Pyidaungsu Hluttaw discusses legal protection for two Myanmar nationals accused of murder in Thailand and peace process

NAT PYI TAW, 13 Oct — The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Session on Monday discussed the case of human rights and legal protection for two Myanmar nationals accused of murdering two tourists in Thailand and the progress of the peace process in Myanmar and international assistance for it.

Representative U Khin Maung Yi submitted the motion calling upon the speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to send a message to the speaker of the National Assembly of Thailand to provide human rights and legal protection for two Myanmar nationals accused of murdering two tourists on Koh Tao Island in Thailand and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session approved the motion.

As for the peace process, Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min said that it is difficult to predict whether success will be achieved or not as the peace process is delicate.

The government formed the international donors’ organization with Norway, Britain, Australia, the European Union, the United Nations and the World Bank on 12 June 2012 in order to get international assistance for the peace process, he added.

In addition, the union minister said that the member countries has a policy to contribute financial assistance only fully when the nationwide ceasefire has been reached.

The office building of the MPC worth US$1.2 million was offered by Japan while the EU has intended to spend 5 million euros on the peace process of Myanmar. UN Peace Building Fund provided 7 vehicles, two generators and communication equipment worth US$40,4600 for the MPC, according to the union minister.

Nippon Foundation has provided 57,399 bags of rice and medicines for 14 ethnic groups and the local people so far and negotiations are underway to donate basic food items worth US$6.3 million to about 100,000 local people.

Arangements are being made to donate a medicated mosquito net and a solar lamp each to 17,552 households.

The union minister said that challenges and difficulties in the peace process are a reality as the government has to negotiate with large armed groups and small armed groups at the same time adding that political and economic reforms being carried out simultaneously with the peace process will give strength to overcome the challenges and difficulties.

Representatives attending Monday’s session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw

Labour camps have been transformed into vocational training centres: Deputy Minister

NAT PYI TAW, 13 Oct — The Correctional Department has transformed labour camps into agricultural and vocational training centres and there are now over 10,000 prisoners in 46 agricultural and vocational training centres, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun told the Pyithu Hluttaw on Monday. A health staff is appointed to each training centre and prisoners are allowed to receive medical treatment at hospitals and from local and international health organizations, the deputy minister added.

Although the prisoners have to work at the centres, they offer themselves to go to the centres of their own volition as they have the opportunities to enjoy the environs, holidays and full remission, to spend three days with their families every month and to learn agriculture, livestock breeding and manufacturing methods, according to the deputy minister.

In addition, a prisoner at the centre earns K 200 per day and they can take out the money when they are released, the deputy minister added.

In conclusion, the deputy minister said that the Correctional Department has been taking measures to enable prisoners to enjoy their rights by adopting the Standard Minimum Rule of the United Nations.

Pyithu Hluttaw session today discussed the use of sub-standard pesticides and human resources development and approved the Myanmar Port Authority bill.

MNA

9th ACWC meeting emphasizes protection of rights of women and children

YANGON, 13 Oct—ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) held its ninth meeting at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on Monday morning.

Director-General U Soe Kyi of Social Welfare Department and Chairperson of ACWC Ms Datun Paduka Intan Kassin made opening addresses. The Director-General said that Myanmar is implementing the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women 2013-2022 for development of women’s life. The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement cooperates with UN agencies and NGOs in drawing the prevention of violence against women law. He stressed the need for ACWC to accelerate tasks of ASEAN Charter and ASEAN Roadmap.

The meeting was also attended by representatives of ASEAN Secretariat, officials of UN agencies, the ministry and Myanmar Women’s Affairs Organization.

MNA

Energy Bill limits on extraction, selling natural gas, electricity

(from page 1)

Myanmar has one of the lowest electrification rates in the world, with only 33 percent of the population having an electricity connection, the World Bank said...

The World Bank Group is committed to Myanmar’s energy development. In January 2014 President Thein Sein announced US$1 billion in financial support to expand electricity generation, transmission and distribution in the country.—GNLM

Amyotha Hluttaw

Amyotha Hluttaw call for rights, justice for two murder suspects in Thailand

NAT PYI TAW, 13 Oct—The 11th session of Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) held its 15th day meeting on Monday answering five questions and approving a bill and deciding to send a message to the President of National Assembly of Thailand.

U Sai Tin Aung, representative of Constituency No 5 of Kachin state asked whether to sell the copies of State Constitution, as well as laws and bylaws of ministries at prices for common people.

Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut replied that her ministry has collected a total of 254 materials, including proverbs, hearsays, legendary, customs and traditional handicrafts of ethnic people, which are to be submitted to the UNESCO.

The Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw then approved the Law Translation Commission Bill with the decision of parliamentarians.

Finally, Amyotha Hluttaw approved the submission of “Message of Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw to President of National Assembly of Thailand”, which calls for rights and justice for two murder suspects who are being arrested for murder cases two tourists in Koh Tao island in Surat Thani, southern Thailand.