEN SACRIFICING MUCH OF ITS BLOOD AND SWEAT TO PREVENT DISINTEGRATION OF THE UNION. ALL NATIONALITIES OF THE

UNION ARE URGED TO GIVE ALL CO- OPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IN THIS GREAT TASK.

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EXTENSION OF SPRAYER CULTIVATION PROJECT, PROPER UTILIZATION OF RIVER WATER IN ARID REGIONS GET DUE ATTENTION

[Photo captions: #1 Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe at the Kinpuntaung Reservoir in Taungdwingyi Township. #2 Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe meets farmers at the Kinpuntaung Reservoir. #3 Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe inspects Natmauk Reservoir.]

Yangon, 10 Oct - Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspected dams, reservoirs, and cultivation of crops by means of irrigation and water-spraying system on his tour of Magway Division yesterday.

The Senior General and entourage arrived at Kinpuntaung Reservoir in Taungdwingyi Township in Magway Division at 10:30 am and were welcomed there by Chairman of Mandalay Division Law and Order Restoration Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Kyaw Than, Commander of No 88 Light Infantry Division Brig-Gen Kyi Aung, Chairman of Magway Division Law and Order Restoration Council Col Maung Par and officials concerned.

Director of Division Irrigation Department U Wai Phyo reported to them on completion and benefits of Kinpuntaung Reservoir and double- and triple-cropping, and Manager of Division Myanma Agriculture Service Dr Thein Han on extension of cultivation of paddy, sesamum and corn.

The Senior General spoke of the need to take steps for conservation of forests in the catchment area and afforestation to maintain good inflow of water into the reservoir at the beginning of the project.

After inspecting the reservoir, the Senior General met departmental personnel and farmers and exhorted them to strive for progress of the agriculture sector in reciprocation of the government's efforts to build dams and reservoirs for extensive cultivation in the arid regions.

Kinpuntaung Reservoir lies 10 miles in the south of Taungdwingyi and on Taungdwingyi-Pyinmanan motor road. The earth reservoir,

1,680 feet long, 82 fee high and having 10,520 acre-feet storage capacity, was completed in January 1991 to irrigate 7,500 acres of crops.

Natmauk Reservoir

The Senior General and entourage proceeded to Natmauk Reservoir, which is being built 1-1/2 miles upstream Phonkon Village in Natmauk Township on Yin Creek.

Director of Irrigation Department Construction Group 3 U Khin Maung Yu reported on the project.

The Senior General then inspected the model of Natmauk Reservoir and presented the gifts for the personnel through Director U Khin Maung Yu.

He then inspected construction of the reservoir and the outlet channel.

Natmauk Division Weir

The Senior General and entourage proceeded to Natmauk Diversion Weir Project, which is part of Natmauk Reservoir Project. Deputy Director of Irrigation Department Construction Group 3 U Hoke Kyi, Assistant Director U Swe and Commander of No 88 LID Brig-Gen Kyi Aung briefed them on completion of the project.

After inspecting the completed diversion weir, the Senior General and entourage paid homage to the sacred relics and Buddha images to be enshrined in the Datunidana Tiloka Manaung-yinle Pagoda to be constructed at the top of the diversion weir.

The earth-walled diversion weir, 4,400 feet long and 100 feet high, lies near Phonedawbye Village 13 miles downstream the reservoir and has a storage capacity of 101,000 acre-feet to irrigate 43,200 acres of crops.

It was constructed as the first priority to be able to irrigate the cultivated area before completion of the reservoir.

Later, in the afternoon, the Senior General and entourage left for Magway Township by helicopter and inspected cultivation of crops by means of water-spraying system pumping water from the Ayeyarwady from Myinkin to Kanbya.

Spraying system

Efforts are being made for cultivation of pedisein, sesamum, gram

and long-staple cotton on 1,558 acres on the east bank of the Ayeyarwady stretching from Myinkin to Kanbya Village by means of water- spraying system. The brick canals stretching 6,000 feet have been built by 1 October and crops can now be cultivated on 200 acres.

After inspecting the plantation and pumping of the water from the Ayeyarwady, the Senior General stressed the need to extend the project for increasing income of farmers in the dry zone like Magway Division by properly utilizing river water for cultivation.

The Senior General and entourage then left for Magway where they were welcomed by Commander of the Tactical Operations Command Col Myint Zaw of No 88 LID and officials concerned.

Secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-General Tin Oo, ministers and deputy ministers later met departmental officials of Magway Division, Magway, Thayet and Minbu districts and township at Magway Town Hall.

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo, Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Yin, Minister for Education U Pan Aung, Deputy Minister for Health Col Than Zin and officials concerned explained the programmes for fulfilling regional requirements.

The Secretary-2 spoke at length on the project for greening of the nine arid regions, progress of the agriculture sector, dam and reservoir projects to be implemented in Magway Division in line with the project for greening of the nine arid regions, extension of the project for cultivation by means of water-spraying system and regional development projects.

The Senior General and entourage paid homage at Magway Myathalun Pagoda.

The Senior General signed the visitor's book and donated cash for gilding the pagoda.

This morning, the Secretary-2 inspected Magway Division People's Hospital.

The Senior General and entourage flew from Magway to Shan State at 9 am today.

[Photo captions: #1 Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe inspects pumping of water in Kanbya region. #2 Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo meets township-level departmental personnel of Magway Division. #3

Secretary-2 Lt-Gen Tin Oo inspects Magway Division People's Hospital. #4 Chairman of Ayeyarwady Division Law and Order Restoration Council Maj-Gen Tin Hla oversees measures against plague.]

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PERSPECTIVES: AYEYARWADY (PYAY) BRIDGE PROJECT

The Special Projects Implementation Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council laid down projects for six bridges and twelve dams for further development of the country at its coordination meeting on 8 February 1994.

The six river bridges projects include Ayeyarwady River Bridge (Pyay) Project.

The other day, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe inspected the project.

It is being implemented by Public Works of the Ministry of Construction. The steel bridge, which is to be as reliable as the Sagaing Bridge on the River Ayeyarwady, is 4,183 feet long and will have a motor road, 27 feet and 10 inches wide, with five-foot pedestrian lanes on each side. The reinforced concrete piers will elevate the bridge 57 feet above the water, ensuring 350 feet safe passage.

The Senior General, in his guidance to the officials and engineers of Public Works, stated that the project is the pride

of the nation for it has to be built on self-reliance basis, properly applying technical knowhow of Myanmar engineers.

Also speaking of thoroughness of work, the Senior General instructed that durability of the bridge will stand out to prove Myanmar's technical standard.

This is the counsel to uphold national pride and honour through expertise and zealous efforts, proving the fact that Myanmar engineers are capable of implementing the bridge project all on their own.

During the time of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, motor roads, railroads and bridges are constructed nation-wide to ensure smooth and regular flow of commodities and convenient and secure transportation.

Other than contributing towards progress of the transportation sector, these communication links have a valuable aspect for national consolidation, for they transport people from one region to another thereby strengthening friendship and unity among them.

It is undeniable that only secure and smooth transportation and communication will facilitate better trade, promote living standards and ensure equal development among regions.

Construction of Ayeyarwady Bridge (Pyay) is proof that the State Law and Order Restoration Council is implementing the noble task to ensure smooth transportation and bringing equal development to the regions east and west of the River Ayeyarwady.

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INTEGRATING PEOPLE AND NATURE FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

by Maung Thabawa

"Forest Based Ecotourism cum Nature Tourism"

[abridged]

Myanmar Forests and Management

The land area of Myanmar, 261,228 sq miles (676,577 sq km), situate between latitude 10-degrees N to 29-degrees N and longitudes 92- degrees E to 102-degrees E. Myanmar is usually endowed with diverse forest ecosystems and it stretches from the tropical evergreen forests habitat with Malayan fauna in the south to snowcapped Khakaborazi Mountain with Himalayan fauna in the north. Lush and verdant forests contain three ecological sub regions of the Indo-Malay Realm, the Indo-Chinese Sub-region, and the Sudaic Sub-region (Salter 1994). within these three sub-regions, forest vegetation types are classified with particular reference to the associated tree species. The unique diverse forest ecosystems and geo-physical landscapes present the potential site for nature and ecological tourism. This array of diverse forests host large variety of wildlife species as many as 7000 plants, 300 mammal, 360 reptile and 1000 bird species. Among them, some endemic flora and fauna species are not only nationally important but, they constitute regional and global as well. Most of the homes of these wile species are nothing but the vast and different types of forests which cover nearly half of the country land area. Myanmar's long history in forests and wildlife conservation with a record service of more

than a century could preserve its nature and sustain the biological benefits to the present generation while maintaining the needs and aspirations for the future generations. The country's renewable natural resources had been being harvested with three basic forest policies; the sustainable use, forests and wildlife conservation and environmental protection.

Though the outcry for forests and wildlife conservation only gained prominence at the international circle during the last few decades, forest and wildlife conservation measures were started in 1752, by decreeing the teak as royal tree and designating the environ of Mandalay Royal City as Wildlife Sanctuary during Myanmar Kings' Dynasty.

Conservation oriented forest management are the basic principles of Myanmarms' forest policy which are in consistent with the key steps of the world conservation strategy. Adequate long logging interval, appropriate forest cultural treatments and low level timber harvest pertained in Myanmar Forest Management attribute conservation of key ecosystem and species; Myanmar Forest Management attribute the conservation of key ecosystem and species; Myanmar Forest Management coupled with environment benign elephant logging method give least disturbances and detriments to the biodiversity conservation.

In the context of the environmental conservation and sustainable development, Myanma forests are managed with natural system, modified natural system and forest plantation system. Under natural system a network of protected areas had been formed at different bioregional zones, to safeguard the major forest ecosystems and species with the aims to serve as a genetical reservoir to support the life supporting systems for the people and genetical the indirect benefits or the non-consumptive use values of the forests. Myanmar Forest Selection System in the form of modified natural system is a mechanism to generate the sustainable utilization of the forest products with minimal impact to the forest environment and wildlife. To meet the growing socioeconomic of the people, forest plantation are raised at denuded and degraded forest lands to attain high yield from minimum unit area and to reduce the pressure on the natural forests. The functions of the three systems, interdependent on each others, are the functional instruments in conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.

Protected Areas for Ecotourism/Natural Tourism

A few years back, realizing the harvesting of the productive values from the forests impair the naturalness of the forest lands on the one hand, and cause the loss of biodiversity on the

other, Myanmar started Protected Area System in 1981 to conserve the biodiversity for the life support system of the present and future generations, generate the non-consumptive use values from ecotourism-nature tourism and recreational activities while preserving the nationally important natural landscapes which characterized the interaction of man and land. It is also aimed to generate the national income from nature tourism and recreational activities by preserving the aesthetic quality of the areas. Since 1918, sixteen wildlife sanctuaries have been established in Myanmar with the objective of protecting specific wildlife species in each one. During 1981-1983, biological survey and natural area assessments had been carried out to identify the biological significance and priorities for conservation. Giving priorities on the unique characteristic biogeophysical features of the identified areas, some of them have been managed under the protected area system to set aside exclusively for conservation of critical ecosystems and endangered wildlife species and to develop forests based on ecotourism cum natural tourism; integrating the people for sustainable future.

(To be continued)

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MINISTER FOR LIVESTOCK BREEDING AND FISHERIES RECEIVES AMBASSADOR OF CHINA

[Photo caption: Ambassador of PRC Mrs Chen Baoliu calls on Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung.]

Yangon, 10 Oct - Minister Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung received Ambassador of China to Myanmar Mrs Chen Baoliu at his office this afternoon.

Strengthening of friendly relations and economic cooperation between the two countries were cordially discussed.

The deputy minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries and officials concerned were also present.

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OVER K 1m PRESENTED FOR RENOVATION OF FOUR STREETS IN MANDALAY

Yangon, 10 Oct - Wellwishers presented over one million kyats at Mandalay City Development Committee Office on 4 October for

renovation of four streets in Mandalay on self-reliance basis.

Chairman of MCDC Mayor U Tin Kyi, Secretary Lt-Col Thaung Tin and members, district and township authorities and wellwishers were present on the occasion.

A total of K 400,000 was presented for renovation of 1,700 feet Aungsitthi Street, K 350,000 for 1,700 feet Thayetgon Ward Street, K 150,000 for 750 feet Yanaung Street and K 160,000 for 81st Street between 20th and 22nd Streets.

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CASH DONATED TO MAHA WIZAYA PAGODA

[Photo caption: Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt accepts two million kyats donated by Yangon Division All Private Bus Lines Control Committee.]

Yangon, 10 Oct - The cash donation ceremony for construction of Maha Wizaya Pagoda, Sasanika buildings and gilding of the pagoda was held at the pagoda Gandakutitaik this afternoon.

It was attended by Minister for Religious Affairs Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt, Deputy Minister Col Aung Khin, Director-General of the Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana U Sann Lwin, Chairman of Yangon Division All Private Bus Lines Control Committee U Phone Kyaw, members of the Board of Trustees and wellwishers.

The donations include two million kyats by Yangon Division All Private Bus Lines Control Committee, K549,465 by the public, K 100,000 each by bus owners Daw Ni Ni, U Tin Hla, Daw Khin Thet Win, U Maung Maung Htay, U Tin Oo, U Kyin Hwet, U Myint Aye, U Than Htay, Daw Tin Shein, U Tin Win, U Myo Nyunt and owner of Bus No La/2874, among others.

Minister Lt-Gen Myo Nyunt and officials concerned accepted the donations.

Kyaku Dhamma Beikman Sayadaw U Namdasiri administered the Five Precepts and delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits.

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TRANSFERRING OF STATE-OWNED ECONOMIC ENTERPRISES TO PRIVATE SECTOR IS TO BRING ABOUT SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN ECONOMY

[Photo captions: #1 Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt addresses

coordination meeting on privatisation. #2 Minister Brig-Gen Abel clarifies matters at coordination meeting on privatisation. #3 Chairman of the Information Subcommittee of the Second Myanma Traditional Performing Arts Competitions Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Win Sein addresses the Subcommittee 's meeting.]

Yangon, 10 Oct - A meeting to coordinate measures on privatisation was held at the meeting hall of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) (Duty Division) at 2 pm today.

Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt delivered an address.

Present at the meeting were Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen Chit Swe, Minister for Industry-1 Lt-Gen Sein Aung, Minister for Health Vice- Admiral Than Nyunt, Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen Abel, Minister for Information Brig- Gen Myo Thant, Minister for Livestock Breeding and Fisheries Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Minister for Industry-2 U Than Shwe, Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Soe Tha, Attorney-General U Tha Tun, Auditor-General U Aung Khin Tint, Deputy Minister for Transport U Sann Wai, Director-General of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, heads of departments concerned, advisers and officials.

The Secretary-1 said the meeting is to discuss and coordinate measures on the methods to be used in transferring the State's economic undertakings to the private sector.

The Secretary-1 then quoted Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Senior General Than Shwe as saying -- "Some of the State-owned economic enterprises are to be transferred to

the private sector gradually in phases according to correct methods.

"Government organizations are to extend a helping hand to nationalities private entrepreneurs to enable them to do business competently.

"It is to be cautioned, however, that a group of people should not be allowed to take the lion's share in distribution of wealth in the economy. Especially to see the economic undertakings prosper in the hands of nationalities entrepreneurs. Changes are to be introduced with patriotism.

"Systematic and proper privatisation of economic undertakings will lead to growth in private investment, finally resulting in an increase in commodity production in the country.

"The Government on its part will be relieved of high cost of services and other undue burdens.

The Secretary-1 then outlined the objectives for privatisation -- to enable them to do business competently; to earn highest profit at less expenditure; to increase the volume of goods produced by the State and increase the volume of exports; to make most beneficial use of States natural resources; to enable the nationalities to own a huge volume of shares; to attract more foreign investments; to place the economic undertakings into the hands of individuals and organizations capable of controlling and managing the economic organizations; and to make use of modern techniques and create jobs for the majority of the national people.

He said the selecting of economic undertakings which ought to be transferred to the private sectors should be as follows:--

--the economic enterprises and branches which are under a big economic organization and which are engaged in economic undertakings in various places; --economic enterprises and branches of the organizations which are spread out and are difficult to manage and control and are ineffective; --the undertakings of the organizations which cannot operate to full capacity and those which are operating with less capacity; --the enterprises and branches which need more modern techniques and machinery; --the enterprises and branches which are to be scrutinised for the type and kinds of goods produced by them; and --the enterprise and branches which cannot fully make use of the inputs effectively.

He said out of the State-owned economic enterprises, those which are vital for States security and administration, those with are vital to the State and those which are being operated under the policy of the State and under the direct leadership of the State.

He said in transferring the State-owned economic enterprises to the private sector for the development of the State the following methods should be applied:--

--the economic enterprises which the cooperative societies can take the responsibilities would be transferred to the cooperative societies; --inviting shares from the public and forming joint venture enterprises; --granting permission for the government and private entrepreneurs in the country to form joint ventures; --granting permission for the government and foreign private entrepreneurs to form joint ventures; --to

privatise small-scale economic enterprises and to give them appropriate management.

He said studying the private sector it will be seen that they still lack efficiency. Therefore, in transferring State-owned economic enterprises to the private sector, they are to be managed and controlled according to their level.

He spoke of the need to take into consideration how the state service personnel will be transferred when State-owned economic enterprises are transferred to the private sector.

He pointed out the enterprises can be divided into major enterprises and medium factories and small enterprises and small factories. He said, it will be necessary to transfer the small enterprises and factories as soon as possible and to ponder over and weigh the situation in transferring the medium and major enterprises and factories to the private sector.

He then stressed the need for the respective ministries to coordinate and discuss how the State-owned economic enterprises can systematically be transferred to the private sector.

next, Minister Brig-Gen Able and Director-General U Ohn Lwin clarified matters in connection with the transferring of State-owned economic enterprises to the private sector and Minister Lt-Gen Sein Aung and Attorney-General U Tha Tun took part in the discussions and gave suggestions.

Minister Brig-Gen Abel clarified points on formation of Privatisation Committee and subcommittees and the tasks and

responsibilities committee and subcommittees. Those present at the meeting then took part in the discussions.

The ministers and officials concerned then held a round of discussions. The Secretary-1 gave replies and delivered the concluding address.

He said based on the points discussed at the meeting and in accordance with the guidance given by Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Senior General Than Shwe, tasks should be carried out accordingly to achieve success.

He said in transferring the State-owned economic enterprises to the private sector, the pattern of mills, factories and work establishments should not be changed to new ones but only to expand the tasks and raising the level.

He spoke of the need for the mills, factories and work establishments to aim at boosting production of goods, improving the quality of goods in such a way as to be able to export them.

He said as market economic system is being practised in Myanmar Naing-Ngan the transferring of State-owned economic enterprises to the private sector to bring about a significant change in the economy. Those all who are responsible are to work correctly, precisely and effectively, he said.

The meeting ended at 4 pm.

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77 LID COMMANDER INSPECTS EXPANSION OF SIX-LANE YANGON- MANDALAY HIGHWAY

Yangon, 10 Oct - Commander of the No 77 Light Infantry Division Brig-Gen Sein Htaw, accompanied by Commander of the Tactical Operations Command Col Bo Kyi, officers and senior engineers inspected the six-lane expansion of the Yangon-Mandalay Highway on Bago-Zayatkwin section this morning.

Altogether 624 Tatmadaw men of the LIRs under the No 77 LID are contributing voluntary labour in laying the six-lane road at the border with Bago up to Wanbawdat Bridge.

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MINISTER FOR NATIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RECEIVESCORRESPONDENT OF 'THE HINDU'

[Photo caption: Minister Brig-Gen Abel receives Correspondent of 'The Hindu' for South-East Asia Mr Sridhar Khrishnaswami.]

Yangon, 10 Oct - Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Brig-Gen Abel received Correspondent of 'The Hindu' for South-East Asia Mr Sridhar Khrishnaswami and Charge d'Affaires of Embassy of India Mr Banbit A Roy at the Myanmar Foreign Investment Commission Office this morning.

The minister explained economic changes, arrangements for economic development, various sectors open for investment, measures to solve the high exchange rate disparity and the tasks carried out by the State for enhancing the private sector.

Officials of the Directorate of Investment Companies Limited were

also present.

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CHIEF JUSTICE RECEIVES CORRESPONDENT OF 'THE HINDU'

[Photo caption: Chief Justice U Aung Toe receives Correspondent of 'The Hindu' for South-East Asia Mr Sridhar Khrishnaswami.]

Yangon, 10 Oct - Chief Justice U Aung Toe received Correspondent of 'The Hindu' for South-East Asia Mr Sridhar Khrishnaswami and Charge d'Affaires of Embassy of India Mr Banbit A Roy at his office this morning.

The visitor raised questions in connection with the National Convention and the Chief Justice clarified matters.

Head of Office of Chief Justice" Office U Soe Thein was also present on the occasion.

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ACTION TAKEN AGAINST ONE JUDGE, TWO LAWYERS

Yangon, 10 Oct - The Supreme Court has suspended with effect from 3 October higher grade pleadership licence of U Maung Sein, holder of licence No 8566, of 931, Ward 9, Dagon Myothit (North) in Yangon Division. Departmental action followed as he misused the name of a department head to ask for bribes in carrying out duty as a court staff.

In another case, the Supreme Court also suspended advocate licence of U Taing Kyaw holder of advocate licence No 2184. Action was taken against U Taing Kyaw of 12, Tachilek Street, Soonmoon Ward, Kengtung, as he tried to settle a case out of court.

The case was about the seizure in Tachilek of fake currency notes smuggled into the country for circulation from another country. He tried to do so through bribing and taking bribes. He also made the accused withhold part of the evidence in court.

He contacted Tachilek Township Judge U Htay Aung and secured the acquittal of the accused. The Supreme Court therefore suspended the advocate licence of U Taing Kyaw with effect from 5 October.

Similarly, Tachilek Township Judge U Htay Aung was dismissed with effect from 4 October evening as he acquitted the accused related

to fake currency notes, who were being tried with firm evidence.

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NATIONAL CONVENTION: THREE DEBATE GROUPS HOLD DISCUSSIONS

[Photo caption: Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt receives leader U Yang Moe Lian and Kokang nationals of northern Shan State Special Region-1.]

Yangon, 10 Oct - The Panel of Chairmen of the National Convention worker delegates group, and the State service personnel and nationalities delegate groups held discussions in respective meeting halls at Kyaikkasan today.

Worker delegates group

The Panel of Chairmen of worker delegates group discussed holding of group discussions.

The group discussions of worker delegates group will be held on 11 October.

State service personnel delegates group

State services personnel delegates group held discussions in Room 8 this morning. The meeting was chaired by U Khin Maung Htoo of the Ministry of Transport with U Hla Win as master of ceremonies.

After U Khin Maung Htoo's opening address, U Saw Thein of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and U Thaung Shwe of the Ministry of Rail Transportation read the proposal paper on the chapter 'legislature' compiled by 21 State service personnel delegates of Hostel 1 and Hostel 11.

The Panel of Chairmen then scrutinised the proposal paper on the chapter 'legislature' compiled by six delegates of Hostel 11.

Later, in the afternoon, the proposal paper compiling subgroup discussed designation of self-administered regions or self-administered zones to be submitted to the Plenary Session.

The group discussions of State service personnel delegates group will be held on 12 October.

Nationalities delegation group

The group discussions of nationalities delegates group were held

in Room 1. U Nai San Shein of Mon State presided over the meeting with U San Tun as master of ceremonies.

U Mya Than of Ywangan Township, Shan State, and U Aung Hsa of Kutkai Township, Shan State, read the proposal paper on the chapter 'legislature' compiled by Shan State nationalities delegates.

In the afternoon session, U Vum Za Dal of Tiddim Township, Chin State, read the proposal paper on the chapter 'legislature' compiled by Chin State nationalities delegates.

The group discussions of nationalities delegates group will be held on 25 October.

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SECRETARY-1 RECEIVES KOKANG NATIONALS OF NORTHERN SHAN STATE SPECIAL REGION-1

Yangon, 10 Oct - Chairman of Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt received leader of Kokang nationals of northern Shan State Special Region-1 U Yang Moe Lian and party at the Tatmadaw Guest House on Oo-yin Street here at 5 pm today.

Also present were Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Lt-Gen Maung Thint, Director-General of the State Law and Order Restoration Council Office Lt-Col Pe Nyein, Director-General of the Office of the Work Committee for Development of Border Areas and National Races Lt-Col Thein Han and officials.

They discussed regional development projects.

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MYANMAR TACKLING AIDS AS A NATIONAL CONCERN

Minister appreciates joint efforts of Medicins du Monde

[Photo captions: #1 Minister for Health Vice-Admiral Than Nyunt explains measures being taken for AIDS control in Myanmar. #2 Dr A Voller of Overseas Development Project donates Laboratory equipment worth 10,000 US dollars Malaria Control Projects of the Ministry of Health through Dr Aye Kyu, Director of the Health Department.]

Yangon, 10 Oct - A workshop on the treatment of AIDS jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Health and a French non-governmental organization, Medicins du Monde, commenced this morning at the Department of Medical research here.

It was attended by Minister for Health Vice-Admiral Than Nyunt, the directors-general of the departments under the Ministry of Health, Dr Tom Pruloviv of the WHO, representative for Myanmar to the Medicins du Monde Mr Laurent Xardel and specialists, physicians and medical superintendents and professors of hospitals in Yangon.

In his address, Minister Vice-Admiral Than Nyunt said the current workshop is jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Health and Medicins du Monde. He said similar workshops will be jointly sponsored in the next ten months by the medical specialists of the University of Paris XII in cooperation with four Myanmar doctors who underwent training in France last six months.

The minister recalled that the first AIDS victim was found in the United States of America in 1981 and now, 13 years have passed. During the period, he said, HIV virus that caused AIDS has spread rapidly to various nations throughout the world. Today, 17 million persons in 190 nations are HIV positive and there are one million reported cases of AIDS patients.

The spread of HIV in the world today is caused largely through sexual intercourse and most of the AIDS victims are infected with VD, he noted. Throughout the world, the rate of HIV

infection is high among drug users who use unsterilized needles and syringes, he said.

He warned that the spread of HIV occurred late in the nations of Asia but it is spreading swiftly in South Asia and South-East Asia. At present there are 2.7 million persons infected with HIV in Asia, he added.

In Myanmar, he said, surveys on AIDS were conducted beginning 1985. The first HIV positive person was found in 1988, he said. In 1991, he explained, a project was initiated. The first medium-term project was launched in 1991-1993 and the second medium-term project (1994-1996) is being implemented. The project is being carried out together with the WHO, UNDP, UNICEF and other international organizations.

He went on to explain that the National Health Committee too is giving due priority to AIDS control measures as a national responsibility. AIDS Control Central Body and similar bodies in

the States and Divisions are discharging respective duties, he said. He said AIDS control and health education were extensively carried out, adding that different means of mass media are being used for the purpose. The use of the condom is also encouraged to prevent the spread of AIDS. Public education is being undertaken in conformity with the religion and culture.

Though the use of condom is encouraged in specific cases, he said, emphasis is placed on loyalty toward each other's better half and avoidance of dangerous behaviour. In the meantime, he said, VD control programmes are being improved.

The minister cited assistance of the Medicins du Monde at the centres providing medical treatment to drug addicts. The NGO is providing help for AIDS control and treatment, he said. The minister spoke of efforts being concentrated not only on the treatment of drug addicts but also on demand reduction in preventing the spread of HIV among drug addicts.

He also explained the way medical treatment is given to HIV victims or AIDS patients as well as special training provided to doctors, nurses and others to enable them to give proper medical treatment to the patients. He thanked the French medical specialists for their assistance.

He spoke of the need for the departments, social organizations and nations all over the world to cooperate in the fight against AIDS which is affecting the world.

However, he said, matters concerning AIDS are being exaggerated sometimes for political reasons. Being an enormous problem, there may unavoidably be difficulties in seeking solutions, he said. But some foreign publications exaggerated the matter and criticized Myanmar's fight against AIDS. It is regrettable, he said. Such criticisms made at the expense of volunteers will get nowhere, he said. Instead of criticizing, Medicins du Monde is lending a helping hand, he said. He lauded the group for its help in spite of difficulties. France is famous for its humanitarian efforts and it is considered Medicins du Monde is providing assistance on behalf of the people of France. He declared that AIDS control measures are being taken not only with non- governmental organizations such as Myanmar Medical Association, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Red Cross Society and Myanmar Council of Christian Churches internally but also with Association Francois Xavier Bagnound, World Vision International, World AIDS Foundation and others.

In conclusion, he thanked Medicins du Monde and doctors from

France. He said he believes cooperation will contribute towards not only in AIDS control but also in promoting friendship between France and Myanmar.

Next, representative for Myanmar of Medicins du Monde M Laurent Xardel spoke.

The workshop will continue until 14 October.

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UNIVERSITY OF CULTURE COUNCIL MEETS

Yangon, 10 Oct - The University of Culture Council held its fifth meeting at the National Theatre on Myona Kyaung Street today.

It was attended by Chairman of the Council Minister for Culture Lt- Gen Aung Ye Kyaw, Vice-Chairman Deputy Minister U Soe Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Information U Thein Sein and members of the Council.

In his addresses, Lt-Gen Aung Ye Kyaw spoke of the students' satisfactory results in the 1993-94 academic examinations.

The university, he said, opened its new term for 1994-95 commencing on 3 October.

He also dwelt upon the programmes to transfer the university campus to Dagon Myothit (South) and called for suggestions for greater progress of the university.

A general round of discussions followed.

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MYANMAR TRADE DELEGATION LEAVES FOR U.S.

[Photo caption: Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Trade Lt-Gen Tun Kyi being seen off at Yangon International Airport on its departure for the United States.]

Yangon, 10 Oct - Myanmar delegation led by Minister for Trade Lt-Gen Tun Kyi today left here by air for the United States to attend Participation of Trade Ministries in the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency 1994 to be held in Columbus, Ohio, from 17 to 21 October.

Minister Lt-Gen Tun Kyi and delegation were seen off by Minister

for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Mya Thin, Minister for Hotels and Tourism Lt- Gen Kyaw Ba, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Brig-Gen Thaung Myint, Deputy Minister for Trade U Aung Thaung, adviser U Hla Tin, the managing directors of enterprises, Ambassador of Japan Mr Takashi Tajima, Ambassador of Singapore Mr Calvin Eu Mun Hoo, Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of the United States Mr Angus T Simmons and officials of the embassies of Thailand and Korea.

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MAYOR OF VIENTIANE CONCLUDES MYANMAR VISIT

[Photo captions: #1 Mayor of Vientiane Mr Boun Ngang Vorachat and delegation being see off on their departure for home by Mayor of Yangon U Ko Lay and officials. #2 Mayor of Vientiane Mr Boun Ngang Vorachat visits Kyaikhmawwun Pagoda in Kyauktan.]

Yangon, 10 Oct - Mayor of Vientiane Mr Boun Ngang Vorachat and delegation this morning visited the Thanlyin-Kyauktan Development Project area.

At Kyauktan Township Law and Order Restoration Council Office, they were briefed on regional development project being implemented.

They next visited the Kyaikhmawwun Pagoda of Kyaunktan. The Mayor of Vientiane donated cash towards the pagoda funds.

On their way back to Yangon, they visited the Banbwegon Reservoir Project near Kyauktan.

The delegation left by air at the end of its visit to Myanmar at 4:40 pm today.

Members of the delegation were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon City Development Committee Mayor Yangon U Ko Lay, Secretary U Kyaw Win, Joint Secretary Col Myint Aung and Committee members, department heads, Ambassador of LRDR Embassy Mr Ly Bounkham and personnel concerned.

"The Tatmadaw has been sacrificing much of its blood and sweat to prevent disintegration of the Union. All nationalities of the Union are urged to give all co-operation and assistance in this great task."

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