

**First regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw continues for fifth day.
15-member Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting
Committee formed.
Government's guarantees, pledges and undertakings shall be implemented
within fixed period and on schedule**

NAY PYI TAW, 7 March-The first regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw continued for the fifth day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann declared the session valid as 432 or 99.77 % of the 433 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives were present and announced the start of the session.

The Pyithu Hluttaw speaker said that according to Pyithu Hluttaw Rules (33) and (67), Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee shall be formed with not more than 15 hluttaw representatives; and that a list of nominations for members, the chairman and the secretary shall be submitted to the hluttaw for approval.

He said that Pyithu Hluttaw Rule 71 says that the committee shall check whether or not guarantees, pledges and undertakings assigned occasionally at the hluttaw by the Union Government are implemented, and shall present a report to the hluttaw; that according to the provision, the committee shall record words, pledges and guarantees by Union level organizations in response to questions asked by representatives at Pyithu Hluttaw and examine work progress; that they also cover guarantees, pledges and undertakings presented according to bills, resolutions, statements or reports presented by the Union Government; and that in order to scrutinize those tasks, the Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee are formed.

He said that according to Pyithu Hluttaw Law (27) and Rule (34), the number of committee members, and their duties, powers, rights and terms shall be designated by the hluttaw; that so the committee for government's guarantees, pledges and undertakings is scheduled to be formed with 15 members; that one year after the members' assumption of duties, reviews will be carried out, old members will be replaced with new ones as necessary; and that the deputy speaker will make clarification to the committee's duties, powers and rights to be designated by the hluttaw.

The deputy Pyithu Hluttaw speaker clarified duties, powers and rights of the committee for government's guarantees, pledges and undertakings.

Duties of the Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee are as follows:-

(1) The committee shall vet guarantees, pledges and undertakings in connection with bills, resolutions, statements or reports presented by the Union Government, and answer for queries, presented at Pyithu Hluttaw.

(2) The committee shall check whether or not guarantees, pledges and undertakings presented occasionally at Pyithu Hluttaw are implemented, and shall present the following matters to Pyithu Hluttaw.

(a) to what extent the Union Government has implemented its guarantees, pledges and undertakings,

(b) if the Union Government has implemented its guarantees, pledges and undertakings, the committee shall check whether or not they are implemented within the fixed period and on schedule,

(3) Regarding the abovementioned matters, the committee has the right to make an inspection tour of a region to check whether or not the tasks are carried out correctly and effectively.

(4) In general, in scrutinizing the government's guarantees, pledges and undertakings, the committee:

(a) does not need to ascertain support regarding tabling motions and submitting suggestions.

(b) Committee members have the right to hold discussions more than one time in a matter.

(c) the committee may invite experienced officials in coordination with the departments and organizations concerned for advice.

(5) What a committee member says or does and discussions at a committee meeting shall not be leaked out. All the discussions held at committee meetings shall be recorded and approved by the committee.

Meeting minutes shall not be handed out. A copy of the report to Pyithu Hluttaw shall be dispatched to Hluttaw Office in order that the case can be kept in the case file together with meeting minutes.

Powers of the committee are:-

(1) Committee meetings shall be held in accordance with the provisions of Pyithu Hluttaw Rule (70).

(2) The committee:

(a) shall present an interim report if Pyithu Hluttaw fails to present a final report on the scheduled day.

(b) The secretary, if the chairman is away, or a member, if the chairman and the secretary are away, shall present the report to Pyithu Hluttaw.

(c) In the process, committee members shall put their signatures on the report to show their approval. If there is an exception or difference, they may attach exceptions and differences to the report under their signatures.

(d) After presenting the report to Pyithu Hluttaw, the committee chairman or the committee secretary if the chairman is away, or a member, if the chairman and the secretary are away, shall present a report for the Pyithu Hluttaw speaker to assess the report on the scheduled day. After the report has been approved, the committee may take advice from Pyithu Hluttaw representatives.

However, the committee shall not make any amendments to the report.

(e) After the report has been discussed, the committee chairman or the committee secretary if the chairman is away, or a member, if the chairman and the secretary are away, shall present the report to Pyithu Hluttaw for approval.

(3) Committee members:

(a) have the freedom of speech and the right to vote subject to the provisions of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Pyithu Hluttaw Laws.

(b) have the rights to be members of in maximum two hluttaw committees of Pyithu Hluttaw.

(c) have the right to submit resignation letters to the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker with sound reasons.

Privileges and rights of a committee member

(1) Committee members, being Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, have the rights to enjoy relevant privileges described in law on allowance and expense as well as privileges granted by the Union Government while they are at the committee head office or on a duty trip to carry out functions of the committee.

(2) A committee member-

(a) shall not be taken action under other laws except under Pyithu Hluttaw Law regarding discussion held at committee meetings,

(b) shall not be arrested while the committee is in session without the prior approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker through the head of the organization concerned,

(c) shall, if he is arrested for an offence have the right to attend committee meetings with the approval of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, until a verdict is delivered against him.

Afterwards, names of the designated persons to be constituted in the Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee were announced and the session was adjourned for discussion with Pyithu Hluttaw representatives who are joining the committee.

When the session was resumed, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker submitted nomination of suitable numbers of members of committee, committee members, chairman and secretary for formation of Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee to Pyithu Hluttaw in accord with Article 21 of Pyithu Hluttaw Law and Rules 33 and 67.

The committee will be formed with the following 15 members:-

(1) U Sai Saw Tin Mongyawng Constituency

(2) U Shein Kyaw Win Seikpyu Constituency

(3) Daw Khin Saw Wai Yathaedaung Constituency

(4) U Saw Nay Kawgyi T h a n d a u n g g y i Constituency

(5) U Win Sein Kawa Constituency

(6) U Than Myint Salingyi Constituency

(7) Daw Su Su Hlaing Dagon Myothit (South) Constituency

(8) Dr Maung Maung Wint Bahan Constituency

(9) U Ko Ko Lwin Mawlamyinegyun Constituency

(10) U Myint Tun Kawthoung Constituency

(11) U Than Tun Dabayin Constituency

(12) U Aung Sein Manaung Constituency

(13) U Htay Win Lewe Constituency

(14) U Win Than Thabaung Constituency

(15) U Aye Mauk Mahlaing Constituency U Win Sein of Kawa Constituency will be assigned as the committee chairman and U Than Myint of Salingyi Constituency as the secretary.

Next, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker sought approval for numbers and names of the committee members, and the chairman and secretary, duties, powers and rights of the committee from Pyithu Hluttaw and then announced the approval.

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann explained that the four committees namely, the Bill Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, the Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee had been successfully formed today in accord with the constitution and Pyithu Hluttaw Laws; that the designation of duties, powers, rights and privileges of the committees had also been approved by the Pyithu Hluttaw.

He continued to say that in addition to those committees, Pyithu Hluttaw had the rights, if necessary, to form commissions and groups to perform its functions; that those committees, commissions and groups were Union-level organizations and committees were responsible for the hluttaw when the hluttaw was in session and the hluttaw Speaker when there was no hluttaw session; that the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw was legislative authority of the nation formed with representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw; that the president had been elected to govern the nation and he had also set up the Union Government, the Union Speaker Court and judicature, the Constitutional Tribunal, the Union Election Commission and other Union-level organizations.

He went on to say that at present, hluttaws were carrying out their functions and the Union Government would also come into operation soon; that the hluttaws, being mainly responsible for legislation, would be in the process of legislation commencing the day after tomorrow. The Speaker said that he hoped representatives would be disciplined themselves to systematically use powers and rights in legislation process.

Representatives would be able to raise queries, and submit proposals and bills regarding progress and developments of their own regions to governmental organizations and Union-level organizations through the hluttaws in accord with procedures. The Speaker said that he hoped the representatives, being the representatives of peoples, would be able to systematically follow such procedures as raising and answering queries and submitting bills with high standards and dignity.

He went on that the representatives were always to work for interests of the nation, the Union and the national peoples without attachment to party concerned, ism, regionalism, racism and likewise, those who in power had to resolve queries, holding that queries were raised for interests of the nation, the Union and the national peoples.

Afterwards, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced the fifth-day first regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw ended and the sixth-day regular session would be held at 10 am on 9 March.

The session came to an end at 11.35 am.

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