



News and Views from Myanmar

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Domestic News

National Convention will reconvene on 17 February 2005

YANGON, 11 Jan—The National Convention Convening Commission (NCC), the Work Committee and the Management Committee held a work coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the NCCC today, with an address by Chairman of NCCC Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the NCCC Minister for Electric Power Maj-Gen Tin Htut, NCCC Secretary Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan and commission members, Chairman of the Work Committee Chief Justice U Aung Toe and work committee members, Chairman of the Management Committee Auditor-General Maj-Gen Lun Maung and management committee members and others.

The NCCC had announced that the National Convention would resume on 17 February 2005. In this regards, the officials concerned are to invite the delegates to the National Convention to arrive the Camp not later than 15 February; that meanwhile, the officials concerned are to make arrangements for the delegates to arrive the camp conveniently.

The Work Committee is striving to complete its tasks timely for the National Convention whereas the Management Committee is to make efforts for the delegates to attend the convention with peace of mind by providing them with necessary requirements and also measures taken for entertainment, information and daily issue of bulletins.

National Convention held on 17 May 2004 previously and was adjourned on 9 July 2004.

YANGON, 17 Jan — **A coordination meeting of National Convention Convening Management Committee** took place on 17 January 2004. It was attended by Committee Chairman Auditor General Maj-Gen Lun Maung, Vice Chairman Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Brig-Gen Aye Myint Kyu, committee members, chairmen and secretaries of subcommittees and officials.

At the meeting committee members discussed on their respective tasks to be carried out. Then the NCCMC chairman and party inspected arrangements being made at the camp for convening the National Convention, and left necessary instructions.

Pade Dam in Aunglan Township inaugurated

YANGON, 25 Jan—The inauguration of the Pade Dam, constructed by the Irrigation Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, was held at the Aunglan Township, Thayet District, Magway Division.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of Mandalay Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Ye Myint, Minister for A & I Maj-Gen Htay Oo, Magway Division PDC Chairman Col Phone Maw Shwe, ID Director-General U Kyaw San Win, local authorities, officials, local farmers, members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association, Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation,

Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Red Cross Society and auxiliary fire brigade.

The commander delivered an address to the ceremony, saying that the SPDC is implementing one of the four objectives — development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well. With the development of the agricultural sector, the nation will enjoy higher economy, so emphasis is to be placed on extended cultivation of crops, boosting per acre yield, and stepping up double or triple cropping, he urged.

He noted that Chairman of the SPDC Commander-in-Chief of Defense Services Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance on agricultural progress. He said the Pade Dam will benefit Thayet District, part of the nine districts greening project, adding that the government is making provision for the future of the nation by means of pouring investments into projects for construction of irrigation facilities. In conclusion, he called for maintenance of the facilities for durability and effective use of farm machinery.

A farmer expressed gratitude on behalf of the local farmers to the government for the facility.

Next, the commander formally unveiled the stone inscriptions of the dam. The commander, the minister and the Magway Division PDC chairman formally opened the dam.

The earthen dam is located on the Pade Creek with the 2,400-foot-long and 118-foot-high embankment. It can store 32,900 acre feet.

International Relations

Deputy Minister for Transport leaves to attend ASEAN-China workshop on tsunami disaster warning

YANGON, 24 Jan — A delegation led by Deputy Minister for Transport U Pe Than left Yangon to attend ASEAN-China workshop on tsunami disaster warning caused by an underwater earthquake to be held in Beijing, the People's Republic of China from 24 to 25 this month.

The delegation comprises Director-General of Relief and Resettlement and Assistant Director of Meteorology and Hydrology Department.