

**Government and Ministry of Finance and Revenue will review and deal with pension rates in line with the constitution, existing laws and procedures.  
Proposal of U Soe Win from Sangyoung Constituency judged**

NAY PYI TAW, 16 March -At today's Pyithu Hluttaw session, five representatives discussed the proposal of U Soe Win from Sangyoung Constituency: to increase previous pensions in proportion to present consumers' prices.

U Khin Maung Win of Lanmadaw Constituency in his discussion said that despite increases in salaries, pensions of old pensioners have not increased, and in consequence, previous pensions are no longer proportionate to present consumers' prices; that so, old pensioners should be provided with additional cash in proportion to their salary rates; that in a developed country, the government is responsible for caring for the aged; and that therefore, he is in support of the proposal.

U Kyi Myint of Latha Constituency said that the proposal of U Soe Win is the same as the question asked by Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn of Namkham Constituency on 10 March, and the Union level organization member concerned has answered the question; that what should be done is to boost spirit of workmanship of new generations, technology and capitals; and that if salaries and pensions are increased indiscriminately, the outcome is nothing but inflation.

U Thein Yi of Htantabin Constituency said that Minister for Finance and Revenue responded to the similar proposal at the seventh day session of Pyithu Hluttaw on 10 March; that according to Article 26 (b) of the constitution, the new government is responsible for such social affairs; that according to Pyithu Hluttaw Rule 28 (j), a case already decided shall not be submitted again; and that U Soe Win's proposal should not be under further discussion.

U Tha Sein of Kyauktaw Constituency said that today's pensions are of two types: old and new; that some pensions are as low as 200 to 300 kyats, which is not enough for even bus fare; that commodity prices are going up and the government is the only organization that can ease the suffering of old pensioners; and that he is in support of the proposal.

U Maung Hla (a) U Hla Myint of Palaw Constituency said that the minister has already explained the matter; that it is to take into consideration undesirable effects of salary increase; and that so U Soe Win's proposal should not be submitted for discussion yet.

Minister for Finance and Revenue U Hla Tun said that from 1948 onwards, the government increased salary rates and pension rates in accordance with the existing laws in 1972, 1989, 2000, 2006 and 2010; that the government granted cost of living allowance and additional cash assistance to pensioners in 1977, increased pensions by 25 percent in 1993, and doubled pensions in 2000; that it implies that with national development, the government adopted plans to improve the living conditions of service personnel; that the government will consider increasing pension rates based on national development, inflation rate, revolving funds, commodity prices and GDP; and that he requested the resource person withdraw this proposal.

The speaker said that the proposal is nearly similar to the previous one, but he allowed discussions about it in the hope of broader views and comments; that he thanked the resource person and participants; that the government and the ministry will review and deal with matters related to pensions

in line with the constitution, existing laws and procedures based on subjective conditions; and that he asked U Soe Win about his stance.

U Soe Win of Sangyoung Constituency said that he is glad to know that pension rates will be under review and discussion in future; and reported that he does not want to carry on his proposal. The Hluttaw accepted his report, and declared that there is no need to continue the proposal.

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