

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR (2 March, 1997)

- (1) Minister inspects forest conservation works in Magway, Mandalay Divisions**
 - (2) Minister inspects Paunglaung Hydro-electric Power Project**
 - (3) Prawn production of Annawadevi Fisheries Production and General Trading Enterprise inspected**
 - (4) Measures for eradicating mosquitoes, flies taken in Ahlon Township**
 - (5) Anti-government armed group member returns via embassy**
 - (6) MCDC holds third four-monthly meeting**
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- (1) Minister inspects forest conservation works in Magway, Mandalay Divisions**

YANGON, 1 March—Minister for Forestry Lt-Gen Chit Swe inspected works for conservation of forests and development of the forestry sector in Magway and Mandalay Divisions from 26 to 28 February.

On 26 February, he inspected construction works at Mount Popa Resort.

The resort is being built with the help of technicians and designers of Australia. Construction of the resort that will contribute to eco-tourism began four months ago and it is scheduled for completion in May. The resort will have eight hostels, a restaurant and a reception hall and can accommodate 35 visitors.

Officer in charge of Mount Popa Resort U Hse and U Win Aung of Wood-land Travel Co Ltd, which is undertaking construction works, reported on progress of work.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister said Popa region is an oasis of the dry zone and establishment of the resort is a part of measures for development of eco-tourism.

It is targeted to increase income in the forestry sector by properly conserving the environment and natural forests and establishing eco-tourism resorts rather than extracting and exporting natural forest resources, he said and noted that at Sein Yay Forest Reserve on Bago Yoma, eco-tourism resort has been launched successfully.

Myanmar has a lot of potential regions for establishment of such resorts, he said and cautioned that as much time and effort had to be invested for conservation and greening of Popa region, serious attention must be paid not to destroy ecology in carrying out eco-tourism.

He also spoke of the need to expand the resort so as to enable entrepreneurs, technicians and the State leaders to hold seminars and meetings while vacationing and also the need to enable local people to earn income from eco-tourism services.

On 27 February, the minister arrived at Gwaygyo Station of Mingan Hill Greening Project in Chauk Township.

Departmental officials reported to him on the works for greening of Chauk Township, future programmes, participation of local people, forest plantation and requirements.

(2) Minister inspects Paunglaung Hydro-electric Power Project

YANGON, 1 March-Minister for Energy U Khin Maung Thein, together with officials, arrived at Paunglaung Hydro-electric Power Project of the Myanma Electric Power Enterprise in Pyinmana Town-ship this morning.

On arrival there, they were welcomed by Assistant Chief Engineer of MEPE U Win Kyaw and employees of the project, Manager Mr Shigeto of Kajima Corporation of Japan, Consultant Engineer Mr Nishimura and experts of Newjec Company, Lt-Col Tun Tun of Pyinmana Station, Chairman of Pyinmana Township Law and Order Restoration Council U Tha Tun Oo, trainees from other ministries attending the on-job training course and executives of Pyinmana District Union Solidarity and Development Association.

The minister and party heard a report on matters relating to building of a diversion tunnel presented by U Win Kyaw with maps.

The minister attended to their requirements and explained salient points of the projects relating to the energy sector being implemented by the Ministry of Energy.

The minister called on officials to strive for completion of the Paunglaung Hydro-electric Power Station in a short period.

The minister and party proceeded to the work site of building the diversion tunnel, which is the main part of Paunglaung Hydro-electric Power Station, where they entered the tunnel from the entrances of Tunnel No 1 and 2 and inspected digging tunnel by using machinery and works for strengthening the wall.

The minister gave necessary instructions on swiftly and effectively carrying out the works.

(3) Prawn production of Annawadevi Fisheries Production and General Trading Enterprise inspected

YANGON, 1 March-Minister for Cooperatives U Than Aung inspected prawn production factory and cold storage of Annawadevi Fisheries Production and General Trading Enterprise Cooperatives Society Ltd in Dawbon Township this morning. Chairman Daw Toe Nanda Tin reported on organization set-up of the factory, purchase of fresh water and deep sea prawn and export.

The minister inspected dressing of prawn at the factory and spoke of cooperation with other cooperative societies and boosting of foreign exchange earning.

The factory and the cold storage were established at the end of January at a cost of K 30 million and installed machines worth US \$ 400,000.

Test operation started in February and packed prawn will be exported to Malaysia, Japan and Belgium early March.

(4) Measures for eradicating mosquitoes, flies taken in Ahlon Township

YANGON, 1 March-Head of Ahlon Township Health Department Dr San San Hlaing and Health workers totalling 500 took part in eradicating mosquitoes, flies and larvae, cleaning rubbish, clearing drains and spraying insecticide in Hsinmin Ward, Ahlon Township, commencing at 6 am today.

Officials of Health Department supervised them.

(5) Anti-government armed group member returns via embassy

YANGON, 1 March-Zaw Nyunt (a) Arkar Hein who took part in the movement of Pyithu Democracy Tatmadaw, an armed organization in opposition, returned through the Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand, on 10 February 1997, it is learnt. While he was in the country, he was a member of the organizations such as Alope-thamar Thwaysee Nyinyutyay Aphwe and Pyithu Democracy Tat-U and wrote and distributed anti-government letters. In 1990, he contacted outlawed organizations abroad for seeking financial support from them and establishing links with other internal and external organizations.

When authorities concerned exposed and took action against the outlawed organizations, Zaw Nyunt (a) Arkar Hein absconded to Thailand in December 1990.

He took refuge in Bangkokbased Democracy Nyinyutyay Tatpaungzu Aphwe. In early 1992, he joined the organization called Pyithu Democracy Tatmadaw. Later on, he came to perceive the external out-lawed organizations' seeking their selfish ends on the pretext of doing politics. Fed up with these organizations, which were living on their begging abroad, he turned to Malaysia and Singapore to seek jobs there beginning 1992. After resuming contacts with his family in 1996, he came to realize the Government's endeavours and situations of progress and returned to the country through Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok.

(6) MCDC holds third four-monthly meeting

YANGON, 1 March -The Mandalay City Development Committee held its third four-monthly work coordination meeting for 1996 at the meeting hall of the MCDC on 18 February.

Present were Minister at the Prime Minister's Office Brig-Gen Lun Maung, Chairman of MCDC Mayor of Mandalay Col Sein Win Aung and committee members, heads and assistant heads of the departments, officials of township development committees.

Minister Brig-Gen Lun Maung stressed the need for the officials to diligently discharge their duties with goodwill in cleaning the Mandalay City, making the city pleasant and beautiful and taking measures for the sake of city dwellers to be able to live in peace.

The minister called on the officials to strive for achievement in carrying out the designated tasks in 1996-97, the first year of the five-year plan of the MCDC, to earn the targeted income, to always make field tours and to make assessment on the progress of work.

The mayor and the committee members and heads and assistant heads of the departments reported on plans to be carried out department-wise, measures taken for the plans and ways and means to be employed in implementing the plans.

The minister gave necessary instructions and called for discharging their duties in unity, remedying weaknesses and working for welfare of the employees.
