The second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s first regular session entered its third day, approving the Joint Bill Committee and forming the Joint Public Accounts Committee and the Committee on Scrutinising Hluttaw Representatives yesterday.

First, Dr Sai Hseng Kyauk Hsam of Shan State Constituency 6 clarified formation, duties and the functions of the Joint Public Accounts Committee.

Next, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Thang announced that the Joint Public Accounts Committee is set to comprise 15 members involving Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung as the chairman and U Saw Than Hlut of Kayin State Constituency 2 and U Aung Min Min of Zalan Constituency as the vice-chairmen, Dr Sai Hseng Kyauk Hsam of Shan State Constituency 6 as the secretary and U Khin Maung Than of Ton糯coo Constituency as the joint secretary.

Then, U Min Oo of Bago Region Constituency 6 elaborated on formation and duties and functions of the Committee on Scrutinising Hluttaw Representatives.

The Speaker then informed parliamentarians of the committee which is also set to be formed with 15 members led by Dr Hla Moe of Aungmyay Thasan Constituency as the chairman and U Min Oo of Bago Region Constituency 6 as the secretary.

Next, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the 15-member Joint Bill Committee headed by Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung together with vice-chairmen U Zaw Min of Sagaing Region Constituency 6 and U Tun Aung (a) U Tun Tun Hein of Nawngkio Constituency, Secretary Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency 3, Joint Secretary U Stephen of Kenpung Constituency and members Daw Khin Htay Kywe of Chaungzon Constituency, U Kayw Soe Lin of Pyigyi Tagun Constituency, U Wai Hlaing Tun of Pathein Constituency, U Khin Maung Win of Lannkadaw Constituency, Defense Services Personnel Hluttaw Representative Brig-Gen Maung Maung, U Aung Kyi Nyunt of Magway Region Constituency 4, U Thein Lwin of Kachin State Constituency 10, Daw Kyein Ngaik Man of Chin State Constituency 7, Daw Nwe Nwe Aung of Mon State Constituency 2 and U Kyaw Kyaw of Rakhine State Constituency 4.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s fourth day session continues today. — Myanmar News Agency

Results of Mingalar Zay inspections to be submitted to YCDC in second week of Feb

The report on the results of inspections to the endurance of the Mingalar Zay market, located in Yangon’s Mingalar Taung Nyunt township, which suffered fire damage will be submitted to the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) during the second week of February according to the Myanmar Engineers Association (MEA).

Inspections on the Mingalar Zay market, which caught ablaze on 9 January, by the MEA began on 28 January. The YCDC will then make a decision based upon the results of the inspections as to whether to construct a new market building or to make maintenance and repair to the existing fire damaged structure.

“Two floors above the floor which was burnt out can’t be used for anything anymore. There’s no way it can be used. The iron structural supports have been bent by the heat of the fire. We are making thorough inspections,” said U Nyunt Mang San, executive of the MEA.

The YCDC will loan out K1,000 million to shops that were affected by the blaze, while of those 1,636 stores which suffered fire damage over 800 have submitted applications for the financial loans, said U San Shwe Htun head of the YCDC’s department of markets. — Myitmaukha News Agency

Indian International Fleet Review for 2016 conducted

The Indian Navy conducted their International Fleet Review (IFR-16) off Visakhapatnam from 4 to 08 Feb. A Fleet Review is a traditional maritime practice wherein the country’s Head of State of India inspects the Naval Fleet.

In India it is a practice to conduct a Fleet Review once in the five year term of the President. This year the Review was special in that it included participation not only by Indian warships but also by those from foreign countries.

In all 22 warships from foreign navies were present amongst the 70 warships that were ceremonially inspected by the Honorable President of the Republic of India, H.E Shri Pranab Mukherjee on 6 Feb. A fly past by 45 naval aircraft was also undertaken during the Fleet Review.

The International Fleet Review 2016 was able to bring together navies from around the globe and signified the common desire to promote peace, harmony and co-operation on the ‘global commons’, as the oceans are also referred to.

In addition to the ships, 23 Heads of Navy were also present at Visakhapatnam with another 26 sending a delegation. In this manner, IFR 16 saw representation from 50 foreign navies from around the world.

Vice Admiral Tun Aung San, Commander-in-Chief, Myanmar Navy, attended IFR 16 and had successful meetings with H.E Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the President of the Republic of India, H.E H.E Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, important Cabinet ministers and Adm RK Dhowan, Chief of Naval Staff, Indian Navy.

UMS King Aung Zeya was also present for the Review. The presence of the marching contingent from the Myanmar Navy that participated in the City Parade on 7 February was witnessed by the Prime Minister of India and other attendees.

Besides the Review by the President, several other activities like the International Maritime Seminar, International Maritime Conference, Cultural Show, International City Parade, International Band Concert and Operational Demonstration were conducted from 4 to 8 February. —GNLM

Water could become a scarce resource in Myanmar

Certain divisional regions and states are at risk of experiencing water scarcity, especially the arid zone of upper Myanmar, in Shan State and around the delta area according to the Forestry Department who have called on the government to pursue policy which would protect against such a problem.

“Each and every one of us are responsible for storing rain water in the reservoirs”, said U Myo Lwin of the Forestry Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry.

“To ensure sufficiency of water, we need to plant more trees. The government should also cease to permit coal industry activities”, said Dr. Tun Lwin, a Meteorological Scientist.

“The diminishing water supply can be attributed to the indiscriminate felling of trees, ultimately leading to global warming”, he added.

In 2010 Myanmar faced a water scarcity crisis. The departments concerned, particularly the Yangon City Development Committee, are required to ensure a sufficient supply of water by overseeing and improving the sourcing and distribution of water. — Ko Moe