Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves joint committee’s reports, discusses two bills

THE 13th regular session of the First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued for the 39th day in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, with parliamentary approval given to the Joint Public Accounts Committee’s reports and two others, and discussions on two bills.

Following the discussions of the members of Union-level organisations on findings and remarks of the Joint Public Accounts Committee on the report relating to the Union Budget for 2014-2015, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the parliamentary approval to the committee’s report.

On the committee’s report, Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein said that the ministry is supervising the budget implementation of the ministries concerned, following the suggestions of the committee in accord with existing rules and regulations and the Constitution.

In his discussion, Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr. Kan Zaw said that the ministry is also overseeing projects being implemented and financed by Union, regional and other budgets in regions, states and districts.

Daw Khin Saw Oo, deputy governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, pledged that further coordination will be made between the CBM and the Finance Ministry in accord with the suggestion of the committee.

Next, the process of approving the second draft of Myanmar Gemstone Law sent back by the President was followed.

Then, Union Minister U Win Shein discussed the Joint Public Accounts Committee’s findings and remarks on the Union Auditor-General’s report, and the Pyithu Hluttaw approved it.

During today’s session, committee members read out the Joint Bill Committee’s report on its activities at the first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session, and a parliamentarian presented the committee’s report on the former President’s security bill that has been debated by Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) and Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House).—Myanmar News Agency

MNHRC hosts TWG meeting of South East Asia National Human Rights Institution

THE Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, the chair of the South East Asia National Human Rights Institution Forum for 2016, hosted a technical working group meeting at its office in Yangon yesterday.

In his address, U Win Mya, chairman of the MNHRC, stated that the meeting is aimed at holding discussions on the follow-up activities relating to the decisions of the 12th SEANF annual meeting in Malaysia and other human rights issues.

During the meeting, set to last for two days from 27 to 28 January, delegates from the Indonesian National Human Rights Commission (Komnas HAM) presented an update of SEANF permanent secretariat and initial work on the drafting of the SEANF strategic plan for 2017-2022, which was followed by further input from other delegates.

The meeting was attended by delegates from members of SEANF except Timor-leste. The SEANF comprises six independent national human rights institutions from Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Timor-leste. The meeting continues today. —Myanmar News Agency

MWAF’s annual meeting continues

THE Annual meeting of the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation continued for second day in Nay Pyi Taw, with attendees to the meeting taking part in topics of discussions.

Discussions on capacity building for women were led by Prof. Dr Khin Mar Tun, president of the federation, Daw Tin Tin Lat and Daw Khin May Soe, MWAF’s vice-presidents. Moreover, topics of discussions included microfinancing, vocational training, income generation programs, ways to stop violence against women, anti-human trafficking, legal assistance for the victims, protection of women and children affected by conflicts and natural disasters.—Myanmar News Agency

Pyithu Hluttaw sees reports presentation of respective committees

THE 13th regular session of the First Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) continued for 30th day in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, with the submission of reports on activities of its committees and commission to the Hluttaw.

MPs U Saw Hla Tun and U Nyi Nyi Myint read out a report of the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee and Pyithu Hluttaw Public Accounts Committee. Likewise, presentations of reports by the Parliament by Pyithu Rights Committee, Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Committee and Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission were also made.

In its presentation, Hluttaw Rights Committee suggested that the future parliamentary session be set to last for six months in maximum and parliamentary calendar for a certain year should be released early.

The committee also stressed the need of undertaking parliamentary activities by all MPs in cooperation with Defense Services Personnel representatives.—Myanmar News Agency