Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Speakers address
Seminar on Budgeting Process

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Oct-The Seminar on Budgeting Process was organized in Thabin Hall of Hluttaw Building here this afternoon.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann addressed the meeting.

The meeting was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint in his address said that the budgeting process will be discussed in the seminar as a task for building capacity of Hluttaw representatives. He expressed thanks, on behalf of Hluttaw representatives, to in-charge professors, lecturers and retirees who will make discussions.

He noted that the constitution designates three kinds of bill to be submitted only by the Union government, namely National Project, Budget and Tax bills which combine as one in budgeting process.

He linked the planning and budgeting, saying that it is need to estimate gross domestic product (GDP) of the country in budgeting for a particular fiscal year and to decide which per cent of GDP will be invested in national projects.

Both cost of commodity which is ordinary expenditure and the cost of investment called capital cost are to be estimated in the State budget, he explained.

He continued to say that the investment and GDP ratio of a developing country needs to be between 20 and 25 per cent; budget deficit and GDP ratio is to be considered in calculating investment requirement of the entire nation; and five per cent and above ratio could lead to financial instability.

He said the facts are fundamental, which will further be detailed by scholars.

The seminar is part of building capacity of Hluttaw representatives who will have to discuss the State Budget Bill in third regular session of Hluttaw to help them discuss from technical point of view, he concluded.

Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann said that he thanked for the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker who arranged for improving capacity of Hluttaw representatives as well as the scholars who participates in discussion aimed to enhance capacity of Hluttaw representatives with devotion.

He noted the main responsibility of the Hluttaws is to legislate and practise check and balance system to ensure citizens, and each organization including executive institutions abide by enacted laws; actually it is not reciprocal control but of reciprocal monitoring and assisting; Hluttaw representatives should be endowed with required qualifications related to legislative works to be able to efficiently handle with legislative works.

He said that he would like to request experienced representatives to join in capacity building scheme with consideration for the remaining representatives.

He added that legislation also meant works to revoke and amend existing laws, and scrutinizing for formulation of new laws necessary; Budget Law mentioned in today’s topic was pivotal law for the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

He went on that matters related to budget was high in the agenda of international parliaments today and thus capacity building is a must action.
He pointed out that almost all the Hluttaw representatives including him were not experienced in functions of parliament and the discussion was aimed to enhance capacity of Hluttaw representatives; it is learnt that in some countries, courses and discussions were organized for improvement in capacity of MPs and staff of the parliament.

He noted that discussions aimed to improve capacity of representatives were essential and said he believed that it would bring tangible results to Hluttaw representatives.

He then urged Hluttaw representatives to apply knowledge gained from today’s discussion in real world especially for national people.

Next, Director (Rtd) of Higher Education Department (Finance) U Kyi Yon discussed under the topics of “Understanding Government Budget”, “Government Budgeting (Current)” and Government Budgeting Focusing”.

Next, Hluttaw representatives raised questions for their knowledge and the retired director answered the questions. The discussion adjourned at 4.30 pm.

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