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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

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INFO : CHIANG MAI SONGKHLA UDORN

FROM : Amembassy BANGKOK DATE: December 1, 1972

SUBJECT : NEC Report on Accomplishments

REF : Bangkok 16951

Attached as an unclassified enclosure to this airgram is an unofficial USIS translation of the NEC report on its accomplishments during the first year since the coup. The 19 page report (in Thai) was released as Report Number 828/2515 by the Public Relations Office of the NEC. It is the report referred to in para. 10 of Bangkok 16951.

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we hope that this action taken by the National Executive Council will bring prosperity and security to the country and the nation. The King exhorted the National Executive Council to perform all work in a spirit of love and

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ENCLOSURE TO
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PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE — REPORT NO. 828/2515
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL — November 17, 1972

Today (Nov. 17, 1972), religious ceremonies were held marking the 1st anniversary of the November 17 revolution at the headquarters of the National Executive Council in Sanam Suapa. Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn, Chairman of the National Executive Council, presided over the ceremonies.

The National Executive Council seized powers for administration of the country on November 17, 1971, at 19.00 hours. A statement was issued informing the people that the National Executive Council will always be devoted and loyal to the King who is in a sacred position and must not be violated. The reason for the seizure of power this time was to safeguard the Monarchy as an Institution with the King as Head of the nation for ever. The National Executive Council pledged that no changes would be made to any institution unless necessary for the security of the country and nation. The National Executive Council proclaimed martial law throughout the Kingdom on November 17, 1971, at 20.11 hours, abrogated the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand B.E. 2511 (1968), and dissolved Parliament.

On November 17, at 22.50 hours, the Chairman and all other members of the National Executive Council were granted audience by His Majesty the King in Chitrlada Rahothan Palace in order to submit a report to His Majesty of the reasons that made it necessary for them to stage this revolution. His Majesty the King delivered an address in which he expressed the hope that this action taken by the National Executive Council will bring prosperity and security to the country and the nation. The King exhorted the National Executive Council to perform all work in a spirit of love and

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unity, for all work performed to obtain results benefitting the country and the nation, as stated by the Chairman of the National Executive Council in the report submitted.

The National Executive Council set up its Administrative Council to be in charge of routine administration of the country on November 20, 1971. The first resolution passed by the NEC Administrative Council at its first meeting was for the National Executive Council to perform work to the utmost of its ability, as desired by His Majesty the King.

Throughout the time that the National Executive Council has been in administration of the country all the work it has performed and all actions taken have been in accordance with targets drafted and with the objective to make the country progressive and prosperous and for the people to enjoy peace and contentment above all else. The National Executive Council has never wanted to use the total powers possessed to be in administration of the country for ever. On the contrary it is its firm intention to develop a system of government that is suited to national conditions existing, and that is firmly and stably based on a democratic system.

The National Executive Council has taken actions in order to strengthen national stability and security, such as by reorganizing plans for the protection of the country, including Thailand's own plans and those drafted jointly with friendly countries, in order to make them suited to and coordinate with developments in the situation. It is closely following up the fighting and military situation in this part of the world which might have repercussions on the security of Thailand. It has withdrawn Thai troops from South Vietnam and from South Korea to use them to protect our country. It has put in force measures necessary to halt aggression and infiltration of communist terrorists who are carrying on

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subversion to destroy various institutions, as well as to destroy the peace and contentment of the people. The National Executive Council has drafted and is implementing a policy to make Thailand self-dependent and self-reliant, capable to protect itself and to safeguard national independence and sovereignty.

In the suppression of communist terrorists the National Executive Council has used drastic suppression measures. It has used armed force to mop up big pockets of communist terrorist forces, such as mopping up actions taken in Phu Hin Long Kla and in various areas in provinces in the Southern region. Measures have been taken simultaneously to encourage and persuade persons who have been deluded into committing offenses to come and surrender voluntarily to the authorities, and every effort has been made to explain to the people the danger of communism so that they will see and realize it. In spite of all these actions taken by the National Executive Council, the situation has been eased in some areas only, thus showing clearly that the situation is not trustworthy yet.

Measures have been taken to remedy problems faced that concern the peace and contentment of the people. In addition to amending laws, rules and regulations and procedures, as well as amending the Criminal Code in order to increase penalties for persons who commit major offenses, the National Executive Council has used the total powers it possesses to punish persons who committed heinous offences with no fear of the law. The Chairman of the National Executive Council has ordered the execution of 31 persons who committed various heinous crimes. He has ordered 12 persons to be imprisoned for life, 71 persons to various terms of imprisonment depending on the seriousness of the crime committed, and he has ordered the confiscation of assets and property of 9 persons. These persons who have been punished by orders issued by the Chairman of the National Executive Council include 38 government officials who were dishonest in the performance of their official duties.

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In administration of the country the National Executive Council reorganized alignment of national policy to coordinate with continual and large-scale developments in the situation at present, as well as to promote and expand good relations with all countries. It concentrates on easing tension in the world and in this region by its policy to promote good relations with every and all countries that do not display evil intentions toward Thailand. The National Executive Council gave permission for the Table Tennis Association of Thailand to send a team to take part in the Asian table tennis championship contests held in Peking, and it sent a trade mission to attend the Canton trade fair. In regard to relations with other countries, the National Executive Council has established diplomatic relations with two additional countries, Bangladesh and the People's Republic of Poland. At the same time, it has continued promoting good relations with all friendly countries. Many Chiefs of State and heads of governments of foreign countries have visited Thailand, such as Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom and the President of India.

In regard to measures taken to promote the living conditions of the people, the National Executive Council has announced plans for the promotion of domestic industries, housing projects for the people, and the third national economic and social development plan has been revised to make it more suitable. In addition, measures have been taken to remedy and improve various things concerned with society, culture, and the education and health of the people.

Results of work performed by the National Executive Council in economic fields can be seen clearly. Thailand's trade balance is being improved and foreign currency reserves have been increased.

In the laying down of a stable foundation for government and

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administration of the country. Ministries and Departments have been reorganised and out-dated rules and regulations in administration of the country have been revised and made more suitable to cope with the situation. In addition, plans have been drafted to reorganise and improve administration of the country at all levels, including village, sanitation, municipal, and provincial administration. All these plans are with the objective to lay down a stable foundation for a democratic system of government in the future. Some of these projects have been completed and put in force already, while some other are still being carried on.

The National Executive Council has drafted a 3-stage project for reorganization of administration of the country:-

1. A revolutionary stage during which the National Executive Council uses powers possessed to lay down a basis or foundation for official administration in general;

2. During this second stage an organization will be set up for administration of the country in accordance with a democratic system, using an interim constitution as the principle for the government of the country; and

3. During this third stage there will be a permanent constitution when there will be a general election of members of the legislature. At present, the legal advisers of the Chairman of the National Executive Council have completed the drafting of an interim constitution for the government of the country and the draft is under study at present. This interim constitution will be proclaimed and put in force as speedily as possible in order that administration of the country may enter the second stage.

In short, if the revolutionary period that is past is considered

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in a fair and impartial manner, it will be seen that all the people enjoy steadily increasing stability and security for their lives and assets, especially when a comparison is made with the situation in neighboring countries. The National Executive Council has exerted itself to the utmost of its ability and in all ways to make our country progressive and prosperous and to promote the living conditions of the people so that they may enjoy happiness normal to their respective conditions. Though the National Executive Council possesses total powers for government of the country it has never used those powers in any way that might cause hardship to honest and law-abiding persons. On the contrary, it has used those total powers to suppress persons who are a danger to society, regardless who they might be, in order to protect the welfare and well-being of the people in general. All persons who are honest possess freedom in full to choose the way of life they prefer. Peace and contentment, national stability, and a feeling of confidence in the security of the lives and of the assets of all the people, have been greatly increased, thus being proof of the good results obtained from work performed by the National Executive Council. Regarding success achieved in all work performed, the National Executive Council wishes to thank all the Thai people for the excellent cooperation they have given it throughout.

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Administrative work of the National Executive Council has been to make administration efficient, speedy, and beneficial for the people and the country. The National Executive Council is composed of the NEC Administrative Council, which has the NEC Chairman as chairman and 16 members; advisers of the NEC Chairman who give him advice on various activities determined by the NEC Chairman who appoints them also; the NEC Secretariat; a section safeguarding national security; a section in charge of economy,

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finance and industry; a section in charge of development, agriculture, and communications; a section in charge of education and public health; and activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Ministry of Justice are supervised and directed by the Chairman of the National Executive Council.

Results of work performed by various sections are as follows:-

NATIONAL SECURITY: In regard to protection of our country, drafters of Defense policy and plans have reorganized the military project drafted by the National Security Council in order to make it suited to the situation. The changes that have been made concentrate on the training of the armed forces in fighting to a much greater extent, and to reorganize the training to make it suited to the present situation and in order to make them self-reliant.

RESULTS OF WORK OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON POLICY AND INTERIOR PLANS

Interior work in the section safeguarding national security has not obtained good results only from supervision of routine official administration and speeded up performance of work and checking up of work, but projects have been drafted to promote the welfare of the people and to ensure that better results are obtained from official administration of the country in the future. Projects of importance are:-

PROJECT SETTING UP A NATIONAL HOUSING PLAN: This will be a work unit providing housing of their own at a low cost to people who have small and medium incomes throughout the country. It will combine the work of 4 separate work units -- the Housing Bureau, the Office of Slum Clearance, the Housing Welfare Division, and the Housing Welfare Bank. This project is under study by the legal advisory committee of the National Executive Council.

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GROUP OF OFFICIALS DRAFTING PLANS CONCERNING PUBLIC UTILITIES IN CAPITAL C

A group of officials has been set up to draft plans for the coordination of operation and work of public utilities in the Bangkok/Thonburi metropolitan city, which will help reduce hardships caused to the people to the minimum.

COLLEGE OF ADMINISTRATION SET UP TO DEVELOP CAPABILITY OF OFFICIALS

The College of Administration will have curricula for administrative officials at various levels, as well as curricula for officials attached to districts. This will give administrative officials at all levels the opportunity to undergo additional studies and training, from the level of clerks, palad amphoes, heads of sections, nai amphoes, palad changwad or chiefs of divisions, up to high levels, before they are appointed to the positions of directors of divisions, deputy provincial governors, or provincial governors. This will enable administrative officials, whose duty it is to serve the people, to prepare themselves and be able to perform their official duties with efficiency and justice and to perform the task of promoting the welfare and well-being of the people speedily, as well as to be able to cope with changes and developments in the social situation.

REORGANIZATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE WORK IN THE PROVINCES

Consideration has been paid to the revision of income in districts, the revision of administrative rules and regulations in tambons and villages, the reorganization of provincial administration, and the reorganization of district administration, in order for administrative work to obtain greater and better results.

In the revision of income of districts, the main policy implemented is based on 3 principles: for districts to find sources of income themselves to the greatest extent possible in order to promote self-government in accordance with a democratic regime; the principle of justice; and

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the principle of thrift and to provide facilities in administration.

The revision of administrative rules and regulations in tambons and villages is in a new form. The main principles of this revision are: to specify the minimum age of kamnans and puyaibans at 25 years, and for them to be retired when they reach the age of 60; fixing the qualifications required for kamnans and puyaibans at a higher level than in the past. They must be able to read and write Thai and have a knowledge of Thai at the minimum level of a 4th primary certificate, or its equivalent. Kamnans will be elected directly by the people, selecting them from puyaibans. The administrative work of tambon council committees will be reorganized to make it more practical. Free primary school teachers will no longer be members of tambon council committees automatically but they could be selected to perform the duties of secretaries of committees. Women have the right to stand for election as members of tambon council committees (one person for each village) and women enjoy equal right to men. In order that tambons may have sufficient income for development, it has been fixed that annual subsidies provided by the Ministry of Interior shall be at the rate of 50 percent of the taxes collected for upkeep of districts in respective tambons. There are other sources of income of tambons, such as house tax, fees for permits to slaughter livestock, and fees from use of natural resources.

This work plan has been studied and approved by the Juridical Council already.

The reorganization of provincial administration and the revision of the authority and powers of provincial governors, for greater suitability, are being studied by the NEC legal advisory committee.

The reorganization of district administration is being studied by the advisory committee on Interior policy and plans.

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DEVELOPMENT OF FREE PRIMARY EDUCATION: There are many problems faced in this branch of work, such as the large number of children in compulsory primary education classes who fail in their examinations every year; the need to provide aid to needy schoolchildren in poor circumstances; shortage of teachers; lack of sufficient school buildings. During the 1970 scholastic year as many as 642,524 free primary schoolchildren failed in their examinations, totalling 16.4 percent of these schoolchildren. Most of the children who failed in their examinations were in the 1st primary class, and they totalled 285,700 children, or 26.3 percent. In regard to teachers, in 1971 the Bureau of Provincial Administration suffered a shortage of 12,081 teachers, and there are now still as many as 1,286 schools that have only one teacher per school.

In development of free primary education many measures are being taken to remedy the problems mentioned above, and it is considered a most urgent project. It includes expanding of compulsory education, amendment of the law governing primary education, revision of the National education plan, revision of the Cabinet decision concerning rights of free primary teachers attached to schools in remote and arid districts, reorganizing the income of tambons for education, providing free primary education in districts that have special characteristics, as well as determining the standard suitable for buildings of free primary school. Work to remedy these problems has been started or is at the stage of drafting plans in detail.

DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE AND MANPOWER: Work is being carried on to remedy the system of registration of the people, and to reorganize work units to remedy child and juvenile problems, and other problems.

DEVELOPMENT OF USE OF LAND AND TOWN PLANNING: The Ministry of Interior has been instructed to issue N.S. 3 throughout the country,

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using aerial maps and pictures. The bill governing town planning and the bill on supervision of land reform are being revised and amended, and they are being studied by legal advisers of the Chairman of the National Executive Council.

PLANS TO MAKE PUBLIC UTILITIES MORE REGULE AND SAFE: More bridges will be constructed linking Bangkok and Thonburi. The Naval Dockyard will be transferred to a new site. An announcement issued by the National Executive Council specifies that parking places for cars and public roads will be built between and around big buildings. The Ministry of Interior has been instructed to reorganize pipe water services. An order has been issued for electricity in rural areas to be reorganized. A committee has been set up to draft plans and details for the dredging of canals in order to use them for draining of rain water, and canals in the Bangkok/Thonburi metropolitan city are being dredged and cleaned. A committee has been set up to study the problem of building and reorganizing public places and the environments. A law is being drafted to supervise construction work by private individuals. The setting up of an office for the promotion of vocational institutions is under consideration.

REORGANIZING THE EFFICIENCY AND WELFARE OF OFFICIALS: The advisory committee on policy and Interior plans has taken up for consideration the revision of salaries of officials, the revision of rates of special allowances, the cost of transport and the cost of rent of houses to live in of officials, financial aid for medical services for officials, emphasis for officials to provide facilities to the people, ways to remedy the problem of lack of efficiency of officials as well as their attitude and conduct in remote and arid districts.

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EXECUTIVE DIVISION FOR PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION OF PERSONS WHOSE ACTIVITIES AND CONDUCT ARE A DANGER TO SOCIETY

In order to alleviate the hardships of the people and to enable honest people to live and earn a living in normal and peaceful conditions, the National Executive Council has set up an executive division for the prevention and suppression of persons whose activities are a danger to society.

Persons who are a danger to society are persons who have the following characteristics and activities:-

1. Persons selling illegal weapons;

2. Hoodlums, prostitutes, illegal lottery numbers racketeers;

3. Juveniles who are quarrelsome and like to create incidents;

4. Moneylenders who bleed the people;

5. Persons who possess "dark" influence and who use it to destroy natural resources of the nation;

6. Merchants who have influential backing;

7. Officials who use their official position dishonestly to oppress and molest and cause hardships to the people; and

8. Dishonest persons who are engaged in dirty activities.

Throughout the time it has been performing work, this executive division for prevention and suppression of persons whose activities and actions are a danger to society has received a very large number of complaints from members of the public, and it has taken action to remedy the hardships suffered by all persons asking for help.

Most of the complaints are problems concerning land and they total about 200 cases. About 70 cases have been remedied through mediation in a manner that was satisfactory to all persons concerned.

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Other complaints received on other subjects are problems concerning operation of public buses, and unfair treatment on the part of officials, and most of these complains involve officials attached to districts. About 180 complaints were received on unfairness of officials and/about 20 of the complaints have been investigated and overcome satisfactorily through mediation.

In addition to helping remedy the troubles and hardships of people submitting complaints, this executive division has also made it its business to remedy the hardship caused to the people by shortage of white cane sugar and its high price, due to merchants and sugar factories increasing the price before new supplies of sugar came into the market. Action taken has been to attach 45,518 gunnybags of white cane sugar, then to supervise the sale of this sugar by the owners to the people. During the period, November 5-14, 11,785 gunnybags of sugar have been sold this way, and 5,457 gunnybags of sugar have been sold to government/factories and to Changwad Companies, totalling 17,240 gunnybags of sugar.

Regarding the problem of money lenders, 1,150 persons have submitted complaints either in person or through letters appealing for help against money lenders who were bleeding them. The executive division for prevention and suppression of persons whose activities are a danger to society took action, but based on consideration that should any money lender not be a serious danger to society for mediation to be resorted to. Satisfactory results have been obtained, such as some cases filed against debtors being withdrawn, and for the real amount of money loaned being repaid with interest as specified by law. But in the case of any money lender whose activities are a serious danger to society, he was detained in custody for interrogation and checking up of taxes he has paid to the State. As a

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result of investigation and interrogation of 8 money lenders, taxes owed to the State and fines imposed totalled 14,851,446.25 baht.

In regard to dishonest practices in military conscription, persons committing offenses or cooperating in dishonest actions in the inspection and selection of able-bodied men for military service in 1972 were arrested. Checks xx made of dishonesty in 23 amphoes led to the arrest of 87 military and 12 civilian offenders, who have been punished by an order issued by the Chairman of the National Executive Council. In 5 other amphoes the punishment of 30 military and 6 civilian offenders is under consideration by the NEC Chairman, while in 30 other amphoes interrogation and investigation of 57 military and 6 civilian suspects is being speeded up.

The executive division for prevention and suppression of persons whose activities are a danger to society has sent officials of the NEC headquarters to make tours of inspection of peace and order in various places in order to safeguard the living conditions of the people, to suppress dishonest persons, to reduce crime and juvenile delinquency, as well as to help ease the burden of work of police officials attached to districts. Officials have been sent out on these tours of inspection 15 times and they arrested 1,165 persons who had committed various offenses.

Another branch of work performed is suppression of persons who delude the people. After receiving complaints from the people, the executive division for prevention and suppression of persons whose activities are a danger to society has taken legal action against various cremation societies in 25 provinces in every region of the country. It has investigated 22 cremation societies whose activities were exploitation and deluding of the people, and there are 199 more complaints on which action will have to be taken.

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ECONOMY, FINANCE, AND INDUSTRY

Since the revolution, the unit in charge of Economy, Finance, and Industry has performed work in accordance with the objectives and economic policy of the National Executive Council, emphasising the importance of matters concerning the living conditions and the livelihoods of the people. The production and distribution of goods in the country have been reorganized through measures to remedy various shortcomings in operation of work in regard to finance, commerce, and industry, as follows:-

1. FINANCE AND MONEY: The structure and system of finance, taxation and budget procedures have been revised and adapted in order to coordinate with developments in the situation and to facilitate the collection of taxes by the State and payment by taxpayers. In promotion of investment, export of goods is promoted and mobilisation of capital is encouraged for national development, expansion of economy , and to create stability for national finance. Measures taken in various ways are, as follows:-

1.1 The Revenue Code has been revised to ensure justice in the collection of income tax from individuals and businesses; to reduce the collection of duplication of taxes and petty taxes; to collect taxes at the source of production; and to reorganise methods for collection of taxes in order to provide greater facility both for collection and payment, thus enabling the State to obtain revenue from taxation in full or to a much greater extent. At the same time, consideration has been paid to the financial situation of the State, the growth and progress made by business in the country, and the standard of living of the people in general.

1.2 The Excise law has been amended, transferring collection of trade tax for some kinds of goods to the Excise Department, such as liquor as well as non-alcoholic drinks.

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1.3 The Customs system has been revised by amending the Custom law and Customs tariffs in order to promote export of goods. A measure has been drafted for the refunding of taxes for goods total production of which is for export, and in such a case the use of a bank to guarantee taxes is encouraged. In addition, consideration has been paid to the revision of many legal regulations and procedures in order to uphold justice, to facilitat and speed up performance of work. ~~xxxxx~~ Measures taken to remedy loopholes enabling evasion of taxation are in the form of setting up warehouses for goods on probation and a tax free industrial zone. These amended laws will be put in force very soon.

1.4 The budget law and procedures have been revised to ensure satisfactory results from State expenditure, to promote expansion of national economy, to strengthen financial stability, and to promote domestic production.

1.5 Various measures have been drafted for the mobilization of capital, such as through promotion of public companies and for them to enjoy greater rights in regard to taxation than ordinary companies; through the reorganization and promotion of activities of a stock market with the government taking part in its supervision in order to protect the interests of small shareholders; through promotion of mobilization of capital by life insurance companies; by reducing rates of income tax on interest of foreign loans in order to promote the mobilization of capital of private individuals in foreign countries.

1.6 A law has been put in force to supervise the operation and activities of financial companies in order that the State can supervise their operation and ensure that it benefits national economy and does not have any repercussions on the security and stability of national finance.

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2. COMMERCE: Various actions have been taken, as follows:-

2.1 Policy and rules and regulations have been drafted for official units and State enterprises to support domestic industries by buying goods produced in Thailand. This form of support should be given even if the prices of some kinds of goods are slightly higher than foreign goods, because it will help Thai goods to improve the quality of goods produced and become of the standard needed.

2.2 To help find and obtain more foreign markets, and measures taken have been to hold exhibitions of Thai goods in foreign countries 16 times and to send trade missions to find markets in foreign countries, especially in new markets such as Australia and New Zealand.

2.3 Work and services provided by trade commissioners in foreign countries have been reorganized in order to be able to meet demand of private business to a much greater extent. Offices of trade commissioners will be set up in the Republic of Vietnam and in Cambodia, and agreement has been reached with the United States in order to enable goods to be sent to both those countries under the economic assistance and cooperation agreement the United States has with them. → Rice?

2.4 Policy and measures have been drafted to remedy problems faced by Thailand's main exports, such as rice, jute, and gunnybags, in order to obtain good prices for them. In addition, supply has been increased to meet demand in Thailand and to prevent the price from being at too high a level, causing hardship to the people. The result obtained has been for State revenue to be increased by several thousand million baht.

2.5 A bill has been drafted governing business of aliens. Its main principles include the reservation of some categories of business for the Thai people, as well as promotion of foreign investment. This law will be most probably put in force in the near future.

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2.6 Rules and regulations have been drafted governing export of goods such as rice, sugar, jute, tapioca, and corn, in order to strengthen the power of bargaining of exporters, and to prevent them from competing with one another in the form of under-cutting prices. Measures have been drafted to check up on the quality and standard of goods exported to ensure that their quality and standard is trusted by foreign countries.

2.7 The Civil and Commercial Code has been amended in order to promote domestic trade and to encourage the setting up of an increasingly large number of public companies.

2.8 The law governing weights and scales has been revised in order to supervise the use of weights and scales and to provide facilities and justice to the people.

3. INDUSTRY

3.1 An industrial zone has been set up to provide sites as a service to industries. It is specified that they must be set up and operated as State enterprises in order to facilitate administration of work and the mobilization of capital from various sources to develop this project and to obtain results speedily.

3.2 Cost of production has been reduced, especially production of goods for export, through easing and aid in the form of taxes which exporters can apply for the return of in full, which will obtain results in the form of accelerating promotion of industries for export. In addition, the State has reduced rates of electricity for industrial enterprises producing goods for export, thus being another form of promotion of exports.

3.3 Customs tariffs have been revised to protect domestic industries to a greater extent, fixing rates of import duty for ready-made goods at a suitably higher level than rates of import duty for raw material.

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3.4 A law has been put in force specifying that industrialists can raise a loan from a bank using their machinery as security.

3.5 Increased aid is being given in the form of capital for industry through financial institutions supported by the State. Furthermore, the law governing the Industrial Financial Corporation has been revised to enable industrialists to raise loans at a lower rate of interest and specifying a longer time for repayment of loans.

3.6 The standard of industrial goods has been fixed at a higher level in order to enable Thai industrial goods to compete with foreign goods.

3.7 Domestic industries will be protected by a measure for control of imports or by revising of tax barriers. A start has been made and machinery reorganized, as well as procedures used, to make them more suited to the situation.

3.8 Policies have been announced on various categories of industry, such as the motorcar industry, the motorcycle industry, the cement industry, the match industry, and the industry producing fishing nets and cast nets, etc., in order to make these industries strong and stable, and able to produce supply to meet domestic demand with a steadily increasing surplus for export.

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DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS

The National Executive Council is firmly determined to accelerate development of agriculture and cooperatives in order to increase the incomes and the living conditions of agriculturists who form about 80 percent of the population to a higher level, thus also improving national revenue, the level of development of the country, and national stability. In order to achieve success in full under this policy, the National Executive Council has used various important measures, including measures to accelerate production and distribution of agricultural products. This plan is with the objective to greatly increase production per rai of important agricultural products, as well as to expand cultivation of various categories of products as widely as possible. Products already selected are 8 kinds -- corn, soybeans, mulberry trees and silkworms, coconuts, cotton, cattle, buffaloes, saltwater shrimps, and deep sea creatures. Projects have been drafted and are being started during the present 1973 fiscal year.

Important results obtained from development of agriculture and cooperatives can be summarized as follows:-

1. RESEARCH IN AND PROMOTION OF CULTIVATION OF CROPS: The NEC Administrative Council has approved in principle the fixing of 19 economic agricultural regions throughout the country, acceleration of research in and promotion of main crops and other crops under the plan to accelerate production and distribution. The National Executive Council has approved a work plan to accelerate the replanting of rubber trees, increasing the target of 70,000 rai a year to 135,000 rai. In 1973 the replanting of rubber trees will be carried out in 200,000 rai. Though agricultural production during the past cultivation season was faced with acute shortage of rain early in the cultivation season, official units

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concerned have made every effort possible to remedy the situation, resulting in cultivation of crops on the whole being considerably increased. It is estimated that the basic value of agricultural products for the whole year will be much higher than that for last year. The damage caused by this acute lack of rain would have been much more serious if measures had not been taken promptly to remedy the situation. The National Executive Council was informed of this problem faced from the start and an order was issued to remedy it at once, an allocation of about 5 million baht being provided to the Department of the Agricultural Extension in order to distribute new seed for planting to agriculturists in about 24 provinces which suffered from lack of rain. In addition, the Department of Irrigation was instructed to pump water and to release water from various dams in order to help remedy the drought in areas where important crops are cultivated. The National Executive Council also increased agricultural aviation units by another unit in order to produce artificial rain.

2. FISHERY AND LIVESTOCK BREEDING: The National Executive Council has adhered firmly to a policy for the preservation of fishery resources in Thai territorial waters, therefore a policy has been implemented to promote the breeding of aquatic animals and deep sea fishing outside the territorial waters of other countries. A private fishing fleet, accompanied by Fishery Survey Ship 2, has been sent on an experiment to be engaged in deep sea fishing near the Island of Borneo. The result was that the catch was four times that in the Gulf of Thailand. Similar experiments will be made in other seas, such as in the Indian Ocean and in the South China Sea. Aid has been given to fishermen in regard to sale and distribution of fish caught. In regard to livestock breeding, the project to provide public grazing areas in the Northeast region is being speeded up. A settlement

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covering an area of 200,000 rai has been set up for persons engaged in buffalo breeding in the Southern region. In regard to production of milk, it has been proved definitely now that Thailand can breed good milk cows. In 1972, the Dairy Promotion Organization produced fresh cow's milk totalling 1.4 million kilograms and the National Executive Council approved the purchase of equipment for storing of milk with no need to refrigerate it, and this equipment can store milk for as long as six months, thus helping agriculturists who have dairy farms to obtain a good price for their milk.

3. FORESTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT: The appointment of a director for suppression of persons illegally felling timber and destroying forests, in order to preserve forest resources, has resulted in trespass and destruction of forests being considerably reduced. The licenses of over 40 saw-mills which had committed offenses against the law have been suspended; 2,665 persons committing offenses have been arrested; over 50,000 logs have been seized; and a large number of Forestry officials who stooped to dishonest practices in the performance of their official duties have been punished. The forestry law and the law for the preservation and protection of wildlife have been amended and made much stricter. The National Executive Council realizes the importance of upkeep of forests simultaneously with preservation. A decision has been made to establish two more national parks, one on Doi Intanon, Chiang Mai province, and the Nam Nao national park in Phetchabun province. A project has been approved in principle to establish national parks in the sea for the first time, in Tarutao, Adang and Rawi islands. In development of land, special emphasis is placed on development of valleys, the reclamation of soil, soil research, and surveys to list various categories of soil.

4. IRRIGATION: The Irrigation Department has been authorized

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to start construction of an irrigation dam in Phitsanulok in 1973. Since irrigation projects that have been completed have not obtained results in full due to lack of development of agricultural irrigation, the transfer of the Irrigation Department to the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives will remedy this problem in a practical manner. The National Executive Council has authorized the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives to raise a loan from the International Development Association, a loan on which no interest has to be paid and which will be repaid by instalments over a period of 50 years, to start work in the upper area of the Chao Phya project.

5. PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURISTS INSTITUTIONS: Policy on cooperatives has been completely revised. A law has been put in force for agriculturists to take the initiative themselves in forming themselves into groups, with the State giving them aid through the committee in charge of aid to agriculturists. The National Executive Council has set up a Cooperatives Promotion Department, composed of work units engaged in cooperatives activities. Results obtained from this action has been to combine small cooperatives into agricultural cooperatives at the level of amphoes, and the expansion of work of land cooperatives in irrigation areas. In 1972 the work of cooperatives settlements was expanded over areas totalling 920,000 rai, and good results were obtained from efforts made to provide land of their own to agriculturists, as well as in work carried out to remedy market problems; and satisfactory results were obtained from administration of work of agriculturists groups with cooperatives. In regard to agricultural credit, a decision was reached by the National Executive Council for the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives to start the project to provide long term agricultural credit jointly with the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives and other official units concerned, in order to give loans at low rates of interest to agriculturists institutions and for the loans to be repaid by instalments over a suitably long time.

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6. COMMUNICATIONS: The bill protecting and promoting a merchant fleet has been studied. This bill is with the objectives to build up and strengthen commercial shipping units, to protect Thai ships and their operation, to control cargo rates, and to coordinate work with the military, in order to meet demand of Thailand both during normal times and during a time of emergency. The National Executive Council has issued Announcement No. 215, which specifies that some categories of goods imported must be transported by ships specified in a ministerial regulation in order to remedy the deficit trade balance and the deficit balance of payments, as well as to promote Thailand's merchant fleet and make it strong and progressive.

7. NATIONAL HIGHWAYS CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS: National highways are being constructed, using funds from the national budget and loans raised from the World Bank, and 18 projects have been completed, totalling 758.8 kilometers.

8. PORTS: A project has been drafted to construct a deep water port to cope with the situation when the Port of Bangkok is no longer sufficient to provide facilities in full. The Ministry of Communications has engaged an engineering company to make a survey and to draft blueprints and the Port Authority of Thailand is in charge of supervising work and a survey for the expropriation of land in the Laem Chabang area, totalling about 8,000 rai. The survey and drafting of blueprints has been completed already.

9. TELEPHONE ORGANIZATION OF THAILAND: The NEC Administrative Council approved in principle on May 25, 1972, the implementation of three projects by the Telephone Organization of Thailand under the 3rd national economic and social development plan. The targets set are to increase

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exchange lines in the capital city by another 40 lines, with 810,000 telephone numbers. The 154 regional trunk routes will have 100,800 telephone numbers. Long distance telephone calls will be able to make contact with all regional centers serviced by trunk routes.

10. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES: The NEC Development, Agriculture and Communications is concentrating on speeding up work of official units and State enterprises that are its responsibility and for all work to be aligned as planned by the National Executive Council, resulting in all work performed being most satisfactory. In addition, projects have been drafted for development of communications in the country to make them increasingly progressive. Various important projects include study of the construction of a canal to provide a short cut linking the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean; the construction of a new commercial airport in Nong Ngoo Hao; a survey for the laying down of an oil pipeline in the Southern region; the construction of two more bridges across the Chao Phya River, at Tha Chang Wang Na and the end of Sathorn Road; the reconstruction of the road from the Big Circle to Don Muang; the construction of a highway from Chumphae to Loesak which will link the Northeast and the Northern regions. Negotiations are being held with neighboring countries to determine borders of respective territorial waters. Action is being taken as submitted by the committee in regard to the report of investigations carried out on the CPA plane crash in Vietnam.

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EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Policy has been drafted and implemented in 3 ways in order to build up the people and make them a powerful strength for the country, as desired by the National Executive Council. The 3 ways are:-

1. Measures have been drafted for all work to be carried on, starting from children. The objective is for children to have good physical and moral health, thus possessing the intelligence required to imbibe good knowledge. At the same time it is necessary for them to live in good social conditions or environment also in order to achieve those targets, therefore persons with specialized knowledge have been appointed as advisers for coordination of work and to support performance of work of both Ministries in order to obtain practical results in full.

2. Various plans or projects that have been implemented have been analyzed in order to remedy any shortcomings. Projects have been listed giving priority to those that coordinate with demand of the people. Projects ~~xxx~~ or work plans that already coordinate with targets are being accelerated and strengthened to make them increasingly efficient and achieve targets speedily and in time to meet demand of society.

3. Measures have been drafted for remedying matters, results of which have created suspicions or caused hardships to the people, especially regarding various problems that cause deterioration to children and juveniles or to the people, deterioration in both education and public health, which would be a danger to the basis of society in the future.

Results of work performed by Education are as follows:-

In education provided by the State, at kindergarten level government kindergarten schools have been expanded and 44 more classrooms ~~xxxxxx~~ set up, thus being able to accommodate 2,305 more kindergarten schoolchildren.

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At the level of primary education, 150 more classrooms have been set up in primary schools attached to the Elementary and Adult Education Department and an additional 7,250 schoolchildren can be enrolled. At the level of ordinary secondary education, 57 more schools have been opened in the capital city and in the provinces; 1,328 more classrooms have been set up; and 59,456 more schoolchildren can be enrolled. In vocational education, another agricultural school has been opened in Lampang; and another mobile occupation training school has been set up in Amphoe Chawang, Nakhon Si Thammarat province, which can accept about 1,000 more persons for training in occupations. Another school has expanded vocational education to the level of higher vocational education certificates. Schools of domestic sciences have opened 19 sections of higher vocational studies. The Technical College has opened 5 more sections and can enrol 720 more schoolchildren. An additional faculty of architecture has been set up in the Phra Chom Klao Institute of Technology. In order to produce more teachers, 4 more teacher training colleges have been set up, in Lampang, Buriram, Phuket and Chanthaburi provinces, which accept schoolchildren for training as teachers at all levels, thus increasing their number from 44,370 to 49,388. In addition, about 50,000 persons are attending special classes held after the time for ordinary classes at the level of teacher training for general education certificates and for higher education certificates, and these special classes are held throughout the country. Special teacher training classes are being held for 42,800 persons who are teachers already. Teachers with degrees produced in the 1972 academic year total 6,250 university students and 8,764 students of 8 colleges of education. Persons obtaining a master's degree, a bachelor's degree, certificates in specialised studies and diplomas in education from 8 colleges of [illegible] education, total 3,626 persons.

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In promotion and supervision of private educational institutions, permits have been issued for 99 more private schools to be set up.

Regarding supervision of the behavior of schoolchildren and students, Announcement No. 152 of the National Executive Council stated in regard to the behavior of schoolchildren and students that they are causing grave concern and problems throughout in society in the present day. Therefore rules and regulations in that announcement have had to be put in force, resulting in the conduct and behavior of schoolchildren and students being steadily improved.

In order to promote study of technology, permission has been given to set up a museum of science and technology in the grounds of the Planetarium. It will be a site for holding scientific demonstrations and a center containing models of scientific and technological products and equipment. This project is being implemented.

In the development of skilled labor at medium level, an advisory group drafted measures for the development of skilled labor and set up a center for training in occupations that will obtain practical results, and this center has been turned over to the Ministry of Education for operation of. There are at present many courses of training in occupations held by official units and organizations and associations, but they are very short courses of training and have not obtained results as needed.

Regarding the preservation and upkeep of places of archaeological interest, ancient art objects, and museums, the National Executive Council issued Announcement No. 179 in order to preserve and safeguard ancient art objects in Tambon Ban Chiang, Amphoe Nong Han, Udon Thani province, which archaeologists believe date back to 5,000-7,000 years, as national treasures. At the same time an NEC announcement was drafted to amend the law governing

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places of archaeological interest, ancient art objects, art objects, and the National Museum, which was promulgated in 1961, in order to prevent destruction of places of archaeological interest, ancient art objects, and art objects, in order to preserve them intact in national interests throughout the future.

An announcement of the National Executive Council has been drafted regarding national education because there has been no law especially for national education in the past. Therefore operation of education has depended only on national education plans, government policy, and educational techniques for alignment. This is the reason why providing of national education has not been as practical as it should have been and it has lacked coordination, resulting in national education not becoming as progressive as it should be. This draft announcement of the National Esecutive Council combines all categories of education at all levels into one single big project, which will be the codification of all laws governing education.

In the revision and amendment of the law governing education, an NEC announcement has been drafted for the College of Education to have the status of an institution at the same level as the Phra Chom Klao Institute of Technology. Another NEC announcement drafted amends the law promulgated in 1971 governing the Phra Chom Klao Institute of Technology, in order to raise the status of its teachers who possess high qualifications from an academic institution, or their equivalent.

Projects that are being implemented are:-

1. A draft project has been studied in order to find ways to prevent and supervise schoolchildren, students and juveniles from using any kind of drug that stimulates and affects the brain and the nervous

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quor, as well as all kinds of narcotics. Under this project, official units, organizations, and associations concerned will cooperate in setting up work centers throughout the country. It is expected that this project will be started in the near future.

2. A project to remedy the influence of mass media, especially radio and television, on the thoughts, morality and behavior of the people and juveniles in general.

3. A project to develop teachers and make them good teachers setting a good example to schoolchildren.

4. A project to revise the providing of education for schoolchildren so that after they leave school they will be able to read and possess the knowledge and capability to be engaged in occupations suited to their respective circumstances and the physical features of the part of the country they live in.

RESULTS OF WORK IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Official units have been reorganized and a unit in charge of prevention and a unit in charge of care have been combined, and it is hoped that much better results will be obtained from services provided in remote and arid districts.

Medical services and hospitalization have been reorganized through the reorganization of hospitals, such as providing them with more medicines and equipment, and providing more doctors to be attached to hospitals and health stations.

Mobile medical units have been organized to go out and provide services to the people.

Health education and development of health in rural areas have been reorganized. Measures are being taken to control and slow down the rate of birth in order to keep population increase at a suitable level.

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Increased control has been put on some kinds of medicines that cause addiction to them, and they are considered drugs.

The work of health education is being greatly accelerated, especially for children schoolchildren.

Inspection and analysis is made of foodstuffs that might contain ingredients, microbes, or germs that are a danger to the people.

A decision has been reached in principle to produce more persons who are qualified doctors.

The law governing food, medicines, and all products that stimulate the brain and the nervous system, and cosmetics, has been revised and amended. The public health law has been revised. Work is being speeded up to control environment, and a committee has been appointed to be in charge of the work.

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RESULTS OF WORK OF LEGAL ADVISERS OF NEC CHAIRMAN

The work of legal advisers of the Chairman of the National Executive Council started simultaneously with the revolution, under Order No. 4/2514 issued by the headquarters of the National Executive Council and dated November 17, 1971.

The legal advisers of the Chairman of the National Executive Council are entrusted with the duty to draft announcements issued by the National Executive Council which become laws when put in force. These announcements are the means used to ensure that targets and policies of the National Executive Council will achieve results in full as planned.

Up to November 15, 1972, the legal advisers of the Chairman of the National Executive Council had drafted 248 NEC announcements which have been submitted to him for signature and they have been put in force already. These announcements can be listed in categories, as follows:-

1. Politics, administration, national security, and to safeguard the safety, peace and happiness of the people -- 85 announcements.

2. Development, agriculture and communications -- 67 announcements.

3. Promotion of economy, finance, and industry -- 41 announcements.

4. Promotion of education and public health -- 28 announcements.

5. Other branches of administration -- 27 announcements.

In addition to politics, administration, national security, and safeguarding the safety, peace and happiness of the people, work carried out under Order No. 1 and Order No. 6 when revolutionary work was started, other work of importance has been to amend the Criminal Code; to amend rules and regulations governing administration of the country; to reorganize Ministries and Departments; to completely revise the administration of the capital city;

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to amend the law governing traffic on land; control of the quality of food; to amend the Land Code, especially to speed up the issue of titledeeds of land; supervision of land reform; supervision of the conduct of children and schoolchildren; etc.

In development, agriculture, and communications, the Forestry law has been amended in order to make prevention and suppression of illegal felling of timber and destruction of forests more efficient. The Irrigation law has been amended to enable work of the Irrigation Department to be carried out speedily and to remedy obstacles faced in expropriation of land for irrigation. In communications, the law governing highways has been amended to make it suited to present conditions and the present situation; promotion of a Thai commercial fleet to make it progressive; and measures have been taken to speed up expropriation of land in order to construct and expand highways under the plan to accelerate communications.

In promotion of economy, finance, and industry, a law has been drafted governing allocations for annual expenditure and it has been put in force in time for the fiscal year in order to prevent expenditure under the economic and social development plan coming to a standstill, or for targets fixed not being achieved in full, thus having repercussions on national economy in general. The Revenue Code has been revised for greater justice and to reduce the burden of people with small incomes in regard to payment of income tax. The law governing Customs tariffs has been revised in order to promote domestic industries and to obstruct goods specified as luxuries. The method for collection of various taxes has been amended, which were a burden on and did not provide facilities to the taxpayers. For instance, the payment of some taxes have been combined to enable payment to be made to only one official unit, such as taxes on drinks and liquer tax. The per value

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