

**HIV/STD Control Project implemented as a national concern
in region/state/district/township, including border towns Muse, Tachilek
and Kawthoung after HIV/STD Control teams were formed.
Every citizen to take responsibility of paying tax for national development.
[Amyotha Hluttaw, 22nd day]**

NAY PYI TAW, 8 Aug-Amyotha Hluttaw Session continued for 22nd day, at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 205 MPs.

At the session, Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Aung Than Oo replied to the questions on electric power sector raised by three MPs.

With respect to the question of U Hnin Wai of Kayah State Constituency No.12 on “he would like to know when sub-power stations will be built in Loikaw, Bawlake and Pasawng townships and the power distribution will start for full supply of electricity to Shardaw, Ywathit, Meisei and Mawchi Townships in Kayah State”, the deputy minister said: for the supply of electricity to Shardaw, a 45- mile Loikaw-Shardaw (33 KV) power grid and a sub-power station(33/11) KV (3 MVA)in Shardaw are to be built.

Construction of these facilities has been put in 2015- 2016 financial year.

For supply of electricity to Ywathit, a 22-mile (11) KV power grid from Bawlake to Ywathit and a (33/11) KV (1 MVA) sub-power station are to be built in Bawlake. Construction of these facilities has been put in 2013-2014 financial year. Supply of power in Mawchi needs (33/11) KV (1 MVA) power station in Pasawng and a 21-mile 11 KV power grid to Mawchi from Pasawng. It will be implemented in 2015-2016 financial year.

Supply of power in Meisei calls for building a (33/ 11) KV (1 MVA) sub-power station in Pasawng and installing a 25-mile power grid (11 KV) from Pasawng to Meisei. Installation of this power grid also includes a Thanlwin River-crossing tower. Due to the facts that there occurs low voltage as Lawpita-Pasawng (33) KV power grid is about 77 miles long and it is not suitable for supply of power through 11 KV power grid to Meisei, electricity will be supplied by means of increasing the capacity of the existing diesel engine and seeking every possible ways.

Regarding the question of U Min Oo of Bago Region Constituency No.7 on “Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise (MEPE)’s Law on collecting electricity bills for businesses and household”, he replied: MEPE does not collect electricity bills. Electricity Distribution Enterprise carries out collecting of electricity bills in regions and states except Yangon Region. Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (YESB) collects electricity bills in Yangon Region.

As of 1 January, 2012, Ministry of Electric Power No.2 collects K 35 per unit for government departments; K 35 per unit for house holds and K 75 for industries and US\$ 0.12 per unit for consumers with foreign currency. In doing so, it was publicized in advance through newspapers and journals, announcements.

Household electricity consumptions include the consumption of electricity for light and the use of electrical equipments. Single phase meter is installed for light and there phase meter, for electrical equipments. Electric wares, main switch box and fuse boxes are to be installed separately.

Industries use means electricity consumption for businesses.

Single phase is for household business, three phase for small and medium enterprises and own transformers and C.T meter for heavy industries.

Regarding the businesses that have no rights to use electricity through general household meter or house use power meter, the law amending Electricity Law (1984) prescribed on 7 March, 1990 states that electricity consumers will be charged with the destruction of state-owned electrical equipments, handing over of state-owned electrical equipments to others without permissions of respective state-level organizations, illegal use of electricity, multiplying of electricity without permissions of respective state-level organizations, electricity consumption for businesses that are not allowed through general household meter or household power meter, overloaded use of industry-based power meter. In addition, they will have to compensate current values of damaged equipments or to pay designated amounts to respective state-level organizations for the consequences of losses and damages.

Power consumption for businesses through general household meter amounts to illegal use of power.

Regarding it, the directives are: to collect commercial meter bills, to ask for compensation, to calculate meter bills based on installed-load business if meter is not tampered, to ask for compensations calculated on installed-load in addition to businesses and designated fines of 50,000 if meter is tampered, to ask for replacement value if the meter burns, to allow small enterprises that install household meter to continue using it and collect K 75 per unit for all power consumption, to install a separate meter for business by letting them to pay designated amounts if consumers want to pay household and commercial meter bills separately, to install a separate meter for the businesses with overloaded consumptions by letting them to pay designated amounts, to remind them of carrying out permanent power cut if they commit such acts again and to take pledges from them.

With respect to the question of U Kyaw Thu Oo of Magway Region Constituency No.5 on “there is a plan to build a sub-power station in Sagu of Minbu Township”, he said:

Power is being supplied to Sagu, Minbu District, Magway Region through Mann power station and 11 KV Sagu feeder. At present, electricity is being supplied to nine villages. For supply of power to seven villages, installation of power lines and construction of subpower station will be carried out in 2013-2014 financial year.

After that, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin replied to the questions of three hluttaw representatives on health sectors.

With respect to the question of Dr Tin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No. 6 on “he would like to know the research on HIV/AIDS outbreaks at border trade camps (Muse and Tachilek) and in Kawthoung or treatment and prevention”, she said: Department of Health under the Ministry of Health started finding out HIV infection in 1988. Since then, HIV/STD Control Project was launched as a national concern in region/ state/district/township, including border towns- Muse, Tachilek and Kawthoung after HIV/STD Control teams were formed.

In 2011, HIV infection of pregnant mothers was 4.5 percent in Muse, 1.3 percent in Tachilek and 1.5 percent in Kawthoung. HIV infection of male patients with STD was 8.7 percent in Muse, 4.1 percent in Tachilek and 4.7 percent in Kawthoung. HIV infection of IV administration of drug was 29 percent in Muse and new TB patients, 8.5 percent.

The number of HIV patients who are taking ART is 15 in Muse, 157 in Tachilek and 91 in Kawthoung. Patients living with STD are 51 in Muse, 144 in Tachilek and 200 in Kawthoung. Pregnant women who underwent medical check-up for HIV antibody is 1940 in Muse, 4511 in Tachilek and 1729 in Kawthoung. The number of pregnant women living with HIV antibody is 29 in Muse, 40 in Tachilek and 31 in Kawthoung. Ministry of Health is carrying out HIV/ AIDS prevention and control tasks.

Regarding the question of U Maung Tha Khin of Rakhine State Constituency No.8 on “there is a plan to upgrade Maungtaung People’s Hospital into 100-bed one”, she replied: Ministry of Health has opened a

50-bed Township hospital, four station hospitals (16-bed), nine rural health centers and 35 rural health branches in Maungtaw Township of Rakhine State.

On 15-7-2012, 16-bed Maungtaw Township hospital has been upgraded into 50-bed one with the staff strength of 81. On 7- 10-1997, it was equipped with six specialists. There is no any plan to upgrade 50-bed hospital into 100- bed one at present.“With respect to the question of U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No. 12 on“he would like to know the standards for opening of private pharmacy training schools and how to control trainees who have completed private pharmacy course”, she said: according to the existing laws, opening of private pharmacy courses is not allowed. And Union Minister for Health has urged all region/state government offices to inform opening of private pharmacy courses.

Arrangements are being made to take legal actions against them.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Kyaw Kyaw submitted the report of the committee on Bill on Board of Examinations 2012 sent by Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments to be considered at Amyotha Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw representatives wishing to take part in the discussions may enlist their nominations, not later than 13 August.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Hmat Gyi submitted the report of the committee on Bill Revoking Foreign Relations Act sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments to be considered at the Amyotha Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw representatives wishing to take part in the discussions may enlist their nominations, not later than 13 August.

U Win Naing Shein of Bago Region Constituency No 5, U Htay Win (A) U Zayard Raw Man of Rakhine State Constituency No 7, Dr Khin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No 9, Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No 4, Dr Myint Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No 8, U Nyunt Tin of Yangon Region Constituency No 2, Dr Tin Shwe of Yangon Region Constituency No 6, Daw Khin Waing Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency No 1, U Zaw Myint Pe of Mandalay Region Constituency No 5 and U Kyun Khen of Chin State Constituency No 1 discussed the report of Amyotha Hluttaw Monetary and Revenue Committee. They discussed that taxes had been levied exactly in Myanmar monarchical period. Despite changing systems and eras, the taxation system did not change, so the financial sector of the State faced some problems. At present, as international investment flows into the country, the State needs to get deserved taxes fully. Not only government service personnel but also staff members of companies are to pay individual taxes.

Companies, restaurants and hotels are to pay corporate tax. Some persons evade duty of paying tax. Their acts may harm the correct economic competitiveness.

Thus, it should practise the system that anyone cannot evade duty of paying tax and it should practise the system to honour those who discharge duty of paying tax correctly.

Indeed, the tax is playing a key role in enhancement of socio-economic status of the State. It is necessary to urge all the citizens to willingly pay the taxes. The tax rate must be fair and it should not be burden for the tax payers. The collected taxes should not be lost. Every citizen is to take responsibility of dutifully paying tax for development of the State.

All the citizens are to understand that paying the tax is the duty for all citizens.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw decided that the participants in the discussions are to recompile the report and to carry out the necessary tasks according to the decision of the Amyotha Hluttaw Monetary

and Revenue Committee. With regard to the proposal urging national entrepreneurs to join hands with the State in contributing to rural development tasks in Chin State which is the most poverty area throughout the nation, U Salai Khwe Yan of Chin State Constituency No 12, U Nein Khin Paung of Chin State Constituency No 7 and U Thein Hlaing of Sagaing Region Constituency No 8 seconded the proposal.

With regard to the proposal, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win replied that plan has been set to annually construct 120 miles long earth roads, 45 miles long gravel road, 20 miles long asphalt roads, 2600-foot concrete bridges, 1000 feet long wooden bridges, 50 concrete conduits, 700 feet long culverts, 23 schools, one 16-bed hospital, two clinics, three rural health centres, five rural health branches, 65 water supply works, one veterinary office, five breeding farms and 20 facilities of rural electricity in Chin State from 2013-2014 to 2015-2016 financial years of the fifth five-year plan for development of border regions and rural areas.

According to the bilateral cooperation programme between Myanmar and India, Myanmar signed an MoU with India on 28 May to provide US\$ 25-US\$ 5 million each for five years plan so as to carry out border region development in Chin State and Naga Self-Administered Zone. By implementing the plan, assistance will be provided to Chin State for construction of infrastructures to enhance transport, education, health and social-economic sectors of Chin State beginning 2012- 2013 fiscal year.

The approval was sought through voting machine.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No 4 submitted a proposal urging the Union Government to adopt a special plan as a national duty to ensure prevalence of law and order for taking action against infiltration of foreigners from neighbouring countries and holding of citizenship scrutiny cards through misconduct ways and a Hluttaw representative seconded it.

As there was disagreed representative, the approval was sought through way of standing up of the representatives. As the number of representatives standing up at the Hluttaw did not reach 40, the proposal was not accepted to be discussed.

The Hluttaw session came to an end at 3.55 pm and the 23th day session will be held at 10 am tomorrow.

At the today's session, six questions were replied, two bills submitted, one report discussed, one proposal discussed and approved and one new proposal submitted.-MNA

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