Nay Pyi Taw, 9 April—Dr Myat Nyana Soe of the Yangon Region constituency No 4 abled a motion at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on Thursday, suggesting a cancellation of the appointment of permanent secretaries and their salaries if the appointment is contrary to the existing laws and describing the position as ‘invented’.

Dr Kan Zaw, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development, responded that the new rank will steer the government into a good, clean, transparent and accountable body in terms of public management. He added the appointment of permanent secretaries is an early preparation to ensure a smooth transition between the coming elections and the post-election period.

The union minister quoted the State Constitution as granting the President the rights to appoint, approve, transfer and terminate high-ranking officials of the Union Civil Services Board, with UCSB Chairman U Kyaw Thu saying that officials appointed by the President are entitled to their monthly salaries in line with the presidential power, although the Union Civil Service Law and Regulations has no mention of it.

U Mahn Aung Tin Myint of the Kayin State constituency urged the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to include funds in the new fiscal year for the construction of housing for MPs to stay, with the speaker noting that MPs are to stay in government-run guest houses as there is no housing for MPs.

The speaker promised to work on the proposal in accordance with the law. Dr Kan Zaw also said he would give top priority to the issue, pledging further discussions with the planning commission and the government. --MNA

Source: The Global New Light of Myanmar, 2015-04-10