Nay Pyi Taw, 25 May—U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Kayin State Constituency No 5 asked about a plan to grow Pure Gold Star Bean (Star Sacha Inchi) as alternative development in the poppy-cultivated areas on hilly regions at the 51st session of Amyotha Hluttaw Monday. Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than replied that El Shaddai Co., Ltd. imported seeds of bean for 1,500 acres of farmlands and cultivated it in Lashio, Muse and Myitkyina townships. The bean is being nurtured in Ayethukha village in Bago Region and Myaungchawgon village in Hmawby Township, Yangon Region. If test cultivation achieves success, the ministry will provide technical assistance to local farmers for cultivation of Pure Gold Star Bean in the poppy- cultivated areas.

U Ohn Htin, MP of Rakhine State constituency asked whether there is a plan to upgrade an earthen road to a laterite road linking three villages in Kyaukpyu Township. Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Khin Maung Aye said that as the upgrading plan for the inter-village road in Kyaukpyu Township has not been submitted to the government in 2015-16 fiscal year, there is no plan to upgrade the road.

U Khin Maung (a) U Aung Kyaw Oo of Rakhine State constituency No 3 asked about a plan to open a Basic Education Primary School in Hsanthitpyin Village, Kyauktaw Township. Deputy Minister for Education U Thant Shin replied that the self-reliant BEPS in the village is about three miles from Ngatapaung BEPS. The ministry will upgrade the self-reliant school to a BEPS branch in 2015-16 academic year.—MNA