Fifth regular meeting of second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw concludes

Myomyint, Hmwe Kyu Zin (MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

Eight new laws were enacted, 11 laws were amended and one law revoked at the fifth regular meeting of the second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

During the meeting, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw discussed, approved and documented issues including seeking foreign loan, eight cases for signing international accords and MoUs, two reports on debt management, two reports of findings of the Union Auditor-General Office, reports on a special goods tax and commercial tax, a national planning report for 2016-2017 and the Union Budget.

In his address at the first day of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than urged township development committees to tackle challenges they are facing through coordination among others when they carry out development tasks in their respective townships.

The meeting, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw also documented the national report of the National Planning for the 2016-2017 FY and findings of the Public Joint-Account Committee sent by the Union Government and discussions of the MPs.

In the debate yesterday, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr Tun Naing explained the decreasing income for gas and oil in 2015-2016 FY, saying that it is found that oil wells, which have been operating for more than 25 years, cannot produce as much oil and gas as was previously done. Also, the price of gas has decreased in the 2016-2017 FY, he added.

Deputy ministers from Home Affairs, Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Transport and Communications, Education and Planning and Finance clarified findings of the Public Joint-Account over the annual report of the National Planning for the 2016-2017 FY.

Second Pyithu Hluttaw fifth regular session ends

Aung Ye Thwin, Mi Mi Phyo (MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

In the 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 5th regular session 54th day meeting held yesterday, four starred questions were asked and answered and the Pyithu Hluttaw speaker gave a message of greeting.

In response to a question by U Sai Ngaung Hsang Hein of Mawkma constituency on the plan to develop small-scale fish hatcheries to be exported in accordance with required standards and quality, Dr U Aye Min of Kayan constituency said the Pyithu Hluttaw is being convened in Nay Pyi Taw.

Second Amyotha Hluttaw 5th Regular Session concludes at its 53rd Day Meeting

Aye Aye Thant (MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

The distribution of electricity to villages was one of the issues discussed at the 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 5th regular session at its 53rd day closing meeting yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

Dr Tun Naing, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy replied to the question raised by U Kyaw Miint of constituency 10 in Mandalay Region on electricity delivery to villages. “Distribution of electricity power to villages has been under way by spending the annual budget allotment for the ministry, by using annual budget allotments for Region and State Cabinets and by getting annually granted loans from international countries. Some villages are implementing the acquisition of electric power on a self-help basis, with the money collected from the villagers to brighten their locations earlier than normal. In doing so, the ministry designated 12 principles to abide by for village committees acquiring electricity. The aims of those 12 principles include long-term survival of gridlines and transmitters to be constructed by village committees and freedom from the risks of electric power and techniques for reducing power loss. Members of village committees were transparently elected by voting in accord with rules and regulations of the constituency of teams and organisations, under the supervision of the township department of general administration. If the tenure of the committee expires, new members are to be elected again. Annual financial reports must be made, and if financial frauds are found, new committee members are to be elected again by voting. The Office of the Union Attorney General, the Office of the Union Auditor General, the Ministry of Home Affairs, representatives from Region and State Cabinets, Hluttaw representatives and the public are negotiating for the emergence of rules and regulations for supplying power in villages”, Dr Tun Naing said.

Afterward, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw noted the accomplishments of the parliamentary body. “The 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 5th regular session held its meetings from May 18 to August 31 for 53 days.”
Second Pyithu Hluttaw fifth …

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The deputy minister said the Nantmon Aungdaw, which is three miles west of Namaiing village in Maukmai Township, southern Shan State, was constructed and maintained by locals to provide irrigation water to 235 acres of farmland. It is 200 feet long and 35 feet high, constructed with wooden poles and planks and was not very strong. In fiscal year 2013-2014, with more than Ks 40 million of state government funds, the Irrigation and Water Utilisation Management Department replaced the wooden poles with concrete pillars. In fiscal year 2015-2016, more than Ks 4 million of state government funds were used to maintain and improve the waterway but due to a lack of funds, only about 60 per cent of the work was completed. At the current moment, there is a requirement to do more repair and maintenance work, said the deputy minister.

Afterwards, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint gave a speech saying the fifth regular session was started in 18 May 2017 and today is the 54th day. During the meeting period, 310 starred and 729 non-starred questions were answered, 23 motions including two important motions were tabled, of which 11 were confirmed while 12 were put on record. Thirty-three bills were reviewed, 16 were approved and 17 remain.

During the meeting period, 22 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives were sworn in, 19 reports by committees formed by the Pyithu Hluttaw were confirmed, the Pyithu Hluttaw judicial and law committee’s term was extended and the duties and responsibilities of the Pyithu Hluttaw farming and workers affairs committee was amended and redefined. Two Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representatives were transferred and reassigned as committee members, and five Tatmadaw Pyithu Hluttaw representatives were replaced and reassigned as observers.

Representatives should take note that in conducting legislation, the primary responsibility of the hluttaw is to defend the people. If the laws confirmed and enacted by them are unable to defend the people, it is hindering and slowing down the transition to democracy. Strict laws lead to governance by law, which is an extremist type of government and should be avoided. Laws should not oppress but protect the basic human rights of the people. Only then will the laws become beneficial for the people and earn the trust and confidence of the people.

Another responsibility of the hluttaw is the matter of checks and balances. With regards to this matter, everyone knew that the hluttaw representatives have the right and are doing this in accordance with laws and rules related to the hluttaw. Only a few questions that are not in accord with the restrictions and procedures were amended or changed for the dignity of the hluttaw representatives. The hluttaw speaker especially requested hluttaw representatives to act and talk in accordance with democracy practices when meeting with the people so that they gain the trust and confidence of the people during the time when hluttaw meetings were adjourned. It is important for hluttaw representatives to earn the respect of the authorities and authoritative departments too. As we are implementing a democracy system and we need to cooperate in order for the people to have a democracy culture and practices. We all need to cooperate and work toward an all-inclusive democracy.

Finally, the hluttaw speaker said while the hluttaw representatives conduct their legislative responsibility dutifully and loyally, they also need to continuously upgrade their abilities. They must not lose touch with the people and must always be in touch with the people and become people’s representatives. They need to oversee and manage the local region development works. They also need to coordinate the works of the committee to assess cases of confiscated farmlands and other lands. Cooperate to establish a democratic federal union with public democratic participation. Be vigilant for the danger of those who want to hinder and destroy democracy. Violence and terrorism that could deviate the democracy transition process, destroy and damage the rule of law, stability and peace of the community should also be prevented and defended with unity and cooperation, said the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker.

After his speech, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced the adjournment of the 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 5th regular session 54th day meeting. After the successful completion of the 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 5th regular session.

2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 5th Regular Session concludes at its 53rd Day Meeting

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Parliamentarians made 235 asterisk-marked questions and 208 non-asterisk-marked questions regarding their performance for the sake of the people. Over those questions asked by the parliamentarians, authorities concerned at the Union Level gave replies in writing or verbally, individually or collectively from the ministries. In the sector of submitting motions, six motions urging the Union Government were put forward to the Hluttaw, it was decided to accept for discussion by the Hluttaw, so four motions were approved, one put on record and one left to be carried out further.”

“As regards submitting bills, five bills sent from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw were put forward to the Hluttaw for discussion. Then, drafting committee read out the report. After discussions of parliamentarians over the report, it was sent to the Pyithu Hluttaw after getting the Hluttaw’s approval. Out of the bills approved by Amyotha Hluttaw, sent to Pyithu Hluttaw for discussion, four bills were returned to the Hluttaw with the amendment attached. Hluttaw approved them as amended by Pyithu Hluttaw. Hluttaw sent to Pyithu Hluttaw 7 bills with amendment attached and two bills as amended by Pyithu Hluttaw. Moreover, putting the bill on the amendment of anti-corruption law (third revised) forward to Hluttaw, reading out the report of drafting committee and getting approval of Hluttaw were performed and sent it to Pyithu Hluttaw. Pyithu Hluttaw sent back the decision of approval without any amendments. Similarly, bill on Myanmar Gems and Jewellery, 2017 was put forward to Hluttaw. After reading out the report, parliamentarians made discussions and acquisition of Hluttaw’s approval, sending it back to Pyithu Hluttaw”, the Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw added.

“ar in the sector of submitting reports, reading out the reports of 12 committees to Amyotha Hluttaw, discussing in support from parliamentarians and approving from Hluttaw were performed. Committees formed inside the Amyotha Hluttaw held 174 meetings in all, during the session. With the view to upgrading capacities of Amyotha Hluttaw representatives made eight debates. Research, Public and International Relation Department issued three short term papers for representatives during the session, with 65 parliamentarians finding 113 pieces of information they wanted, and 24 underway.”

Finally, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw announced that the 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 5th regular session successfully came to a close.”