

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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To enable the motherland to stand tall in global society



All the national people are to come together hand in hand to ward off dissension, instigation and inducement, which are the deliberate attempts of the neo-colonialists who have every intention of disintegrating the Union by weakening it. The onus is therefore on the national people to ensure the perpetual existence of the country the same as that of the world and to enable the motherland to stand tall in the global society.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From message sent on the occasion of 58th Anniversary Union Day)

Announcement Nos 1/2008 and 2/2008 issued

Approval of the Constitution draft will be sought in a National Referendum to be held in May 2008

**In accordance with the forthcoming State Constitution,
the multi-party democracy general elections will be held in 2010**

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Feb—*The State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar issued Announcement Nos 1/2008 and 2/2008 yesterday.*

The following is the full text of the announcements—

Union of Myanmar
State Peace and Development Council
(Announcement No 1/2008)
3rd Waxing of Tabodwe, 1369 ME
(9th February 2008)

Union of Myanmar
State Peace and Development Council
(Announcement No 2/2008)
3rd Waxing of Tabodwe, 1369 ME
(9th February 2008)

1. As a new Constitution is required to bring about multi-party democracy aspired by the people in the nation, the National Convention was convened in 1993. Due to various reasons, it was temporarily adjourned in 1996. Then, it was reconvened in 2004 and successfully completed in 2007.

2. The National Convention was participated by over 1,000 delegates of eight delegate groups such as Delegate Group of Political Parties, Delegate Group of Representatives-elect, Delegate Group of Peasants, Delegate Group of Workers, Delegate Group of State Service Personnel, Delegate Group of National Races, Delegate Group of Intellectuals and Intelligentsia, and Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons.

3. The delegates included those from every township representing over 100 national races residing in the nation. Likewise, representatives of national race armed groups which had returned to the legal fold were permitted to take part in the Delegate Group of Other Invited Persons.

4. The National Convention has unanimously adopted fundamental principles and detailed basic principles for drafting a new Constitution. Now, the Commission for Drafting the State Constitution which was assigned duties under Announcement No 2/2007 by the State Peace and Development Council has been drafting the new Constitution in accordance with the fundamental principles and detailed basic principles laid down by the National Convention and it is to be completed soon.

5. Hence, in accordance with the fourth step of the seven-step Road Map, the approval of the Constitution draft will be sought in a National Referendum to be held in May 2008.

By order,
Sd/ Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myin Oo
Lieutenant-General
Secretary-1
State Peace and Development Council

1. The Tatmadaw Government had to unavoidably take over State responsibilities due to the unrest and disturbances in 1988.

2. Since then, it restored community peace and tranquillity as well as the rule of law while enabling the people to earn livelihood freely and peacefully.

3. For development of agricultural sector in view of bringing about economic development of the nation and the people, clusters of dams and reservoirs were built; river water pumping projects and underground water tapping projects were implemented; all-round efforts were made to ensure food sufficiency for the entire people; and conventional farming is being transformed into mechanized farming.

4. Moreover, the State has established heavy industries and encouraged private-owned industries by setting up industrial zones in order to transform the agricultural country into an industrialized one.

5. To bring about market-oriented economic system as aspired by the people, efforts have been made hand in hand with the people for development of internal and external trade.

6. Border areas and national races development projects were implemented for ensuring region-wise development in the country while infrastructures were built for better transportation to overcome natural barriers in order that national people will make closer contacts in amity.

7. To narrow down the gap in human resource development as much as possible in the nation, 24 special development regions were designated and universities, institutions and schools were opened. Similarly, to uplift health and fitness of the entire people, specialist hospitals, hospitals and rural hospitals were constructed and upgraded.

8. Although such endeavours to build up good foundations for the nation and the national people have not completed yet, required basic foundations have already been constructed.

9. As such necessary good foundations have been established, it is most appropriate to transform the administration of Tatmadaw into democratic administration of the people. Thus, in accordance with the forthcoming State Constitution, the multi-party democracy general elections will be held in 2010.

By order,
Sd/ Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo
Lieutenant-General
Secretary-1
State Peace and Development Council

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.