**Hluttaw Round-up**

**Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Round-up**

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Union Parliament) continued its session yesterday, discussing the National Planning Bill and the progress of implementing tasks for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

High-ranking officials from the Union-level institutions clarified the bill and sought the approval of the parliament for the remarks made by the joint-bill committee.

Dr Pwint Hsan, the Deputy Minister for Commerce, said the ministry has adopted a national policy on boosting exports, relaxing rules and regulations for trade, finding foreign market for local products and implementing transit trade.

The parliament also approved the Insecticide Bill, the New Plant Species Protection Bill and the Bill Amending the Penal Code, which were sent back to parliament with the president’s remarks.

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**Pyithu Hluttaw Round-up**

THE Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) discussed the urgent implementation of car parking systems in Yangon and Mandalay and the system to scrutinise car import permit.

MP U Win Oo of Yaypyyu constituency urged the government to scrutinise the process of applying for recommendation letters for car parking spaces when the people buy cars from show rooms in order to prevent corruption from entering the process.

Dr Pwint Hsan, the Deputy Minister for Commerce, invited complaints about corruption along with recommendations for the car parking spaces, promising that the government would take action against those involved in corruption.

Two bills, including the Former President’s Security Bill, were submitted.

**Amyotha Hluttaw Round-up**

AT the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting yesterday, the Upper House speaker announced that the parliament approved the reports on its own activities during the first Amyotha Hluttaw, submitted by the committees on rural development, international relations, peasants and employees, mining, environmental conservation and others.

The speaker also asked MPs to sign up to discuss the report of the mineral resources and environmental conservation committee’s report.—Myanmar News Agency

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**Coordination meeting tackles Union Tax Bill**

LEGISLATORS and high-ranking officials of various ministries discussed the Union Tax Bill for 2016 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The coordination meeting was opened with remarks by Thura U Shwe Mann, the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Deputy ministers for Home Affairs, Livestock Breeding, Fisheries and Rural Development, Electric Power, Mines and Finance, members of the Nay Pyi Taw Council, vice chairmen of the joint-committees of the parliament and MPs attended the meeting.—Myanmar News Agency

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**New military MPs appointed**

THE Union Election Commission issued notifications 1/2016, 2/2016 and 3/2016, announcing the appointment of military MPs to the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House), Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) and Region and State hluttaws in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law, Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law and Divisional Region or State Hluttaw Election Law, as well with Article 31 of the aforementioned laws.

A total of 110 military MPs have been appointed to the Pyithu Hluttaw, along with 56 to the Amyotha Hluttaw, 13 to the Kachin State Hluttaw, 5 in Kayah State, 6 in Kayin State, 6 in Chin State, 25 in Sagaing Region, 7 in Tanintharyi Region, 19 in Bago Region, 17 in Magway Region, 19 in Mandalay Region, 8 in Mon State, 12 in Rakhine State, 31 in Yangon Region, 34 in Shan State and 18 in Ayeyawady Region.—Myanmar News Agency

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**Suspected mausoleum of ancient king falling into disrepair**

AN ancient building believed to be the mausoleum of King U Aung Zeya, located in the grounds of the Thayettaw Monastery in a village in Bilin Township in the Thaton District of Mon State, is currently in need of conservation works, according to local residents.

The mausoleum receives regular visits by both foreigners and locals, and despite efforts to contain the mausoleum by putting surrounding it with barbed wire, residents say the structures lack of roofing is accelerating its degradation at the hands of the natural elements.

Only one of the mausoleum’s two stupas, located on the eastern edge, remains intact due to previous conservation measures.

Head monk of the Thayettaw Monastery, U Nya Nayda, said the site could become a destination that supports the tourist industry if the state were to systematically conserve it.

“This mausoleum used to be very tall, but it slowly crumbled away. The figures that encircle the mausoleum have also broken because of rain and wind damage. In our capacity as monks, we collect those bits that break off and conserve them as much as possible. We’ve put a fence around the area. So many people come to study this site. If this site could be conserved with a roof of some kind, it could support the development of the region and the tourist industry,” the monk said. U Soe Soe Kyi, the local administrator of Kin Village, where the mausoleum is located, cited archaeologists who have studied the site, saying the structure is approximately 36 feet in length and 24 feet in width, surrounded by ceramic male and female figures, and decorated with flowers. He said it is possible that the style of the brick work on the remaining stupa in front of the mausoleum indicates post-Inwa(Ava) era or Konebuang era handiwork.—Myitmaukha News Agency

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**Pyidaungsu Hluttaw being convened in Nay Pyi Taw.** Photo: MNA

**Mausoleum of King U Aung Zeya is seen in the grounds of the Thayettaw Monastery in a village in Bilin Township in the Thaton District of Mon State.** Photo: MYITMAUKHA NEWS AGENCY