NAY PYI TAW, 24 Oct - Regarding the question presented by U Hla Swe of Magway Region Constituency No (12) about which law could be applied to sue foreign media while they make defamatory comments about anyone or any organizations in Myanmar, Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi replied at the today’s Amyotha Hluttaw session that they would be sued under the Law of Tort [*] which is familiar and practised in international arena. If signals aired from abroad could be received in the territory of Myanmar, they would be under the judgment of courts in Myanmar as it had an effect on the country. The Union minister pointed out whether there would be benefited or not because they the verdict of the court would be approved if they were sued outside.

Regarding the question about whether there is Spoke [?] Authoritative Team led by the Minister for Information or not and its future tasks if it still exists, the Union minister answered that the Spoke Authoritative Team formed by State Peace and Development Council had been abolished and the Spokespersons and Information Team of the new government existed. There is no future task for the Spokespersons and Information Team as media team and contact persons have been formed in accord with the directive of the Union government.

Regarding the question about whether there is a plan to report battle news in detail in state-owned dailies like the newspapers in the time of parliamentary democracy, the Union minister said that plans were being underway to be able to transform the state-owned dailies into public service media - PSM step by step and he hoped that more detailed information would be published in public service media that would cover the news based on peace journalism like the news reporting style in international media. - NLM

* Tort?