Pyidaungsu Hluttaw agrees formation of two new ministries

2nd Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 6th regular session 11th day meeting was held yesterday afternoon at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting hall in Hluttaw building, Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker confirmed the Myanmar Companies bill, announcing that it would be sent to the President for his signature to make the bill into law.

Next, U Zaw Thein of Wake-ma constituency, U Oo Hla Saw of Mrauk U constituency, Tat-maw Pyithu Hluttaw representative Li-Col Kyaw Tun and U Aung Thike of Seikpyu constituency discussed the matter of becoming a member country of Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) sent by the President.

In his discussion on the matter, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Aung Kyaw Lin said there are many political and economic benefits for Myanmar if it becomes a member of IORA, urging the the Hluttaw to approve it.

After seeking approval from MPs, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced that the Hluttaw agreed the motion.

Afterwards, Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than announced the Hluttaw agreeing to appoint and assign the duties of Anti-Corruption Commission chairman to U Aung Kyi, secretary to U San Win and members U Soe Tint, U Aung Lwin, U Han Nyunt, Daw Myat Myat Soe, U Aung Than Myint, U Khin Maung Myint, U Myo Myint, Daw Aye Aye Mu, U Zaw Win and Daw Lei Lei Thwin that was sent by the President.

Formation of two new ministries, Ministry of the Office of the Union Government and Ministry of International Cooperation sent by the President was supported by U Soe Thane of Kayah constituency. Union Attorney General U Htun Htun Oo also explained the benefit of forming the two new ministries.

After obtaining the approval of the Hluttaw on formation of the two new ministries sent by the President, the Speaker announced that Pyidaungsu Hluttaw agreed establishing two new ministries.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker also announced further that in addition to the agreement by the Hluttaw to form the two new ministries, there was no objection to appoint U Kyaw Tin as Union Minister for International Cooperation and this appointment is confirmed and agreed by the Hluttaw.

With regards to the objection by U Soe Thane of Kayah constituency on appointment of U Thaung Tun as Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker noted on complete evidence being not—naviged in the objection and announced the decision of the Hluttaw to continue with the appointment according to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw law, rule and the Constitution.

Afterwards, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw’s agreement on the appointment of U Thaung Tun as Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government.

2nd Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 6th regular session 12th day meeting will be held on the morning of 24 November.

—Myanmar News Agency

Pyithu Hluttaw

Roads, bridges to be inspected by third party

The second Pyithu Hluttaw sixth regular session ended after its 16th day meeting held yesterday morning in Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall.

Replying to a question by U Tin Ko Ko 00 of Bilin constituency on arrangements made for road and bridge construction works to obtain adequate engineering, machinery, expert workers, completion on schedule and standards, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin said when Ministry of Construction conduct road and bridge works, quality assurance teams are formed to inspect the construction group and quality of the materials used. In addition to inspection by the ministry, the auditor general’s office also conducts inspections of the records as well as field inspection. Coordination letters were sent to states and regions chief ministers to implement a Third Party system in 2017-2018 fiscal years. At the present moment, there are no firm institutions to conduct Third Party system and Chief Ministers were informed of assigning this duty to Myanmar International Consultant Engineering Group, a chapter under Myanmar Engineering Society. Furthermore committees were formed for responsible officials to manage a timely receipt and full usage of materials in the work sites.

A design team from the road and bridge department designed the work after conducting a field visit and works were conducted according to the design. Arrangement and instructions were made to responsible engineers so that they can have the reserve funds, estimates and designs shown for inspection. Next, U Kyaw Aung Lwin of Sedoktara constituency raised a question on plans to construct an all-weather road earth connecting Pyingyi Village, Sedoktara Township with Ngaphe-Sedoktara-Saw district connecting road. Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin answered that the road connecting to the district connecting road is 6 miles, 2 furlong long and due to the poor quality of the earth along the route of the road, earthwork will be costly. Budget for this road will be requested for this road starting from FY 2018-2019 and depending upon budget allocation, it will be conducted explained the Deputy Minister.

Other questions by U Maung Maung of Htigyaing constituency, U Nyunt Hein of Thanbyuzayat constituency and Daw Cho Cho Win of Mawlaik constituency were also answered by Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin. A motion by Dr. Daw Thet Thet Khine of Dagon constituency urging the government to inform the public transparently about the incomes from extractive sector and put into the union budget fully as suggested by Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) to which Myanmar was admitted as a Candidate in 2014 was then discussed by U Oo Hla Saw of Mrauk U constituency, U Naing Htoo Aung of Natogyi constituency, U Bo Gyi of Chaung constituency, Dr. Daw Khin Sithu of Loikaw constituency, U Tin Soe of Hpakan constituency, U Lwin Ko Laht of Thanlyin constituency and U Kan Myint of Thayet constituency.

In his discussion on the motion, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win said a tripartite group consisting of 7 government representatives, 7 private sector representatives and 9 civil society organisations representatives totaling 23 representatives was formed to publish EITI report and work according to set standards and criteria.

Amyotha Hluttaw

School buildings in Rakhine to be upgraded: Ministry of Education

The quality of school buildings in Rakhine State and their replacement or upgrading was one of several issues discussed at yesterday’s meeting of the Amyotha Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw.

U Win Maw Tun, Deputy Minister for Education, replied to a question raised by U Kyaw Than of constituency 10 in Rakhine State.

“The Ministry of Construction is carrying out the tasks of constructing school buildings in Manaung township in Rakhine State with the lump sum fund in FY 2017-2018 — Ks179.3 million. The State Primary School in Thein Gone Village was found to have a one-storeyed school measuring 30 by 30 feet with a corrugated iron sheet roof and timber wood walls, attended by 19 school-children, whereas the State Primary School in Kokko and Kyundone villages had a one-storeyed school building measuring 25 by 15 feet with a corrugated iron sheet roof and timber wood walls, which was attended by only 18 students. The said schools are found to be in poor condition, thus arrangements of building schools will be carried out under Type — C in FY 2017-2018.”

Concerning the question raised by U Ngan Hay of constituency 1, in Chin State, the Deputy Minister added, “The Ministry of Education upgraded schools in Chin State — one SPS, three SSMs (Branches), four SMSs, one SHS (Branch), one SHS—10 in total. BEMS (Branch) situated in Saz Thit Qr of Haka has only 135 middle school students and it is only one mile away from no/2 BEHS in Haka, so it was not included in the priority list for now.”

As regards the question raised by U Win Maung of constituency in Magway Region, U Hla Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Irrigation clarified.

Afterward, Hluttaw representatives discussed the 2nd Amendment of Civil Service Law.
Message sent by State Counsellor for introduction of the book on health standards

First of all, I send my heartfelt wishes to you all — the citizens including those present at the ceremony of introduction of the book on health standards, to be blessed with physical and mental well-being.

In trying our best to firmly stand on the path to development of a Federal Democratic Union, peace plays an important role. At the same time, we aim at assuring the people better public health. Especially, we will prioritise upgrading fundamental health care for people who are socio-economically disadvantaged and people living in rural and remote areas. For coverage of health care on a nationwide scale, the Ministry of Health and Sports has drawn up the Myanmar National Health Plan (2017-2021), laying down priority plans. In implementing the Plan, the Ministry of Health and Sports will cooperate with the People.

According to the research findings, cases of chronic diseases such as hypertension and diabetes are increasingly being found in Myanmar. It was found that healthy living practices were rarely found among the public. Instead, smoking, chewing betel quid, drinking liquor and other habits which can harm health are mostly found among the public. So, it is urgently needed to change current social living patterns. Besides, it has been found that constant monitoring on problems of infectious diseases, mortality of mothers and infants and health development of teenagers is still needed.

In implementing these plans, cooperation of related Ministries, partner organizations, together with the Ministry of Health and Sports is urgently needed. Similarly, it is of great importance for the public to have vast knowledge on health. To make efforts to make sure that the public understand the information well and are able to make the right decisions. Now that the book on health standards Version 01, which the whole nation can apply will be distributed, it must be presumed that a foundation has been laid for upgrading health knowledge of the people. For lifting health knowledge, those who give health care are just instructors. It is incumbent upon the people to practise good health habits. Easy and simple health practices must start from the family.

We firmly believe that it will be successful in a short period of time provided that volunteers, philanthropists, public-oriented organisations, national health care teams, media and artists will take part in unity and with enthusiasm. I hereby urge you all to collectively make concerted efforts so that our citizens will have a high level of knowledge about health.

(Official Translation)

Ceremony for introduction of health standards

A ceremony for the introduction of health standards compiled to effectively and broadly carry out the sharing health knowledge among the people and a ceremony for the opening workshop was held in MICC-2 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Present at the meeting were First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin, Pyithu Hluttaw Representative, Union Ministers of Information, Education and Health and Sports and their wives, responsible officials from related ministries, heads of public health departments of Regions and States, representatives from national health teams, UN organisations, INGOs and NGOs, civil societies and invited guests.

At the ceremony, the message sent from the State Counsellor was read out by Dr. Pe Myint, Union Minister for Information. Afterward, Dr. Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Health and Sports said, “So as to lift up the health standards of the public, three special priority projects are being implemented. Adaptability of curriculums and syllabuses of medical institutes, its related universities, two nursing universities, and 50 midwife training schools are being made. Similarly keeping medical ethics, nursing ethics and development of teachers’ skills and acquisition of enabling teaching environments are being prioritized. In addition, Dr. Stephen Paul Jost, resident representative of World Health and Ms. June Kunugi, resident representative of UNICEF made speeches and posed for a documentary photo together with those present at the ceremony.”

First Lady Daw Su Su Lwin looks at the poster displayed at the ceremony for introduction of health standards. PHOTO: MNA

Supplementary Protocol and Exchange of the Instruments signed

H.E U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister for Office of the State Counsellor of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and H.E Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh exchanged the Instruments of Ratification on the Treaty relating to the demarcation of the land section of the boundary north of the Naaf River of Myanmar and Bangladesh in Nay Pyi Taw on 23 November 2017.

In addition to the exchanging of the Instruments of Ratification, H.E. U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and H.E Mr Md. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh signed the supplementary Protocols of the Naaf River Boundary (2007).—Myanmar News Agency

Roads, bridges to be inspected by third party

FROM PAGE 2
Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance is assigned as a chairman and a retired director general from Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation as an expert is assigned as a vice-chairman in the group.

A report is to be submitted by 2018 March and the report will include incomes from oil and natural gas sector, mining sector, jade and gem sectors for 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 fiscal years. In an earlier report, income for jade and gem include only the income from emporium and in this report it will include mine mouth tax as well as all incomes from jade and gem sector. Scoping study is to be conducted on forest sector income and work conducted and if it is concluded in time, it will be included in the report as an annex. It is also agreed to work toward including facts on Myanmar pearl production and trade as preliminary finding.

Once the report is confirmed the public will be informed transparently through press conferences. Work will be conducted by accepting advises and suggestions. As works will be done according to standards and norms set in 2016 EITI Standard, the Union Minister explained for the motion to be put on record.

Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win also explained about the motion. Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win and Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win then submitted to the Hluttaw to put the motion on record and Dr. Daw Thet Thet Khine of Dagon constituency who tabled the motion submitted to confirm the motion.

Due to differences in opinion, the motion was decided by vote. As 325 were for the motion, 68 were against and 3 abstain, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Myint announced the confirmation of the motion.—Aye Aye Thant
Adventure Bagan Temple Marathon to be held in coming Saturday

By May Thet Hnin

Under the supervision of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the Adventure Bagan Temple Marathon will be held in the ancient city Bagan on Saturday in cooperation with Myanmar Voyages International Tourism Co. and Denmark-based Albatros Travel.

The Bagan Temple Marathon will start from the east of Htilominlo Temple at 6 am. A total of 246 international runners from more than 30 countries including the United States, Australia, Britain, Denmark, France and countries from Asia and 93 amateurs from Myanmar will participate. This event will be led by an experienced referee group from Denmark.

The race route for the runners will take them on a voyage of discovery into an alluring and untouched land with beautiful temples and sacred pagodas scattered across the ancient city. There will be three events for both male and female runners along new and old Bagan city, for a total of 26 miles for full marathoners, 13 miles for the half marathoners and 16 miles for the mini-marathon runners. The winners will be awarded lacquer club prizes.

The Adventure Bagan Temple Marathon started in 2013 and this is in its fifth time in Myanmar.

Amateurs including international runners will participate at the Adventure Bagan Temple Marathon to be held in Bagan on Saturday. The Adventure Bagan Temple Marathon started in 2013. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

FROM PAGE 2

U Kyi Win of constituency 12 in Ayeyarwady Region said, “The wording, ‘Tatmadaw men and Myanmar Police Force are civil service personnel, but according to the nature of duties performed, they must not be concerned with these legal affairs;’ must be erased. Though natures of duties they perform are different from other service personnel, it is strictly prescribed that every citizen has rights of equality, freedom and justice according to the Constitution. As they are said to be equal in legal affairs, they must enjoy equal rights as included in the Constitution, being the public service personnel. Any institutions and organizations do not have privileges. In the Civil Service Law, every individual enjoying salaries and provisions provided by the State are civil service personnel. The Defence Service Act, 1959 is still valid. Defence Service Act-related laws and rights have been prescribed. Benefits of Military Service had also been prescribed. It is necessary for all the civil service personnel to abide by rights and responsibilities related to Civil Service Law.”

With regard to the amendment (Bill), Major Naing Myint, Tatmadaw representative discussed. Following this, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Irrigation put forward the motion, “The Amendment on vacant, fallow and virgin lands management law (Bill) to Hluttaw, followed by the report of drafting committee concerning the Bill from Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye, drafting committee member.

Mahm Win Khaing Thun, the Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw, announced that parliamentarians who are desirous of discussing the bill can enroll their names at the Hluttaw.

Finally, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw made a closing address, announcing that 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 6th Regular Session has been successfully convened.

— Aung Ye Thwin

School buildings in Rakhine to be upgraded: Ministry of Education

Pope Francis to visit Myanmar

At the invitation of U Htin Kyaw, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, His Holiness Pope Francis will pay an official visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in the near future.—Myanmar News Agency

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President’s Office
Order 30/2017
5th Waxing of Nadaw, 1379 ME
23 November, 2017

Anti-corruption Commission reformed

In accordance with the provisions stated in the Section 7 of the Anti-corruption Law, “Anti-Corruption Commission” has been reformed with the following persons.

(1) U Aung Kyi
Union Minister (Retired)
Chairman
Ministry of Information
(2) U Soe Tint
Director (Retired)
Member
Union Auditor-General’s Office
(3) U Aung Lwin
Director (Retired)
Member
Ministry of Home Affairs
(4) U Han Nyunt
Director-General (Retired)
Member
Union Attorney-General’s Office
(5) Daw Myat Myat Soe
Director-General (Retired)
Member
Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development
(6) U Aung Than Myint
Director-General
Member
Union Attorney-General’s Office
(7) U Khin Maung Myint
Advocate
Member
Advocate
(8) U Myo Myint
Advocate
Member
Advocate
(9) Daw Aye Aye Mu
Deputy Director-General (Retired)
Member
Union Auditor-General’s Office
(10) U Zaw Win
Police Major-General (Retired)
Member
Ministry of Home Affairs
(11) Daw Lwin Lwin Thwin
Director (Retired)
Member
Union Auditor-General’s Office
(12) U San Win
Director (Retired)
Member
Union Attorney-General’s Office

Sd/
Htin Kyaw
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

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