Nay Pyi Taw, 10 June — Amyotha Hluttaw session on Wednesday debated proposal on construction of a diversion dam from the water course of Thanlwin River. U Myo Myint, MP of Mandalay region constituency 6, proposed the construction of a diversion dam to address drought and flood in middle and eastern part of Myanmar. Representative of Defence Services Lt-Cmdr Aung Phyo Kyaw said the project should not be implemented immediate as the project will need international aid for surveys, investment and conservation works, as well as the consent of local people and cooperation of neighbouring countries. U Htay Aung, MP of Mandalay region constituency 12, supported the proposal saying that the diversion dam project will be implemented as it can benefit agricultural sector and hydropower generation in Kayin and Mon states. U Sai Thant Zin, MP of Shan state constituency 4, objected the project, with the remark that Thanlwin River is flowing through conflict zones and misunderstanding on this project will turn out hindrance on peace making process. Daw Nang Ni Ni Aye, MP of Kayin state constituency 6, backed the project, noting that it will help develop the region in the long term. --MNA

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