

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar**  
**Committee for Implementing the Investigation Report on**  
**Latpadaungtaung Copper Mining Project**  
**Press Release (2/2013)**  
**1st Waxing of Waso, 1375 ME**  
**(8th July 2013)**

1. The Committee for Implementing the Investigation Report on Latpadaungtaung Mining Project has formed the confiscated land scrutiny team, the environmental conservation team, the socioeconomy implementation team and the religious building reconstruction team with the suggestions of the Investigation Commission in order to effectively implement the investigation report. In order to more effectively carry out the assigned tasks, deputy committee leaders Sagaing region ministers made a field trip to villages and formed rural development groups with righteous and respected persons on 3-5-2013 to fulfill the needs of local people and to undertake rural development activities in 33 villages in the environs of the project area after making discussions with villagers.

2. The committee members led by the Union minister at the President Office (Dept-6) made a trip to the project area twice a week and leaders of the four teams met with rural development groups weekly and fulfilled the requirements. The fulfillments are as follows:-

(a) The land confiscated team were in scrutiny whether the confiscation of land for the project was beyond the required amount or not and gave back the remaining land to local people.

(1) The project area is 6965.54 acres as 902.24 acres are extracted from the confiscated land of 7867.78 acres. Out of 902.24 acres, 293.25 acres were given back to farmers, 62.99 acres were belonged to Pathein-Monywa motor road and river water pumping canal area and 546 acres were belonged to environmental conservation area. As 283.69 acres are being shared to local people, 223.23 acres have already been shared to 134 farmers accounting for 79 percent.

(2) As to compensation, confiscated lands were compensated under the 1894 land confiscation law at the rate of K 552,000 per acre of sesame, K 540,000 per acre of Pigeon pea, and K 525,000 per acre of sunflower. At present, confiscated lands are compensated in accordance with market value in comparison with projects in other regions making investigation on the ground. One acre of land (holdings) was compensated K 500,000, one acre of land (not holdings), K 700,000, one acre of farmland was compensated K 1 million, one acre of rain watered paddy farmland K 1.2 million and one acre of double cropping irrigated farmland K 1.5 million. So far, altogether 993 farmers have received K 2798.782 million in compensation for 2715.91 acres, accounting for 42 per cent.

(3) In the compensation process, there were disputes over land ownership and objections over compensation. The land dispute examining committee led by the head of Region Land Records Department has been settling the cases, and so far, 309 letters of complaint out of 374 have been addressed and 65 letters of complaint are in the process of being handled.

(4) Compensation has been increased for perennial crops, and so far, altogether 301 farmers have received K 85.602 million in compensation. The increased compensation rates are as follow:-

| <b>Crop (one plant)</b> | <b>Original rate</b> | <b>Increased rate</b> |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Thanatkha               | K 968                | K 5000                |
| Toddy palm              | K 10,000             | K 15,000              |
| Mango                   | K 16,000             | K 20,000              |
| Plum                    | K 5000               | K 10,000              |

(5) Under the rural development programme, wells are being compensated, and arrangements have been made to compensate 100 farmers from Shwehle, Wethmay-Kantaw, Zeedaw and Phaungka (a) villages K 25.221 million for 161 wells.

(6) Virgin and fallow lands in the environs of the project are being reclaimed for land substitution. Altogether 1900 acres of virgin and fallow lands in Phowintaung forest reserve about six miles west of the project were found to be uncultivable as they are mainly literate. Instead, 145 acres of virgin and fallow lands near Boksu village about 17 miles from Salingyi were found, and of them, five acres are under land preparation. Upon completion, grapes and dragon fruits will be grown there. Moreover, with the arrangement of the authorities concerned, 35 farmers from confiscated 26 villages on 16-6- 2013 made a study trip to Meiktila, Yamethin, Tatkon and Nay Pyi Taw where they observed agriculture and livestock breeding activities.

(7) According to reports of village development groups , heavy machinery and 835 gallons of fuel had been provided for availability of water for agriculture purpose.

(b) The environmental conservation team implemented the tasks of ensuring sustainable development while carrying out copper mining project in accord with the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment report and by formulating environmental management project and occupational health and safety measures project.

(i) In implementing the project, EIA and SIA works are being carried out in cooperation with Australia-based Knight Piesold Pty Ltd in accord with international standards and Construction Environmental and Social Management System (CESMS) had been drafted. Works will be continued to acquire three internationally-recognized ISO certificates in cooperation with Societe General de Surveillance. Moreover, works which are agreed with

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment-ESIA will be done at the same time while project is in progress.

(ii) The project area was divided into three zones for greening and ensuring environmental conservation. A total of 25280 plants had been grown at the dump sites in Sabeitaung and Kyaysintaung in zone (1), 860 on both sides of the road near Dontaw village, 500 near Kankon village and four baskets of pulses and beans had been scattered for soil restoration on the banks of dump sites. A total of 200 plants had been planted within a 100-foot radius of zone (2). Arrangements are being made to plant 22000 tissues of eucalyptus and scatter 30000 Maezale seeds at Wathmae-Kantaw nursery, 30000 tissues of eucalyptus and 20000 tree saplings at Hsede-Zeetaw Ywathit village this rainy season. Plans are underway to plant trees under contour line at vacant hillocks in zone (3).

(iii) A total of 1000 saplings had been planted in the area of 160 acres in the sanctuary area. Plans are underway to set 32.09 acres for providing new habitat for golden deer and more 861 plants had been grown for greening of Shwethamin sanctuary. Chain Link fencing works are underway to keep golden deer in an area of two acres at Natchittaung.

(iv) The environmental conservation committee had made field trips to villages for 19 times to hold discussions on people-centered environmental conservation and ensuring the Rule of Law and listen to the voice of local people.

(c) The socioeconomic implementation committee coordinated with Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited, Wenbao Company and the Ministry of Mines for the sake of the economic interest of the State in implementing the copper mining project.

(1) A work coordination meeting of the Ministry of Mines, Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited, Myanmar Wenbao Company Limited, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, the Attorney-General of the Union and experts was held on 24 June 2013 and a contract was drawn in accord with the suggestions of those present. The draft contract with the remarks of the Attorney-General Office was submitted to the Investment Commission on 8 July 2013. When ongoing works are done in accord with the rules and regulations, transparent disclosure of information regarding the contract will be made.

(2) As a drive for Corporate Social Responsibility, K 1361.4 million had been allocated for the villages in the project area for 2013-2014 fiscal year. Health sector includes construction of a station hospital and sports ground, health care service and availability of water. Education sector includes construction of libraries and provisions of publications and furniture for the libraries in 30 villages and construction of primary schools. Social sector includes village electrification process and repair works for village roads. Moreover, two fire trucks and 15 sets of computers and 20 sewing-machines had been presented to the new villages.

(3) At houses in newly-established villages, deputy ministers and regional ministers coordinated with representatives of village development groups and took measures for extension of kitchen at houses of under-five-member families and for building affiliated parts of the houses of over-five-member families for their convenience at their houses. So far, nine houses in Sede new village, six houses in Zidaw new village, 29 houses in Wat-hme new village, 42 houses in Kandaw new village totaling 86. At the villages, wooden lamp post were replaced with concrete ones and new transformers were installed and streets were constructed in the villages and village-to-village roads were constructed.

(4) Under the program of the Ministry of Education, work on construction and maintenance work were carried out at Moegyobyin (north) Basic Education Primary School, Wadan Basic Education Primary School, Aungchansi Basic Education Primary School, Kyauphyudaing post-primary school, Phaungkar post-primary school (north) and Htantawgyi Village Basic Education Primary School.

(5) Under the program of the Ministry of Health, plans are underway to establish a station hospital and to assign doctors, nurses and to provide medicines to rural health branches in accord with the organizational set up of the health care services.

(6) As it is found that the water in the well in Kangon Village in Dondaw Village-tract is not suitable to drink, Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Ltd have sunk a 4-inch tube-well and built a tank with a capacity of 5000 gallons and Myanmar-Yanxi installed two water purifier at the cost of USD 7000 in the eastern part of the village. In response to the report of the villagers on getting access to safe drinking water in western and northern parts of the village, responsible personnel of the Acid Plant sank a tube well till it reaches at the depth of 605 ft and found only mud. They took water found at the depth of 170 ft as a sample and tested it at a laboratory of Ministry of Health. As the laboratory test has shown that the water is not suitable to drink, arrangements will be made to pipe water from the water purifier at the eastern part of the village to northern and western parts of the village.

(7) To be able to create job opportunities, a computer training course was conducted at Wat-hme – Kandaw Village and 90 trainees have received computer skills, a vocational training course has trained 80 trainees, an advanced tailoring course has trained 26 trainees and a tailoring course has trained 150 trainees at Sarlingyi Garment Factory. A three-month tailoring course was launched on 3, June, 2013 and a trainee will receive K 2700 per day as a daily wage during the training period. One hundred and twenty-five trainees who have already received on-job training skills have been assigned to the mining project, and jobs have been created for a total of 1180 local people. Arrangements have been made to create more jobs for about 1300 people when the project is accelerated.

(8) Regarding Sulphuric Acid Plant, the regional government and regional environmental conservation and forest ministry, regional ministry of health and fire services department have inspected the plant to seek permission from Ministry of Industry, and measures are being taken to get permission from Ministry of Industry. To get ISO certificate as part of efforts for taking part in the environmental conservation, the plant has already signed agreement with the GIC (Guardian Independent Certification) Myanmar Co Ltd which is sub-branch of Singapore branch office of UK-based Company on 8 May 2013.

(D) Following the suggestions of the investigation commission to seek advices from the reverence Sayadaws and Members of the Sangha, to seek desires of the residents and to seek possible and sustainable means, the group which is taking measures for relocation of religious edifices and reconstructing, has been working together Stragha Evolution Building Shift Engineering Co Ltd from the People's Republic of China to be able to move the Latpadaungtaungyar Tawra Monastery and religious edifices to a suitable place. Paying respect to the belief of local people, three shrines near Kyaw Village have been moved to the place where they wanted and conducted ritual ceremonies.

3. The committee, in accordance with the suggestions of the investigation commission, has set up four groups. Region ministers, under the closely supervision of Sagaing Region Chief Minister, have made daily field trips to villages and have worked together with respective village development groups to implement the development tasks. The progress of the work will be reported occasionally.

Committee for Implementing the Investigation report on Latpadaungtaung Copper Mining  
Project Commission  
8, July 2013

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