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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw puts implementation in Rakhine on the record

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw held its first day meeting of the eighth regular session yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw, with hearing implementation of recommendations on Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY (NEWS ON PAGE-2)**

Ks4,800 daily minimum wage set officially

THE NATIONAL Committee on Minimum Wage announced yesterday that the minimum wage will be Ks600 per hour and Ks4,800 per eight-hour work day irrespective of the type or location of work.

This minimum wage does not apply to small and family-owned businesses with less than 10 employees, it was noted in the committee's Notification No. 2/2018.

As per the Minimum Wage Act 2013 section 10, sub-section (a), the National Committee on Minimum Wage notified the public of this new proposed minimum wage with Notification No. 1/2018 dated 2 January 2018. After the minimum wage law was enacted, a tripartite National Minimum Wage Committee (NMWC) representing employers, employees and the government was formed under the Office of the President in September 2013 and given the task to define an appropriate level for the minimum wage.

The committee received comments, objections, and proposed amendments from employers, employees, and organisations. The proposal to enact a new minimum wage received support from employer and employee organisations from states and regions. Feedback was obtained, assessed and submitted by states and regions including union territory committees, it was learnt.

The decision for the minimum wage of Ks600 per hour, Ks4,800 per day of eight working hours irrespective of type and location of work is in accordance with the Minimum Wages Act 2013 section 10, sub-section (a), officials said.

— GNLM ■

Our strength exhibited in battling Htein Bin fire: State Counsellor

The following is an unofficial translation for a public announcement of gratitude from the Office of the State Counsellor released on 13 May.

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the State Counsellor
(13 May 2018)
Words of gratitude to the Public**

THE announcement reads that the Union Government is working with unflagging zeal for rule of law, the people's socio-economic development, national reconciliation and peace, and constitutional amendment for laying the foundation for a democratic federal union. For several reasons, Myanmar has

fallen behind other countries in many aspects and is in a state where all our efforts must be exerted to get back on the right track. All our citizens and ethnic peoples of Myanmar are currently living in a historical moment where we are all working our hardest to usher in a new era.

Thus, it is necessary more than ever to use the collective strength of the people of the country to go forward together in developing the nation. Mutual understanding and helping one another is a strong characteristic of the Myanmar people

and if we can use it effectively in developing our nation then without a doubt we will reach our goals in a short amount of time. This invaluable trait long hidden within our society was recently brought into action in full glory during the fire at the Htein Bin garbage dump.

The Htein Bin landfill in Hlinethaya Township in Northern Yangon District caught fire due to extremely high temperatures on 21 April. Due to the hot summer weather, large area of the landfill, and the fact that trapped pockets of gases below the surface were caught

in the combustion, it required a massive force of people and machinery to contain the situation. The fire was successfully extinguished on 2 May after repeated operations.

The official record of all personnel involved in combating the fire, providing security and healthcare services included 1,747 firefighters (including reserves), 722 YCDC staff, 41 staff from the Department of Irrigation and Water Utilization Management, 328 police officers, 24 staff from the Department of General Administration,

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw puts implementation of recommendations on Rakhine State on the record

PYIDAUNGSU Hluttaw held its first day meeting of its eighth regular session yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw, with hearing implementation of recommendations on Rakhine State.

Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye submitted the implementation of recommendations including the process of issuing the National Verification Card-NVC.

Union Minister U Thein Swe explained the duties and responsibilities of the NV card holders.

The Office of the President of Myanmar issued a Notification Number 19/ 2015 on 11 February 2015 declaring that the validity of Temporary Identification Card or White Card expired on 31 March 2015 and that cards were to be

surrendered not later than 31 May 2015. The temporary identification card were issued in 1995.

NV Cards were issued beginning 1 June 2015, with the clear and good purpose to identify the persons residing within the jurisdiction of the country while they are supposed to undergo scrutiny process or waiting for such verification procedure under the 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law.

Union Minister U Thein Swe also read out the responsibilities and rights of the NV card holders.

“NV Card is the first and foremost document to hold on in the scrutiny process on the pathway to enjoy rights of citizenship. The NV Card holder has been recognized as person residing in the jurisdiction of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. In accordance with the term “Nation-

al Verification”, the holder must undergo for scrutiny process,” said the Union Minister.

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye also briefed about achievements in implementation of recommendations on Rakhine State, saying that about 60 local investment businesses were permitted in the 2018 and land compensations were given to the farmers under the economic and socio-economic development sector.

To create job opportunities, garment factories and traditional weaving businesses have been established in Rakhine State with the assistance of the government.

In the communication sector, more than 600 mobile radio stations have been established.

In the agriculture sector, about 1,300 agricultural machin-

ery to members of the cooperative societies in 15 townships in Rakhine State while more than 23,300 baskets of quality seeds to the farmers.

Health care services and facilities were upgraded in Rakhine State, said the Union Minister, adding that the government provided to the pregnant women and children aged under two with cash assistance in the 2017-2018 Fiscal year.

Regarding the efforts of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhin, the Union Minister said more than 800 houses, monasteries and road, water and power supply infrastructures are under construction in Rakhine State.

Similarly, infrastructures were built to accommodate the returnees from Bangladesh un-

der the repatriation program.

He also refuted the misinformation in media that NV card holders will get rights for free movement in the whole nation.

He said when he met with the displaced people in Bangladesh during his visit to Bangladesh, he explained that benefits of the NV card holders, saying that they would get rights to travel freely but their travel must be in accordance with the rules, regulations and directives issued by the Rakhine State government.

Regarding the closing of IDP camps established after the conflict in 2012, the government is taking measures step by step to close the camps so that the people sheltering in the camps can travel freely in accordance with the law and can participate in the development tasks.

—Myanmar News Agency ■

2nd Pyithu Hluttaw's 8th regular session holds 1st-day meeting

By Aye Aye Thant

THE first-day meeting of the second Pyithu Hluttaw's 8th regular session was held at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday morning.

In his opening message, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat spoke of putting on record the works conducted by the Pyithu Hluttaw representatives when the Hluttaw was in recess and his appreciation towards it. The forthcoming Hluttaw session has some 150 asterisk marked questions, 12 motions and 28 bills in the agenda, said the Pyithu Hluttaw speaker.

“Observing the current world situation, it can be noted that there are policy changes, along with changes in political aims. We should be aware of the policy changes and do our part to make our country a developed and modern nation. Laws that are not in sync with the time and system must be amended and repealed, while new laws that benefit the people and protect their basic human rights need to be enacted,” he said.

“If we study the parliaments in the world, it can be seen that these are conducting post legislative scrutiny of the effects of the enacted laws. The Hluttaw representatives must



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

examine whether the enacted laws are beneficial to the people and the implementing ministries can operate them accordingly,” he stated.

The Hluttaws need to strive towards becoming a legislative pillar that can check and balance the administrative and judicial pillars according to the democratic norms, and is reliable and beneficial to the people. At a time when the people of the country, including the ethnic nationals, are going all out with collective strength to establish a federal union, the Hluttaw representatives must participate in this wholeheartedly. All are urged to assist and support in building trust among ethnic nationals for national reconciliation, the Pyithu Hluttaw speaker said.

For the establishment of democratic practices in the country, the Hluttaw representatives must act and conduct themselves in an exemplary manner and enact laws that ensure freedom, equality and justice in the country. People will trust and conform to the laws only when the laws provide them with protection. The Hluttaw speaker pledged to do his best not only as the Hluttaw speaker but also as a Pyithu Hluttaw representative to continue strengthening the legislative pillar. The Hluttaw representatives are urged to continue their works for the benefit of the people and the country, as true representatives of the people, said the speaker.

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2nd Amyotha Hluttaw's 8th regular session holds 1st-day meeting



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

By Aung Ye Thwin

THE eighth regular session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw held its first-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw's meeting hall yesterday morning.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than greeted the Hluttaw representatives and asked them to serve their constituency with good health and a happy mind. He believed all the representatives had listened to the voices of the public on their difficulties and wishes, and noted the requirements for the development of the region in their respective constituencies. They must implement the wishes of the public by raising questions, tabling motions, enacting laws and working according to the

set laws, rules, procedures and processes, he added.

At the meeting, Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe replied to five asterisk marked questions.

In reply to a question by U Yaw Nar of Kachin State constituency (5) on the plan to open a Rural Health Centre in Lachin Village, Lachin Village-tract, Hsawlaw Township, Kachin State, the union minister said Lachin or Lanse Village was under a single Jangyang Rural Health Centre in Hsawlaw Township that had 15 staff members.

Lachin Village is some 95 miles away from the Jangyang Rural Health Centre and can be reached only by foot.

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Norwegian Ambassador, Union Attorney-General discuss scholarship opportunities

UNION Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo received Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Tone Tinnes and her entourage in the guest hall of his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening.

The two sides discussed scholarship opportunities between the Office of the Union Attorney-General and Norway, as well as sending legal officers

to attend a Master's in Human Rights Law.

They also discussed aid from the Union Attorney General's office in the Myanmar-Norway collaboration in the oil and energy sector, fishery sector, democratisation process, and establishing the rule of law and a federal system.

The two sides also dis-

cussed peace and development efforts in Rakhine State, which concerns itself with the Myanmar peace process.

Present at the meeting were the Union Attorney-General, Deputy Attorney General U Win Myint, Permanent Secretary Daw Nu Nu Yin, and Director-General U Min Swe. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo meets with the delegation led by Norwegian Ambassador Ms. Tone Tinnes in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**



Thura U Shwe Mann welcomes Norwegian Ambassador Ms. Tone Tinnes in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Thura U Shwe Mann, Norwegian Ambassador discuss legal affairs

Chairman of the Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received Norwegian Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Tone

Tinnes at the Hluttaw Guest Room (I-11) in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning. The two sides discussed legal affairs, bilateral relations and cooperation. —Myanmar News Agency

2nd Pyithu Hluttaw's 8th regular session holds 1st-day meeting

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Next, messages of congratulations sent by Chairwoman of the National Assembly of Viet Nam Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan and President of the Laos National Assembly Pany Yothotou on 23 March 2018, President of the National Assembly of Serbia Maja Gojkovic and Chairman of National People's Congress of People's Republic of China Li Zhanshu on 26 March 2018, Secretary-General of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly Isra Sunthornvut on 28 March 2018, Speaker of People's National Assembly of Algeria Said Bouhadja on 29 March 2018, Speaker of the Japan House of Representatives in the Diet Tadamori Oshima on 2 April 2018, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea Chung Sye-Kyun, Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Martin Chungong and Chairman of the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus Vladimir Andreichenko on 3 April 2018, Chairman of the State Duma of Russian Federation Vyacheslav Volodin and Speaker of Lok Sabha of India Sumitra Mahajan on 5 April 2018, Speaker of the Grand

National Assembly of Turkey Ismail Kahraman and Speaker of the Parliament of Singapore Tan Chuan-Jin on 9 April 2018, President of the National Assembly of Cambodia Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin on 10 April 2018, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines Pantaleon D. Alvarez on 12 April 2018 and President of the Chamber of Deputies of Luxembourg Mars Di Barolomeo on 19 April 2018 was put on record by the Hluttaw.

Education Minister replies to asterisk-marked questions

On the question posed by U Tin Aye of Metmung constituency regarding the plan to put Metmung Township head of education department under the management of Kengtung district head of education, the union minister said the Metmung Township in Mongphyat District is some 190 miles northwest of Mongphyat Town under the Ministry of Education's organisation setup. Under the administrative districts of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Metmung Township in Metmung District is part of the six townships under Wa Self-Ad-

ministered Division in northern Shan State, while under the administrative districts of the Ministry of Education, it is in Mongphyat District in eastern Shan State. The state head of education has reported the difficulties in conducting educational works for Metmung township via Kengtung Town and had proposed to transfer the management of Metmung township head of education from the role of Mongphyat District head of education to Kengtung District head of education. Arrangements are being made according to the procedure to transfer the Metmung township head of education to be placed under the management of Kengtung District head of education, said the Union Minister for Education.

Replying to a question raised by Dr. Daw Pyone of Indaw constituency on the plan to omit good conduct recommendation by the Myanmar Police Force in the recommendation letters attached to the application for entry to a university, the union minister said this was included in the 2012 guidelines on application for entry to university but was not included since the 2013 guidelines on application

were released. Similarly, it is not included in the 2017 guidelines on application for entry to university, said the Union Minister for Education.

U Aye Naing of Dagon Myothit (South) constituency asked if there was a plan to open a government technical high school or a vocational training school in Yangon Region Dagon Myothit (South). The union minister replied that the Yangon Region government was coordinating to construct a government technical high school on 14 acres of land beside Hlawga Road in Dagon Myothit (South) Ward 105, according to a master plan.

Once the land is transferred to the Department of Technical, Vocational and Training Education, funding for the construction of the school buildings, employment of staff and provision of teaching materials will be included in the yearly budget, according to the regulation, said the union minister.

The union minister also replied to questions raised by Dr. U Than Aung Soe of Minhla constituency, U Win Myint Aung of Dapayin constituency and U Myo Nyunt of Homalin constituency.

Motion to assign staff to schools nearest families rejected by vote

Following the question-and-answer session, U Win Win of Minbu constituency tabled a motion to give priority to assign education staffs to schools that are nearest to their families.

A Hluttaw representative supported the motion, but when the motion was put to vote, there were 118 for, 226 against and seven abstainees. Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced the motion had not been accepted for debate.

The Hluttaw then decided to approve the seven amendments on a bill to amend the Early Child Care and Development Law returned by the Amyotha Hluttaw with amendments, which was submitted to the Hluttaw by a bill committee member.

The bill committee secretary then tabled a motion to discuss in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw the four amendments of the bill to which the two Hluttaws did not agree. Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced that the Hluttaw would continue to work on the bill. ■