

Transport Minister responds to queries on maintenance for blockage of water course in Kaladan River

NAY PYI TAW, 14 March-In his question, Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Paik Lin of Paletwa Constituency said that the water course of Kaladan River was blocked at 29 miles north of Paletwa of Chin State due to landslide in 1997.

He asked whether the department concerned would restore the water course as soon as possible, and he wanted to know when the plan would be implemented.

In his response, Minister for Transport U Thein Swe said that an official report on blockage of water course in Kaladan River due to landslide caused by earthquake in 1997 had not been submitted to the ministry. Kaladan River is shallow in summer and the current of river is speedier in the rainy season. So, any ship cannot run along it, but local motorboats run in it. An expert team will be sent to conduct feasibility study at the place where water course is blocked. If necessary, the State level authorities will carry out maintenance work depending on the report of the expert team. If it is concerned with local authorities, they will carry out the task.

The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw said that if Kaladan River has water course limits, other ways and means are to be sought and submitted for better transport of local people. As blockage of water course in Kaladan River due to landslide triggered by earthquake in 1997 was not reported, the Union level authorities did not know it. In the future, the important information and incidents are to be submitted to officials concerned at different levels.

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