THE 21st-day meeting of the seventh regular session of the second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The MPs discussed the review (5/2018) by the Public Accounts Joint Committee on the report by the office of the Auditor General of the Union on the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s development fund for the 2016-2017 financial year (FY).

Auditor General of the Union U Maw Than replied to the MPs’ questions on the policies, managerial process and the auditor general’s office work on the report.

Concerning the unused funds, the Auditor General said the Kachin State government had returned Ks4.9 million on 23 March 2018, which was to be used for constructing a primary school in Sungwarban Township in Kachin State, but the project did not go through. In the Yangon Region, a retaining wall was constructed in Twantay Township on 13 March according to the plan, he added.

U Oo Htin Maung of Ponnagyun Constituency suggested that township auditors should conduct field checks to determine the status of ongoing projects. The Auditor General replied that field checks cannot be conducted in distant or remote areas and in areas without security, and thus checks are conducted with photographic evidence. Otherwise, township auditors are instructed to conduct field checks.

The Auditor General said the Central Development Committee will continue its work according to the Development Fund Law but will simultaneously review which townships need higher budgets and allot funds accordingly instead of allotting Ks100 million to each township equally.

The Auditor General said it is important for everyone to follow the permitted businesses in the 2017-2018 FY and budget rules and regulations as well. He said some 18 townships had submitted project completion reports but one of them had submitted alterations to their original project plans. He said these townships need to re-submit the reports detailing the alterations, in accordance with the Development Fund Law.

U Bo Gyi of Chaung Constituency then motioned for the Hluttaw to approve the (5/2018) review by the Public Accounts Joint Committee. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker then announced the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had approved the review.

The 22nd-day meeting of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw will continue on 30 March.—Thura Zaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

discusses national budget

Amyotha Hluttaw

concludes

Seventh regular session of second Amyotha Hluttaw

THE seventh regular session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw held its 33rd-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning.

At the meeting, the Amyotha Hluttaw Public Accounts Committee, Hluttaw Rights Committee, International Relations, Inter-Parliamentary Friendship and Cooperation Committee, Mineral, Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Committee, local and international non-governmental organisations and the local and overseas Labour Affairs Committee submitted their committee-wise work reports and obtained the approval of the Hluttaw.

Similarly, the Amyotha Hluttaw Education Promotion Committee, Public Complaints Committee, Health, Sports and Culture Committee, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development Committee, Ethnic Affairs Committee, and Women and Children’s Rights Committee also submitted committee-wise work reports and obtained the approval of the Hluttaw.

After his speech, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced the successful completion of the seventh regular session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw.—Aung Ye Thwin

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaging than. PHOTO: MNA

See page 6
Journalism, cinema, state-owned media discussed at Pyithu Hluttaw

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, received Hong Liang, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar, at the Bayintnaung guest house in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to the process of repatriation of displaced persons from the Buthedaung-Maungtaw region, the role of China in supporting Myanmar at the United Nations, the status of acceptance of international aid for the development of Rakhine State, and security cooperation between Myanmar and Bangladesh police forces.—Myanmar News Agency

The Ministry of Information recognises that the government needs to do much to meet the requirements of the private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can.

State-owned newspapers

State-owned newspapers are state-owned enterprises operated with state funds and could not be run at a loss. If faced with possibilities of economic losses, methods like joint ventures will have to be adopted. State-owned newspapers could not be operated with the sole aim of making a profit, but also need to provide information and news at a cheap price. It is because of this that the newspapers were being sold at less than the printing cost by offsetting the expense with the income from advertisements. In developing countries, state-owned newspapers have the responsibility to be a bridge between the government and the people and to provide news to the people at a cheap price.

For reporters from private media to obtain departmental news conveniently and quickly, starting from 2016, arrangements were made between the three pillars and state-owned newspapers. By standing apart from duties, commercial tax and income tax, the newspapers were being totally transformed into online newspapers or the online and print newspapers were being published together.

The main reason for print media's continued existence is selling newspapers and declining revenue from advertisement. The work scope limitation of advertisement pages in Kyemon and state-owned newspapers have the responsibility to be a bridge between the government and the people and to provide news to the people at a cheap price.

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For reporters from private media to obtain departmental news conveniently and quickly, starting from 2016, arrangements were made between the three pillars and the state-owned newspapers. By standing apart from duties, commercial tax and income tax, the newspapers were being totally transformed into online newspapers or the online and print newspapers were being published together. This was seen to have supported the ease in understanding one another as well as in contacting to obtain news. Spokespersons from the three pillars were assigned so that news media can contact them. Publishing of advertisement pages in Kyemon and Myanma Alinn newspaper in cooperation with private advertisement companies was stopped starting from 1 June 2016 so that private newspapers and journals could do it. News of union and state-level persons as well as departmental news and photos were also shared in a timely manner on websites so that private newspapers have the same information at the same time as the state-owned newspapers. Arrangements for travel and accommodation for local private media was also provided in the same way as it was provided to international media. Arrangements are also made so that all have access to news. Even when there is a limitation due to location or time, arrangements are made so that all are given fair chances to attend such occasions alternatively.

The Ministry of Information recognises that the government needs to do much to meet the requirements of the private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can. State-owned newspapers inform the works of the government to the people and it also informs the people of news about ethnic nationals and low-interest news that people ought to know. This is the aim of the state-owned newspapers, and it is not competing with private newspapers. By standing apart in such a way, the state-owned newspapers left an opening for private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can. State-owned newspapers inform the works of the government to the people and it also informs the people of news about ethnic nationals and low-interest news that people ought to know. This is the aim of the state-owned newspapers, and it is not competing with private newspapers. By standing apart in such a way, the state-owned newspapers left an opening for private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can. State-owned newspapers inform the works of the government to the people and it also informs the people of news about ethnic nationals and low-interest news that people ought to know. This is the aim of the state-owned newspapers, and it is not competing with private newspapers. By standing apart in such a way, the state-owned newspapers left an opening for private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can. State-owned newspapers inform the works of the government to the people and it also informs the people of news about ethnic nationals and low-interest news that people ought to know. This is the aim of the state-owned newspapers, and it is not competing with private newspapers. By standing apart in such a way, the state-owned newspapers left an opening for private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can. State-owned newspapers inform the works of the government to the people and it also informs the people of news about ethnic nationals and low-interest news that people ought to know. This is the aim of the state-owned newspapers, and it is not competing with private newspapers. By standing apart in such a way, the state-owned newspapers left an opening for private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can. State-owned newspapers inform the works of the government to the people and it also informs the people of news about ethnic nationals and low-interest news that people ought to know. This is the aim of the state-owned newspapers, and it is not competing with private newspapers. By standing apart in such a way, the state-owned newspapers left an opening for private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can. State-owned newspapers inform the works of the government to the people and it also informs the people of news about ethnic nationals and low-interest news that people ought to know. This is the aim of the state-owned newspapers, and it is not competing with private newspapers. By standing apart in such a way, the state-owned newspapers left an opening for private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can. State-owned newspapers inform the works of the government to the people and it also informs the people of news about ethnic nationals and low-interest news that people ought to know. This is the aim of the state-owned newspapers, and it is not competing with private newspapers. By standing apart in such a way, the state-owned newspapers left an opening for private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can. State-owned newspapers inform the works of the government to the people and it also informs the people of news about ethnic nationals and low-interest news that people ought to know. This is the aim of the state-owned newspapers, and it is not competing with private newspapers. By standing apart in such a way, the state-owned newspapers left an opening for private newspapers to publish freely and is doing all it can.