NAY PYI TAW, 15 March - The first regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw continued for the tenth day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today, attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

The Speaker announced that the tenth-day session was valid as the attendance of 222 made up 99.55 per cent of 223 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

Of the questions submitted by Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, members of the respective Union level organizations Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw Win of the State Peace and Development Council Office responded to the permitted ones about “whether or not there is any plan to be implemented for upgrading of motorways linking Rakhine State and mainland for better transport” raised by U Maung Tha Khin of Rakhine State Constituency No-8 and “whether or not there is a plan to build border trade routes linking with India and Bangladesh in order to transport products of Chin State to all corners” and “whether or not there is a plan to build Union Highways linking with all towns in Chin State” raised by U Zon Hlyal Htan of Chin State Constituency No-2 and “whether or not Chin State includes in the 24- Special Regions” raised by U Paul Thang Thaing of Chin State Constituency No-3.

Next, members of the respective Union level organizations Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun clarified and U Sai Win Maung of Shan State Constituency No-5 held discussions on the permitted proposal “to raise pensions of retired persons of the armed forces and government department, who did not catch up to current pay scales according to their ranks when they retired” submitted by U Zhun Khan of Chin State Constituency No-1. Then the approval of Amyotha Hluttaw was sought.

Regarding the proposals “to distribute enough basic commodities to servicemen and government personnel who are serving the interest of the nation and their families at reasonable prices” submitted by U Zhun Khan of Chin State Constituency No-1 and “to grant freedom of press on education, economic and social affairs of tribes in their languages except publications that could oppose the government” raised by U Paw Lian Lwin of Chin State Constituency No-9, they withdrew their proposals to Hluttaw.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw announced the end of the first regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw for tenth day and the eleventh- day session will be held at 10 am on 16 March (Wednesday).

The session came to end at noon.
Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Hluttaw Rights Committee, Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee hold meetings

NAY PYI TAW, 15 March-The First Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, the Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee continued meetings at their offices at the Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here this afternoon.

The meeting were attended by chairmen, secretaries and members of respective committees.

They continued to discuss works of the committees during the meetings. - MNA

Hluttaw candidates, election agents declared as persons of distorted qualification

NAY PYI TAW, 14 March-The Union Election Commission issued Notification No.7/2011 today. The translation of the notification is as follows:-

The Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No.7/2011
11th Waxing of Tabaung, 1372 ME
(15 March, 2011)

Hluttaw candidates and their election agents failed to submit election expenses in the prescribed period declared as persons of distorted qualification

1. According to Section 55 of the respective Hluttaw Election Laws and paragraph 77 of Rules, Hluttaw candidates and their election agents who run for Multi-party Democracy General Election held on 7 November, 2010 are to submit election expenses to the respective sub-commissions in line with the laws during 60- day as of the date the name of representatives-elect are announced.

2. To be able to decide whether those who fail to submit election expenses in accord with the law should be designated as persons of distorted qualification or not, the Union Election Commission formed election tribunals and ordered them to check with them.

3. The Election Tribunal found that the following Hluttaw candidates and their election agents failed to submit the election expenses during the prescribed period, and in accord with the respective Hluttaw Election Rules Paragraph 83 (a), designated them as persons of distorted qualification.
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<th>Sr Hluttaw candidate</th>
<th>Election Agent</th>
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4. The Union Election Commission announced that the above-mentioned Hluttaw candidates and their election agents are persons of distorted qualification according to Paragraph 84 of respective Hluttaw Election Rules after judging the decision of Election Tribunal.

5. It is hereby announced that Hluttaw candidates and election agents who are declared as persons of distorted qualifications, in accord with the Section 88 of the respective Hluttaw Election Law, shall not contest in the election as a Hluttaw candidate, from the date of this declaration, in the existing Hluttaw term and the next Hluttaw term.

Sd/ Thein Soe
Chairman
Union Election Commission

S & T Minister responds to question on opening of government technical training school in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 15 March- At today’s Pyithu Hluttaw session, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Aung Sein of Manaung constituency asked whether there is any plan to build a technical training school so as to turn out skilled labours needed for industries in Rakhine State.

Regarding the query, Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung said; that Ministry of Science and Technology opens Government Technical High Schools in order to turn out skilled labour needed for technological development; that Government Technical High School (Sittway) was opened in Sittway and that was the school which U Aung Sein wants to set up; that a total of 131 students are attending the school in which six subjects are being conducted; that they will work as skilled labour in factory, workshop, construction site and industry after passing their respective courses; that outstanding students from this school will have a opportunity to continue to join the first year of Government Technical Institute, Government Technical College and Technological University; and that those who have learned the courses at Government Technical High School for two years can get jobs; and that there is a plan for those who want to continue to attend advanced diploma courses.

Three Pyithu Hluttaw representatives discuss proposal of U Tun Myint Oo to take census of the entire nation

Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Oo replies

NAY PYI TAW, 15 March- At today’s Pyithu Hluttaw session, three representatives discussed the proposal to take census of the entire nation submitted by U Tun Myint Oo of Mongpan Constituency.

First, U Sai Saw Tin of Mongyawng Constituency said that Myanmar is attempting to establish discipline flourishing democracy system and has announced to the world that she will practice market oriented economic system that suitable for her new political system.

In practicing market oriented economic system, it is vital to know the correct and accurate census dividing into sex, age and region so as to calculate such important data as productivity, domestic consumption and export sales.
By taking census, spread of diverse national races across the nation, population density, agricultural productivity and food sufficiency of respective regions will become apparent and health, education, literature, traditional customs and administrative matters of respective national brethren will be managed correctly.

Furthermore, approximate lists of voters can be drawn up for elections. The current census is mere rough estimate one and thus he seconded the proposal of U Tun Myint Oo from Mongpan Constituency, said U Sai Saw Tin.

Daw Nan Wah Nu of Kunhing Constituency said that accurate census is instrumental in establishing a discipline flourishing democratic nation.

Census was taken in Myanmar in 1933, 1953, 1963, 1973 and 1983 and since then it was not taken again.

She said that she found wrong census while going for election campaigns, and thus seconded U Tun Myint Oo’s proposal.

U Tin Maung Win of Mingaladon Constituency said that the State needs correct and accurate census for it will contribute a great deal to socioeconomic status of the peoples.

Taking census of the entire nation is massive work and is also a national work plan that calls for participation of the entire nation. It is a work to be done simultaneously across the nation and therefore requires sufficient period of time for it calls for participation of various fields such as finance, manpower, management, security, and administration. It is unlikely that the census will be accurate and correct census if it is done in haste.

And, therefore, sufficient time should be taken to take census of the entire nation for its accuracy.

In his response, Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Oo said that census means collecting complete information on a particular person in a particular region in a particular time and thus needs to be infused with four features, namely, individuality, universality, simultaneity and defined periodicity.

The Census Department took censuses in 252 townships in 1953 and 2143 village-tracts in 1954 as the nationwide campaign. In 1973, the census of the entire nation could be taken and lists of voters also made. To take census, 1972 Census Law of the Union of Myanmar was issued on 22 April, 1972.

Central Census Commission and different levels of census committees were formed in August, 1972 and about 13 months was taken for preparation works. The census of the entire nation was taken in 1983 and that time two years was used for preparation works.

Since the last census was taken in 1983, no new census could be taken and contributory data in population calculation were collected in cooperation with United Nations Fund for Population (UNFPA). In doing so, population change and birth rate data was collected in 1991 and birth rate and reproductive health data in 1997, 2001 and 2006.

Sample surveys were carried out in 36 townships in 2007 and 36 townships in 2008 so as to analyze the accuracy of the census and the rate of population change after 2006. The census of whole population of 26 townships in thirteen regions and states was taken in 2009.

Primary local data were collected from Immigration and National registration Department in order to get correct lists of population constantly.

The previous experiences in taking census in 1973 and 1983 show that it took at least to prepare to take census and it took five days to take census. Making lists took two years and peoples cooperate in taking census as it was done was massive campaign.
So, taking census takes time and calls for participation of the entire nation. Ministry of minister alone can not accomplish it and it is a time-consuming task to be undertaken by the Government at an opportune time, concluded the minister.

Next, the Hluttaw Speaker said that he hoped that everyone would understand the situation now as three representatives and the minister had discussed the proposal of U Tun Myint Oo. Taking census of the entire nation should be and is to be done. He continued that he understood that it should be done at an opportune time as the work is massive and time consuming.

The Pyithu Hluttaw accepted the proposal of U Tun Myint Oo of Mongpan Constituency as hluttaw representatives agreed that the proposal should be put into practice taking time.

**Construction Minister replies to question of Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Zon Hlyal Htan of Chin State Constituency-2**

NAY PYI TAW, 15 March - Amyotha Hluttaw representative of Chin State Constituency-2 U Zon Hlyal Htan stated that the Union Highways mean roads and bridges implemented by the Union government; and questioned whether “Kyeekha-Tongzan- Tiddim-Falam-Haka- Thangtalan Union Highway, Haka- Matupi- Paletwa Union Highway and Pakokku-Mindat- Kanpetlet Union Highway which will connect all the towns in Chin State will be constructed or not”.

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint explained Kyeekha-Tongzan- Tiddim-Falam-Haka-Thangtalan road in Chin State has three sections- 157 miles and three furlongs long Kyeekha- Tongzan- Tiddim-Falam road section, 43 miles and three furlongs long Falam-Haka road section and 21 miles and four furlongs long Haka- Thangtalan road section.

Kyeekha-Tongzan- Tiddim-Falam road section has the length of 157 miles and three furlongs with 58 miles and seven furlongs long tarred road, 55 miles and six furlongs long gravel road and 42 miles and six furlongs long earth road.

Falam-Haka road section is 43 miles and three furlongs long with 34 miles and one furlong long tarred road and nine miles and two furlongs long gravel road. Haka- Thangtalan road section is 21 miles and four furlongs long with three miles and four furlongs long tarred road and 18 miles long gravel road.

These road sections were upgraded step by step from earth road to hard road, hard road to gravel road, gravel road to tarred road by defining three classes of road. Up to date, a total length of tarred road reached 96 miles and four furlongs.

The Ministry of Construction will continue to upgrade other road sections yearly depending on its fund. The upgrading of all Union highways to tarred road when the ASEAN community will be established in 2020 is the main project of the Ministry of Construction.

Upgraded in previous 20 years, the development of roads in Chin State could be seen.

Public Works upgraded 21361 miles and two furlongs of road out of above 10000 miles into tarred road. Fifty per cent of roads have been tarmacked and other roads are being upgraded in particular priority. Asia Highway and ASEAN Highways are first priority; Inter-Region/State Union Highways, second priority; Inter-District roads, third priority; and Inter-Township roads, fourth priority.

The Union Highway means roads which connect Regions and States.

**H a k a - M a t u p i - Paletwa road has two sections - 172 miles and six furlongs long Haka- Matupi road section and 135 miles and three furlongs long Matupi- Palewa road section.**
Haka-Matupi road section has two miles and six furlongs long tarred road, 49 miles long gravel road and 121 miles long earth road. Two miles long road on this section in Yezwa was tarmacked this year.

Upgrading will be continued depending on annual fund. Matupi- Paletwa road section has three furlongs long tarred road, two miles and one furlong long gravel road, 132 miles and seven furlongs long earth road (alignment). There is no plan to implement this road section because of high cost based on the topography.

Pakokku-Mindat- Kanpetlet road has two road sections - 89 miles and three furlongs long Pakokku-Mindat road section and 38 miles long Mindat-Kanpetlet road section. Pakokku-Mindat road section has 88 miles and three furlongs long tarred road and one mile long gravel road. Mindat- Kanpetlet road section has 22 miles and one furlong long gravel road and 15 miles and seven furlongs long earth road.

In upgrading these road sections from earth road to hard road, hard road to gravel road and gravel road to tarred road, a total of 100 miles and four furlongs have been tarred. The Ministry of Construction will continue to upgrade other road sections yearly by the State fund.

Chin national U Ngon Hsan Haw was assigned as Chin State Superintendent Engineer. Two deputy superintendent engineers, two district superintendent engineers, seven township engineers, seven assistant site engineers, three township (branch) engineers, 13 site engineers (1), four drawing staff, 75 office staff and 300 labours were undertaking construction works. A total of 166 vehicles, including 14 bulldozers, eight land leveling vehicles, 12 excavators, 33 rollers, seven stone crushers, one crane, 72 dumper trucks, four oil/water tankers, 15 administration vehicles, are used in addition to other mobile vehicles based on the site requirement.

The construction works are being carried out and will be carried out in Chin State as well as in the entire nation with added momentum.

Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Zon Hlyal Htan puts question about construction of border trade routes linking Chin State with India and Bangladesh

Construction Minister U Khin Maung Myint replies

NAY PYI TAW, 15 March-At today’s Amyotha Hluttaw session, Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Zon Hlyal Htan of Chin State Constituency (2) put a question about construction of border trade routes linking Chin State with India and Bangladesh.

He said that Chin State is expected to experience economic growth if its need for particular infrastructure would be satisfied. Chin State is rich in fertile soil and thus produces bumper harvest. He asked whether the Government would be able to build Mandalay-Gangaw- Falam-Reedkawdah Road, Kalay-Tiddim- Reedkawdah Road and Pakokku-Matupi- Paletwa-Myeikwa Road through Chin State to link it with India and Bangladesh in order that local products can be transported to any directions.

Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint replied that current roads linking Chin State with plain regions of the nation and India and Bangladesh are Mandalay-Gangaw- Falam-Reedkawdah border trade route (394 miles 2 furlongs long), Kalay-Tiddim-Reedkawdah border trade route (88 miles long), Pakokku-Matupi-Paletwa-Myeikwa border trade route (377 miles 1 furlong long).

Of those routes, the first one is made of 285 miles 4 furlongs long tarred road, 62 miles 6 furlongs long gravel road and 46 miles long earthen road, totaling 394 miles 2 furlongs.

The second one is made of 36 miles 6 furlongs long tarred road, 42 miles 7 furlongs long gravel road and 8 miles 3 furlongs long earthen road, totaling 88 miles.
The last one is made of 200 miles 2 furlongs long tarred road, 2 miles 1 furlong long gravel road and 174 miles 6 furlongs long earthen road (alignment), totaling 377 miles 1 furlong.

The Government is currently unable to construct Matupi-Paletwa section of the last road for it needs a large sum of cash due to geographical features.

Nevertheless, Indian Railway Construction Company Limited (IRCON) of India and Max Myanmar Co Ltd of Myanmar are already carrying out pre-engineering works for construction of 41 miles 7 furlongs long Paletwa-Kaletwa (Myeikwa) Road of Paletwa–Kalewta (Myeikwa)-Pakokku border trade route with the assistance of India, as part of Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project.

Upon completion of Paletwa-Kaletwa (Myeikwa) Road, India- Myanmar trade route will be connected with Pakokku via Kyauktaw- An-Padan. Of the two roads linking India and Chin State which are Falam-Reedkawdah Road (67 miles 6 furlongs long) and Tiddim- Reedkawdah Road (32 miles 3 furlongs long), Myanmar and India have agreed to upgrade Tiddim- Reedkawdah Road as first priority and are already surveying the alignment.

The road currently is earthen facility and Public Works will upgrade it phase by phase.

To link Chin State with Bangladesh, a road is under construction from Paletwa to Kyauktaw of Rakhine State, to complete Paletwa-Kyauktaw- Sittway-Buthidaung- Maungtaw border trade route.

Proposals submitted, approvals sought at Pyithu Hluttaw session

NAY PYI TAW, 15 March - Today’s Pyithu Hluttaw session made decisions on whether new proposals submitted by Hluttaw representative should be discussed or not.

First, U Soe Win of Sangyoung Township Constituency submitted a proposal to review the pension scheme as there is a wide gap between the pension and current commodity prices and suggested to make pension salary grades from two to three grades depending on ages.

It was seconded by Dr. Than Win of North Okkalapa Township Constituency.

Afterwards, the approval of Pyithu Hluttaw was sought to discuss it, and then the hluttaw accepted the approval.

The proposal submitted by U Soe Win of Sangyoung Township Constituency will be discussed at eleventh-day Pyithu Hluttaw session to be held on 16 March. The hluttaw announced that those representatives who want to discuss the above proposal are to register at Deputy Director-General of Pyithu Hluttaw.

Afterwards, U Aung Zin of Pazundaung Township Constituency submitted a proposal to draft a bill that would allow farmers to legally store their crops at garages of governmental organizations and private garage at reasonable prices, paving ways for the farmers to earn stable price from crop production.

The proposal was seconded by Daw Zar Talam of Thantlang Constituency and the approval of Pyithu Hluttaw was sought to discuss it, and then the hluttaw accepted the approval.

The proposal of U Aung Zin will be discussed will be discussed at eleventh–day Pyithu Hluttaw session to be held on 16 March.

The hluttaw announced that those representatives who want to discuss the abovementioned proposals are to register at Deputy Director- General of Pyithu Hluttaw.
Proposals withdrawn by Amyotha Hluttaw representatives

NAY PYI TAW, 15 March- Proposals submitted by representatives to Amyotha Hluttaw were withdrawn at today’s Amyotha Hluttaw sessions.

First, U Zhun Khan of Chin State Constituency No.1 withdrew his proposal on distribution of enough food stuff for service men and civil servants and their families.

Then, U Paw Hlyan Lwin of Chin State constituency No.9 also withdrew his proposal to the Hluttaw for freedom of press on education, economic and social affairs of tribes in their languages except publications that could oppose the government. His proposal has the same opinion on the answer to the question of the minister for education submitted by Dr Banya Aung Moe of Mon State Constituency No.7 at Amyotha Hluttaw session held on 11-3-2011.

First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw continues for tenth day
Raising and replying to queries, submitting proposals, holding discussion and approval seeking done at Pyithu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 14 March - The first regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw continued for the tenth day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today.

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann declared that the attendance of 432 made up 99.77 percent of 433 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and the tenth day session was therefore valid.

Afterwards, out of the questions raised by Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, permitted ones were raised, and members of the union level organizations Minister for Science and Technology U Thaung and Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein gave replies. U Aung Sein of Manaung constituency asked the hluttaw to open a technological training school in Rakhine State, U Zaw Tun of Momauk constituency asked the Hluttaw to draft a bill that would let students to choose a literature of one of national races as an optional subject on the school curriculum, U Aung Tun Tha of MraukU constituency asked the Hluttaw to upgrade No.2 Basic Education Middle School in MraukU to the higher one and U Aung Sein of Manaung constituency asked the Hluttaw to maintain basic education schools and to establish a university of arts and science or a college for townships in southern Rakhine State.

Afterwards, the agree-to-discuss proposals submitted by U Tun Myint Oo of Mongpan Constituency on taking census across the country and a proposal of U Khin Maung Yi (a) Khine Maung Yi of Ahlon Constituency to prescribe a compulsory education system “Duty to Educate Children” at the primary and middle school levels for 100 per cent literacy and new syllabuses and policies comprising examination systems for students to continue education in international universities in which the government and private education centres can participate. Members of the Union level organizations Minister for Immigration and Population U Maung Oo and Minister for Education Dr. Chan Nyein made reviews and discussed the proposals and the approval of Pyithu Hluttaw was sought.
Afterwards, U Soe Win of Sangyoung Township constituency submitted a proposal to review the pension scheme as there is a wide gap between the pension and current commodity prices and suggested to make pension salary grades depending on ages. U Aung Zin of Pazundaung Township constituency submitted a proposal to draft a bill that would allow farmers to keep their crops at governmental organizations and private garage at reasonable prices, paving ways for the farmers to earn stable price from crop production. Pyithu Hluttaw held discussion if the new two proposals should be brought to the Hluttaw or not.

Afterwards, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw announced that the tenth day session ended and the eleventh-day session would be held at 10 am tomorrow.

The session ended at 1.45 pm.

**Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, Public Accounts Committee, Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee hold meetings**

NAY PYI TAW, 15 March - The First Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, the Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee continued meetings at their offices of Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here this afternoon.

Chairmen, secretaries and members of respective committees attended the meetings.

They participated in discussions on works of the committees.

**Education Minister replies to Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Zaw Tun’s question**

NAY PYI TAW, 15 March - U Zaw Tun of Momauk Constituency questioned at today’s Pyithu Hluttaw regular session whether there is only plan to draft law to teach a language of national race as optional subject in addition to teaching Myanmar as main subject in government schools in respective Regions and States or not.

Minister for Education Dr Chan Nyein replied to the question that the ministry set syllabuses for basic education with the coordination of scholars at home and abroad and experts of UN agencies to nurture well-educated good citizens with Union Spirit and nationalistic fervor.

Myanmar, home to over 100 national races, has many languages, including different languages from the same race based on the region. There will be students of different national races in the same class of the same school as various national races inhabit in each Region/ State.

Subjects which could be learnt by children at their respective age are included in the current syllabuses with respect to the education theory. Official language Myanmar and international language English are also included in the curriculum.

At current situation, to set respective languages of each national race is impossible in basic education curriculum as there are many national races in Myanmar. The learning of languages of national races outside school will be supported.