Amyotha Hluttaw 21 January, 2015

Amyotha Hluttaw discusses land seizure, electoral system

Nay Pyi Taw, 21 Jan— Land confiscation of Tatmadaw and proportional representation electoral systems are discussed at the twelfth regularly meeting of Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) Wednesday.

Major General Kyaw Nyunt, deputy minister for Defence, answered the questions of two representatives about land seizure of Tatmadaw and incentive cash for military personnel in remote areas. Answering to the question of U Thaw Zin Oo, representative of Magway region constituency 9, the deputy defence minister said Tatmadaw will not release an area of 450 acres as these were seized by respective commands for security reasons.

He explained in these areas, only 268 acres are land plots, while 153.38 acres are pond areas; crops are cultivated on the cultivable lands for household funds of families. The deputy minister said Ministry of Home Affairs issued land permits for these areas where buildings and offices have been constructed for the families of military staff and command.

Regarding the question of U Mahn Kan Nyunt, representative of Kayin State constituency 2, the major general said military staff in remote areas never enjoyed incentive cash as they are receiving extra money from their own cultivation and livestock in their respective commands, while they are provided with food rations.

Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw informed the Upper House about submitting a proposal to constitutional tribunal for verification of proportional representation voting system for the state constitution. Twenty-six representatives of Amyotha Hluttaw asked the practices of PR system for the seats of Upper House and state/region Hluttaw except self-administration regions under the arrangement of Union Election Commission. --MNA