

Eighth day session of Amyotha Hluttaw continues

One bill approved, one bill discussed, one bill submitted, one proposal discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July-Eighth day session of Amyotha Hluttaw continued at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10 am today, attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and 204 MPs.

Member of Bill Committee U Soe Myint submitted Bill Committee's report on Amended Export and Import Bill sent by Pyithu Hluttaw. The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker sought the approval of Hluttaw so as to approve the each para of amended Export and Import Bill sent by Pyithu Hluttaw. Secretary of Bill Committee U San Tun submitted Bill Committee's report regarding the Anti-Corruption Bill. With respect to the Bill, U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No.6, U J Yaw Wu of Kachin State Constituency No.12 and U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No. 12 discussed the facts about the amendments to the Bill. Hluttaw decided that Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee will discuss it later.

After that, Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin submitted the proposal on the Bill amending the Traditional Medicine Law, and a representative seconded it. Hluttaw decided to discuss the bill and announced that those wishing to discuss are to submit their name lists by 19- 7-2012.

Afterwards, Dr Aye Maung of Rakhine State Constituency No.1 submitted the proposal on "Urging the Union Government to designate National Races Affairs Ministers and Chairmen of Leading Committee of Self- Administered Division or Zone, who are same as the posts of Region or State Ministers, as members of Region or State Government in accord with the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar."

U Paul Htan Htaing of Chin State Constituency No.3, U J Yaw Wu of Kachin State Constituency No.12, Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No.1, U Sai Paung Nat of Shan State Constituency No.12, U Saw Aung Kyaw Naing (a) Sha Bu Poh of Kayin State Constituency No.1, U Phone Myint Aung of Yangon Region Constituency No.3, U Tin Mya of Sagaing Region Constituency No.7, U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Kayin State Constituency No.5 and U Salai Khwe Yan of Chin State Constituency No.12, discussed the abovementioned proposal.

They discussed that national races in some regions and states were allowed to elect their national races affairs ministers, based on the population there. Such provisions in the Constitution are aimed at enjoying their rights fully.

Those national races affairs ministers should be designated as the Region or State government Ministers so as to serve the interests of their people more. And they should be the members of the Government. It needed to make coordination in accord with the Constitution. That proposal was appropriate in principle. But, it should be reviewed only after the sections of the Constitution had been thoroughly studied.

It was clearly prescribed in the Constitution that the Chairmen of the Leading Committee of Self-Administered Division or Zones are Region Ministers.

Region/State governments' productions and services meetings were not concerned with the national races affairs ministers. It would be more convenient if different duties should be prescribed for national races affairs ministers due to their different natures compared with other ministers. Hluttaw should not continue to discuss it as it had already been prescribed in the Constitution and failed to agree it. It should be considered that whether or not Union Government should be urged to discuss it.

It should be put on records only. No need to consider it.

Regarding that proposal, Deputy Attorney- General U Tun Tun Oo discussed the provisions of the Constitution regarding the Chairmen of the Leading Committee of Self- Administrated Zones or Regions. According to the Constitution, there were three kinds of duty assignments for Region or State Ministers. All national races were living in regions and states nationwide. Self- Administered Zones or Regions were formed for the united national races. But, for the national races greater than 0.1 percent of country's total population, one representative from Region or State Hluttaw was elected for one national race and assigned as national races affairs minister. Government bodies had been formed in respective regions or states.

More duties were assigned to the national races affairs ministers by the Constitution so as to perform their national races affairs.

National races affairs ministers were to undertake national races affairs after making field trips to the places where their national races live. So, a national races affairs minister would have the right to live in the house suitable for performing his or her duties in Regions or States. They would have the rights to use water, electricity, telephone and car.

And expenses for it would be charged from State's funds.

Although rights of national races affairs ministers had been prescribed, their duties had yet to be prescribed. In general, national races affairs ministers were to carry out their national races affairs.

They would have to attend the meetings when their regions or State government invited them. But, they were to try not to fail to perform their main duties. If the national races affairs ministers wanted to submit their national races affairs to the region or State government meetings, they could submit it with the approval of the Chief Minister.

So, rights were conferred on one national races affairs minister to perform his or her duties freely in respective region or state. In addition, expenses, honorarium and insignias had been prescribed in line with their respective duties.

Monthly honorarium was the same amount as Region or State Hluttaw judges and members of Self- Administered Regions or Zones. It could be seen that in drafting bill, Bill Scrutinizing Committee drafted it with goodwill in order that allowances and insignias for national races affairs ministers would be in conformity with their duties.

By nature, Law was written in summary. In order that it could be clearer and full, necessary regulations, procedures, notifications and directives could be announced. In addition, if necessary, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw could amend and prescribe respective laws.

Necessary actions would be taken by the organizations that have authorities to issue respective laws if Pyidaungsu Hluttaw laid down the directives related to duties and rights of national races affairs ministers and chairmen and members of the Leading Committee for Self- Administrated Zones or Regions. When considering the laying down of those duties and rights, duties should be assigned after Pyidaungsu Hluttaw formed committee and commission to be more broadly. If the government prescribed it, it should be done in line with the directives of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The aforesaid matters had been undertaken regarding the proposal. So, the proposal should be put on record.

Representative Dr Aye Maung submitted that he did not want to withdraw his proposal and Hluttaw should take vote. Hluttaw took vote by putting voting machine and decided not to discuss it. The meeting came to an end at 2.25 pm and will go on at 10 am on 16 July. At today's session, one bill approved, one bill discussed, one bill submitted and one proposal discussed.

Source: NLM 2012-07-14