

Health Minister responds to U Steven Thabeik's proposal

NAY PYI TAW, 16 March-At today's Amyotha Hluttaw session, Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint responded to the proposal "to form a board with the participation of experts for adopting the best system for health care service as it is weak" submitted by U Steven Thabeik of Chin State Constituency No.4.

The minister said that Ministry of Health is i m p l e m e n t i n g development of health sector under the leadership of National Health Committee which is the highest health organization of the country, in line with one of four social objectives; that Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council acts as chairman of National Health Committee and the Committee is formed with 15 members including nine ministers and two deputy ministers from ministries related with Ministry of Health and two from other departments that policies and duties have been drafted; that the Committee is the highest organization relating with health affairs and adopts policy and laws to follow and; that to be able to solve health problems, Myanmar Academy of Medical Sciences is formed with experienced practitioners and gives advice on health problems.

He also said that other medical associations such as Myanmar Medical Association, Myanmar Dental Association and Myanmar Health Assistants Association are providing public health services in collaboration with Ministry of Health; that to implement tasks for development of health sector, two objectives has been laid down; that to be able to achieve these two objectives, health care services covering urban and rural areas as well as border areas, are being provided based on primary health care and National Health Committee is disseminating knowledge on seasonal diseases.

He explained that in Chin State, two 200-bed hospitals, two 100-bed hospitals, one 50-bed hospital, four 25-bed hospitals, 15 station hospitals, 57 health care centers, 9 maternal and child health care centers, two school health organizations and eight traditional medicine centers are providing health care services. In addition, nursing training school is nurturing the nurses; that five rural development tasks have been laid down and development of health sector in rural areas, which is one of five tasks, is being implemented by forming Rural Areas Development Supporting Committee.

The National Health Committee issues laws, bylaws and provisions on health from time to time. In order to implement the objectives, treatment, public health care, disease prevention and control and prevention and epidemic control are being undertaken.

The minister explained that the representatives would understand his explanation, and so there is no need to continue to discuss the proposal. After that, U Steven Thabeik of Chin State Constituency No.4 said he would like to take decision only by vote so as to withdraw his proposal.

Afterwards, Hluttaw took decision by ballot with 20 favors, 172 against and 19 abstentions, and announced that Hluttaw declined to approve the proposal.

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