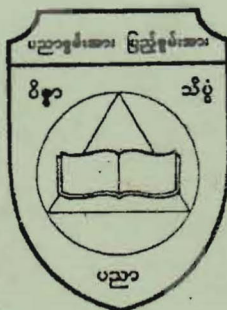


**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR**  
**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**



**THE MYANMAR ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE**

DECEMBER 18, 1999

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DECEMBER 18, 1999



# THE MYANMAR ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

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The role of the Academy is best understood in the context of these momentous changes in educational thinking. A knowledge old and new are being mobilized and assigned the task of raising the educational standard of the members of the public, regardless of their previous level of training, thereby contributing to poverty alleviation and economic growth which is in pursuit.

The Academy has also been charged with the task of up-grading and disseminating knowledge required by the country's "Age of Learning" through cooperation with national and international institutions.

# THE MYANMAR ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

## Preamble

The Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science was constituted on 16 August 1999 with 717 members and an Executive Committee comprising 24 members.

Presented below are a few salient facts regarding the paramount aim of the Academy, the situation leading to the formation of the Academy and its projected role in the creation of a new, modern and developed Myanmar nation.

The primary mission of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science is to participate in and contribute to the changes and reforms that are needed to prepare the up-and-coming generation to meet the educational challenges of the new millennium.

In Myanmar, beginning from 1988, there has been a sea change away from a rigid, examination-oriented system of education to a system of competency, applicability and recognition of prior learning attainments. The emphasis is on education and reeducation and on a free and more flexible system of education which will promote better learning opportunities for young people as well as old. Further chances are being given to those who, for various reasons, have missed out or dropped out of the educational race, but who still wish to improve their educational qualifications. In other words, the changes being implemented are designed to enhance opportunities for lifelong learning.

The role of the Academy is best considered in the context of these momentous changes in educational doctrine. Academicians old and new are being mobilized and assigned the task of raising the educational standard of the members of the public, regardless of their previous level of training, thereby contributing to poverty alleviation and improving the quality of their lives in general.

The Academy has also been charged with the duty of up-grading and disseminating knowledge required for the nascent "Age of Learning" through cooperation with national and international networks.

## Aims and Objectives of the Academy

The Aims and Objectives of the Academy are:-

1. To help in the building of a peaceful, modern and developed nation by means of the expertise and knowledge of the members of the Academy.
2. To undertake research which will be of benefit to the nation as well as provide guidelines for research activities.
3. To create new generations of academics and technocrats who will serve the nation.
4. To establish a firm foundation for the pursuit of the arts and sciences which are deemed essential for the development of the nation, and
5. To undertake programmes and measures for improving the educational aspirations, training and expertise of all those citizens who are actively involved in the development of the nation.

The Functions of the Academy are as follows:

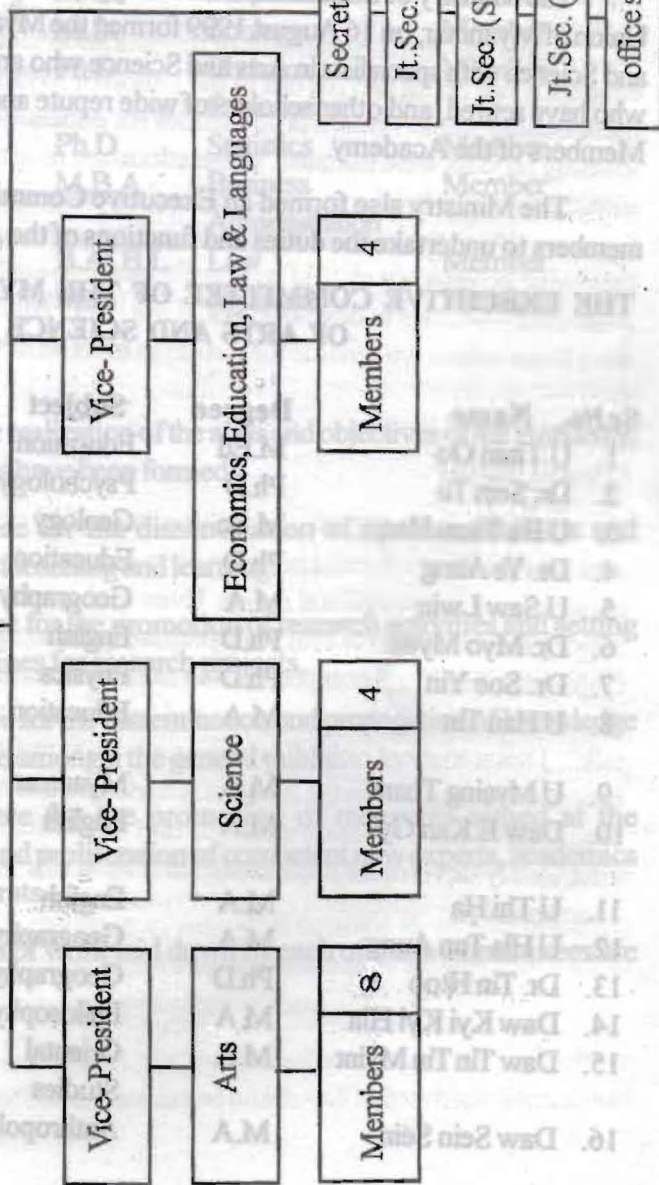
1. To form, with the prior approval of the Ministry, such Arts and Science committees as may be deemed necessary and to specify the duties and functions thereof.
2. To consult with such experts and specialists as may be necessary for the successful implementation and performance of the duties and functions of the Academy.
3. With the prior approval of the Ministry, to contact and cooperate with international agencies and scholars to undertake activities that will benefit the State and the Academy.
4. To assume such additional functions as may be assigned to it from time to time by the Ministry to enable the Academy to realize its Aims and Objectives.



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MYANMAR ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

1	President	1
2	Vice-President	3
3	Members	16
4	Secretary	1
5	Jt. Secretary	3
Total		24

President



## Formation of the Academy

The Ministry of Education, with the approval of the Government of the Union of Myanmar, on 16 August 1999 formed the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science with specialists in Arts and Science who are still in service, experts who have retired, and other scholars of wide repute and mature experience, as Members of the Academy.

The Ministry also formed an Executive Committee with the following members to undertake the duties and functions of the Academy.

### THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MYANMAR ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

Sr.No.	Name	Degree	Subject	Duties
1.	U Than Oo	M.Ed	Education	President
2.	Dr. Sein Tu	Ph.D	Psychology	Vice-President
3.	U Ba Than Haq	M.Sc	Geology	Vice-President
4.	Dr. Ye Aung	Ph.D	Education	Vice-President
5.	U Saw Lwin	M.A	Geography	Secretary
6.	Dr. Myo Myint	Ph.D	English	Jt. Sec. (Arts)
7.	Dr. Soe Yin	Ph.D	Physics	Jt. Sec. (Science)
8.	U Han Tin	M.A	Education	Jt. Sec. (Other Subjects)
9.	U Myaing Thant	M.A	Myanmar	Member
10.	Daw E.Kan Gyi	M.A	English	Member (deceased)
11.	U Thi Ha	M.A	English	Member
12.	U Hla Tun Aung	M.A	Geography	Member
13.	Dr. Tin Htoo	Ph.D	Geography	Member
14.	Daw Kyi Kyi Hla	M.A	Philosophy	Member
15.	Daw Tin Tin Myint	M.A	Oriental Studies	Member
16.	Daw Sein Sein	M.A	Anthropology	Member

Sr.No.	Name	Degree	Subject	Duties
17.	Dr. Hla Way	Ph.D	Chemistry	Member
18.	U Sein Min	M.Sc	Mathematics	Member
19.	U Soe Thu	M.Sc	Zoology	Member
20.	Dr. Myo Thant Tin	Ph.D	Chemical Engineering	Member
21.	Dr. Thet Lwin	Ph.D	Statistics	Member
22.	Daw Yi Yi Myint	M.B.A	Business Administration	Member
23.	U Sai Maung	B.A, B.L	Law	Member
24.	U Shwe Thwin	M.A	Myanmar	Member

### Programmes of Work

To work toward the realization of the aims and objectives of the Academy, the following Committees have been formed:

1. A Committee for the dissemination of modern methods and techniques of teaching and learning.
2. A Committee for the promotion of research activities and setting up of guidelines for research projects.
3. A Committee for the dissemination and propagation of knowledge and expertise amongst the general public.
4. A Committee for the promotion of measures aimed at the production and proliferation of competent new experts, academics and technocrats.

The programmes of work laid down by each of these Committees are detailed below.

- (d) To draw up curricula for the various disciplines which are suitable for the current needs and which will help achieve the national education objectives.



## The Teaching-Learning Committee

### Introduction

1. Many far-reaching reforms of the education sector, both basic and higher education are being carried out in the Union of Myanmar. It was in 1998 that these quality improvement programmes for education based on the teaching-learning process were initiated. These education programmes aim to contribute towards national development as well as the personal enrichment of individuals. For education to achieve this aim it must be both creative and innovative. Through creativity, novel ideas should be transformed into useful programmes that help overcome obstacles to development. It is a better educated and suitably trained workforce which will enable the nation to meet its development needs.

### Present Status

2. Till very recently, the education system of Myanmar seemed to be mainly concerned with intellectual needs and less concerned with vocational, industrial, personal and interpersonal needs. Even in the case of intellectual needs, the major preoccupation is still with preparing for examinations which tends to emphasize recall and comprehension rather than critical and creative thinking. Rote learning is still being encouraged and the preferred method is "chalk and talk". This is true not only of primary and secondary schools but also of tertiary education institutions. In the future, it is envisaged that a more balanced curriculum would have to be insisted upon, so that individual students would be more adequately developed *physically, intellectually, morally, aesthetically and vocationally*.

13. Dr. Tin Hlaing	Ph.D	Geography	Member
14. Daw Kyi Kyi Hla	M.A	Philosophy	Member
15. Daw Tin Tin Myint	M.A	Oriental Studies	Member
16. Daw Sein Sein	M.A	Anthropology	Member



## Objectives

3. The major objectives identified for the teaching-learning process are:
  - (a) To ensure, by increasing the effectiveness of the teaching-learning process, the success of the education quality improvement programmes for basic education being implemented by the Ministry of Education.
  - (b) In a like manner as above, to ensure the success of the education quality improvement programmes for tertiary education.
  - (c) To create learning opportunities for all age groups thereby ensuring lifelong education.
  - (d) To carry out education innovations and introduce teaching-learning methodologies in keeping with the Age of Information and Communication Technology.

## Plan of Action

4. To achieve the objectives set, the following plan of action is proposed whereby the Academy will be able to advise and assist in the various activities.
  - (a) To replace in the basic education schools, methodologies which encourage rote learning with those methodologies which ensure a progression system based on continuous assessment.
  - (b) To reassess the existing curriculum used in basic education schools.
  - (c) To propose the holding of refresher courses as well as updating and upgrading courses for basic education school teachers to improve their professional competency.
  - (d) To draw up curricula for teacher education courses which are suitable for the current needs and which will help achieve the national education objectives.

- (e) To successfully implement the higher education quality improvement programmes which were agreed upon during the national seminars on higher education.
- (f) To effectively implement upgrading programmes whereby the professional competency and capacity of the academic staff will be further enhanced.
- (g) To apply teaching-learning methodologies in distance education which are compatible with the Age of Information and Communication Technology.
- (h) To establish regular University Pedagogic Courses in Teacher Education to carry out orientation as well as in-service training to improve the professional capacity of the higher education academic staff.
- (i) To further expand the existing Human Resource Development programmes being implemented by the Centres for Human Resource Development (CHRD) at the various universities, institutes, degree colleges and colleges.
- (j) To encourage research in the area of teaching-learning.
- (k) To propose ways for the effective use of multi-media in education.
- (l) To assist in the Education for All (EFA) endeavours of the nation.
- (m) To effectively promote out-of-school education.

### **Networking**

5. In order to achieve the Objectives set out and to implement the Plan of Action, the Academy will

- (a) collaborate with other ministries involved in the education sector as well as assist in the co-ordination of the educational activities of

the ten departments under the Ministry of Education,

- (b) advise and assist the various universities and institutes together with their affiliated colleges to take a leadership role and to encourage them to become Centres of Excellence (in the education sector),
- (c) try to assist the Institutes of Education (which are under the Department of Higher Education) and their affiliated Colleges of Education (which are under the Department of Planning and Training) to set up a network and database much like those being set up by the higher education institutions; the Institutes of Education together with their Colleges of Education may be regarded as a bridge between basic education and higher education, and
- (d) collaborate with UN agencies which are involved in the education sector such as UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO, ACCU, ACEID, as well as non-UN agencies such as ASEAN, SEAMEO together with the various national and international NGOs.

## Conclusion

6. The Academy will try to achieve the aims it has set out for the teaching-learning process by collaborating with the various governmental, non-governmental and international organizations.



## **The Research Co-Ordination Committee**

### **Introduction**

1. The task of the Research Coordination Committee under the Executive Committee of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science is to suggest a plan of action for Arts and Science, Economics, Law and Education, giving guidance in carrying out language research projects, producing research scholars, carrying out research projects beneficial to the state, developing research-related basic opportunities and skills development, perpetuating each individual subject.

### **Present Situation**

2. Research projects to improve teaching and to develop the courses as well as those for Ph.D. degrees are being carried out in the universities. Research projects are also being carried out individually or collectively through research grants. Some of these projects are being carried out in collaboration with international organizations, other government departments and business organizations. It has been found that there is a great need for relevant data and statistics, references and journals, advanced laboratory equipment and appropriate technology.

### **Objectives**

3. The academy will advise and assist the various institutions in carrying out research projects in accordance with the following objectives.

- (a) To give priority to research that would benefit nation building tasks.
- (b) To carry out research projects for the development of human resources and natural material resources.
- (c) To train and produce skilled research scholars in the respective disciplines of Arts and Science.

- (d) To find ways and means of getting the necessary reference materials and advanced laboratory equipment.
- (e) To find ways to contact international research organizations for collaborative research work.

### **Plan of action**

4. The following plan of action is proposed.

- (a) To set up a database and a web-site by collecting information on research projects relating to arts and science, and statistical information concerning the development of human resources and natural material resources.
- (b) To set up a database of the research projects being carried out by Myanmar universities, research departments and researchers, and of published research papers.
- (c) To make a collection of international research journals and papers, research papers published by various universities and to make arrangements for the exchange of Myanmar research papers with international research papers.
- (d) To find out the kind of research projects which will meet the requirements of the various government departments and business enterprises and to make arrangements for the respective researchers and experts to carry out the necessary projects.
- (e) To make arrangements to obtain the help and collaboration of scholars/experts for the research projects being carried out at various universities and for Ph.D research projects, as well as to acquire improved research techniques and methodologies from acknowledged experts.



- (f) To provide incentives so that interest in research and research work will be promoted.
- (g) To make arrangements to obtain cooperation from international research organizations for the purpose of carrying out research projects.
- (h) To hold research paper reading sessions, for the purpose of bringing out papers of quality with the advice, guidance and supervision of scholars/experts, and to enable the presentation of such papers at international conferences and seminars.
- (i) To not only collect together all the research papers read at paper-reading sessions in order to publish a research journal, but also to print and publish research theses of quality, to translate research work written in Myanmar into English for distribution abroad; if necessary, to get scholars to translate research works written in foreign languages into Myanmar for the transmission of knowledge.
- (j) To find ways and means of providing necessary up-to-date research equipment in order to carry out research projects that meet international standards.
- (k) To draw up programmes for scholars/experts of various disciplines, to conduct multiplier training courses for university staff and Ph.D students so as to ensure the steady and continuous emergence of researchers in Myanmar.
- (l) To establish Multi-media Learning Centers for disseminating research knowledge and methodology as well as technical know-how, in order to equip students with sound basic research techniques.
- (m) To train and produce skilled research personnel in various disciplines of Arts and Science.

## Networking

5. The Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science will advise and assist:
  - (a) scholars to collaborate with other scholars in carrying out research projects,
  - (b) universities and research organizations within the country to collaborate with one another, and
  - (c) local researchers and research organizations to carry out research projects in collaboration with international academics.

## Conclusion

6. For the development of the various disciplines, on-going research work in those fields of study should be carried out unceasingly by scholars and academicians. Favourable conditions and environments should be created for research work of vital importance to the nation building process. It is the aim and objective of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science to help bring these plans to fruition.

- (c) To encourage the writing and publication of books in high academic standards that expose, expand and create new knowledge.

- (f) To establish information centres and libraries to enhance the dissemination of knowledge.

(a) To create opportunities and encourage the exchange of knowledge.



## **The Committee for the Advancement and Dissemination of Knowledge**

### **Introduction**

1. The advances and progress made in Information Technology and Computer Science have produced innovative methods in the dissemination of knowledge and exchange of information at an enhanced pace. To enable the people of Myanmar to keep abreast of developments the world over, the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science has thus drawn up a programme to advise and assist in the advancement and dissemination of knowledge.

### **The Present Situation**

2. To steadfastly enhance learning and education as well as other professional skills of the people of Myanmar, the various ministries are at present conducting their own programmes for the dissemination of knowledge by means of newspapers, radio and television broadcasts. Universities, degree colleges, colleges and basic educational schools also hold seminars, paper-reading sessions and educative lectures in their endeavours to enhance and disseminate knowledge.

3. The following programme has been drawn up not only with a view to making these endeavours more effective and to render assistance where necessary, but also to supplement more extensive measures for the dissemination of the latest advances in knowledge and education for the benefit of people of different strata.

### **Objectives**

4. The main objectives in the dissemination of knowledge are:

- (a) To create opportunities and suitable conditions for the enhancement of learning and exchange of knowledge.

- (b) To disseminate knowledge and utilize it in the interest of the people and for the development of the State.
- (c) To make known internationally the results of research and study carried out in Myanmar and make accessible to the people of Myanmar advances made in the world in various fields of study.
- (d) To incorporate up-to-date and more effective methods into existing procedures of knowledge dissemination.

### **Plan of Action**

5. The following tasks are to be implemented for the realization of the specified objectives.

- (a) To provide facilities and opportunities for the printing and publication of books, papers and treatises researched or compiled by scholars in various fields.
- (b) To make available to the people new approaches to learning and more effective methods of self-study and research.
- (c) To arrange lecture-circuits for Myanmar scholars and people prominent in their fields and to invite guest-speakers from abroad as well as to conduct seminars and workshops periodically.
- (d) To employ media facilities such as radio, television, video films, cassette tapes and when feasible, the Intranet and Internet to enhance dissemination of knowledge.
- (e) To encourage the writing and publication of books of high scholastic standards that expound original and creative ideas.
- (f) To establish information centres, with well-stocked libraries and multimedia facilities.

- (g) To set up an archive section to store in book form and on CD-ROMs educative programmes broadcast on radio and television or downloaded from the Internet, and to distribute copies to appropriate learning centres and public libraries. To produce CD-ROMs on various subjects in consultation with computer experts and technical organizations.
- (h) To compile and produce in book form and on CD-ROMs lectures by teachers, scientists and researchers and educative talks by learned guest speakers.
- (i) To encourage translation of books, texts and research papers from the Myanmar language to other foreign languages and foreign language publications to Myanmar.
- (j) To put up a proposal for award of an appropriate prize for the best translation from the Myanmar language to another foreign language.
- (k) To establish an endowment fund for scholastic awards and naming the award after the donor.
- (l) To implement similar programmes for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge at primary and secondary education levels once the work has gained momentum.

## **Networking**

6. For implementation of the defined tasks and achieving the specified objectives, networking procedures will involve:

- (a) Sponsoring visiting and exchange programmes of academicians of various universities, colleges and higher institutes of learning and scholars and specialists from other fields,



- (b) Establishing mutual relations with scholars of the ASEAN, AUN, SEAMO, UN Agencies and other NGOs and gaining access to their respective libraries and information centres,
- (c) Setting up a database of lectures delivered, and of books, papers and treatises compiled and written by scholars on various subjects, and
- (d) Sponsoring a book exchange programme with relevant organizations of other countries.

## **Conclusion**

7. Every effort will be made to achieve success in implementing the Plan of Action and the required Networking for the realization of the said objectives.

## **The Committee for the Nurturing of Scholars and Intellectuals.**

### **Introduction**

1. An on- going programme to nurture scholars and intellectuals is vital to the socio-economic development and cultural growth and enrichment of a nation. Hence, this document to enumerate the tasks of such a programme.

### **Present situation**

2. Currently, schools at the Basic Education level are engaged in programmes of their own to promote the emergence of outstanding students. At the Higher Education level, under the "one- campus-two- systems" programme, Diploma and Certificate courses are offered in addition to the usual undergraduate and graduate courses. Moreover, students with outstanding scholastic abilities in the various disciplines of tertiary education are given the recognition due them in the form of scholarships, stipends and exemption from tuition fees.

## Objectives

3. The main objectives of the programme to nurture scholars and intellectuals are:

- (a) to nurture students of outstanding scholastic abilities from the level of Basic Education right through to the level of Higher Education
- (b) to grant deserving awards to outstanding students and scholars
- (c) to upgrade the non-formal education programmes of each region in order to enrich local customs and traditions, and to promote their scholastic potentials
- (d) to obtain aid and assistance from both local and foreign governmental as well as non- governmental organizations, and private individuals for the nurturing of outstanding scholars in the form of awards and endowments

## Plan of action

4. In order to realize those objectives, the tasks to be carried out are:

- (a) to find means and ways of awarding scholarships, stipends, and exemption from tuition fees to students of the Basic Education level who show outstanding scholastic abilities in either a single subject or in all subjects
- (b) to award university scholarships, stipends, and exemption from tuition fees to outstanding students pursuing further studies in universities, institutes, degree colleges, and colleges, and to grant loans to needy students
- (c) to award scholarships to students with outstanding academic achievements in individual subjects offered by all universities, degree colleges and colleges



- (d) to award memorial prizes, private individual awards and medals to those students who pass the Honours and postgraduate examinations with distinction
- (e) to find ways and means, and to give whatever assistance required, for the conducting of doctoral programmes for subjects which as yet have no such programmes
- (f) to find ways and means to award scholarships for studies abroad to outstanding graduates, to send them on study tours in their respective fields of specialization, to allow them to participate in seminars and workshops, and to give them preference in promotions
- (g) to give due recognition and grant awards (as part of non-formal education programmes) to those who are outstanding in promoting regional culture and those exceptional in traditional vocation and trade
- (h) to advise in matters of obtaining financial aid and other forms of assistance from local and foreign governmental as well as non-governmental organizations, from private enterprises (including the establishment of endowment funds) in order to grant loans and stipends to needy students to help them continue and complete their studies
- (i) to look for means and ways and put forward appropriate on-going upgrading programmes for postgraduate and post-doctoral scholars
- (j) to give "Excellence in Research Awards" to the best of the research papers in the fields of arts and science in order to promote the academic and intellectual endeavours of scholars
- (k) to give "Arts and Science Awards" to the best of theses and publications in the fields of arts and science
- (l) to give "Arts and Science Translation Awards" to the best pieces of translation in the fields of arts and science in order to provide an incentive to scholars for quality translation

- (m) to propose to a university to bestow an "Honorary Ph.D." upon those scholars who best satisfy the criteria adopted by the Executive Committee of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science
- (n) to propose to a university to bestow an "Emeritus" honour upon a retired professor who has been judged eminent in his/her field of specialization by the standards adopted by the Executive Committee of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science

### **Networking**

5. To realize the objectives set forth and for effective implementation of programmes, interdepartmental coordination and co-operation will be sought through networking among the departments listed below:

- (a) For the Basic Education level, there will be networking among the Director Generals/Chairmen of Departments of Basic Education, Departments of Higher Education, Myanmar Educational Research Bureau, Department of Myanmar Language Commission, Board of Examinations of the Union of Myanmar, Professors and Heads of Departments, under the Ministry of Education.
- (b) For the Higher Education level, there will be networking among the Directors General/Chairmen of the Departments of Higher Education, Department of Universities' Historical Research, Department of Myanmar Language Commission, Department of Myanmar Historical Commission, Rectors, Principals, Professors and Heads of Departments of universities, degree colleges and colleges.
- (c) For formal and non-formal education, networking will be established with the Myanmar Radio and Television Department, Department of Information and Public Relations, News and Periodicals Enterprise under the Ministry of Information, Department of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development



Affairs, and Degree Colleges under the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs.

- (d) For practical experience for the enhancement of academic achievement, networking will be established with the Departments, Enterprises, Universities, Degree Colleges and Colleges under other Ministries, as well as with Universities under the Public Services Selection and Training Board.
- (e) There will be networking also with local governmental and non-governmental organizations, UN agencies, foreign governmental and non-governmental organizations, and private individuals as well, for necessary aid assistance.

## Conclusion

6. All programmes for the nurturing of scholars and intellectuals will be implemented by carrying out the various tasks with appropriate networking to realize the objectives set forth.

## Resolution

The establishment of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science underlines the crucial role assigned to academicians, experts and technocrats by the State in its endeavour to build a new, modern and developed Myanmar nation. The Academy is fully committed to this undertaking, and the entire membership of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science is firmly resolved to do everything within its power to help fulfil the national aspirations of the State and the people.