

Second regular session of first Pyithu Hluttaw continues for 42nd day Seven questions replied, one new proposal submitted, one bill approved and scrutiny of one bill suspended

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Oct-The second regular session of the first Pyithu Hluttaw continued for the 42nd day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, at 10.45 am today, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 372 Hluttaw representatives.

At today's session, seven questions were replied, one new proposal submitted, one bill approved and scrutiny of one bill suspended.

U Win Swe of Nyaungshwe Constituency asked whether the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in its time has a plan to organize celebrations of Independence Day, Union Day and traditional regatta race etc., on a grand scale. Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sandar Khin replied that two of three questions are related to significant days of the history of the nation.

After the post-independence period, the commemorative days have been held with various forms in successive governments.

Although there are differences in forms of holding the celebrations, their aims are similar.

The ceremonies were held with the aim of enabling the new generations to remember the independence struggles with spirit of safeguarding non-disintegration of the sovereignty and independence and gratitude of the fallen heroes who sacrificed their life, blood and sweat in the independence struggles and safeguarding the nation against dangers of the colonialism and neo-colonialism.

In observing the Union Day celebrations, the aims were adopted to preserve fine traditions of national races who have been living in the country for the thousands of years through thick and thin, maintain fine traditions of national unity of national races for winning the Independence after escaping from the divide-and-rule policy of colonialists and to flourish the Union Spirit.

Therefore, the government adopts the objectives on participation of all the citizens in building a democratic nation and realization of national reconsolidation and national unity.

The ceremonies will be held with full essence on emergence of the significant days for new generation youths. In so doing, the Union government will observe the significant days and so did the region and state governments, at the same time.

Although the traditional regatta race had been held in the time of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, the State Peace and Development Council in its time has been holding the races in the respective regions regularly. The boat races are being held in Inlay region. Therefore, the State will not organize the traditional festivals like boat race and the Union government, region and state governments will provide necessary assistance for holding the abovementioned celebrations at the respective regions in line with the traditions.

Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu replied six questions raised by four Hluttaw representatives.

U Sai Thiha Kyaw of Mongyai Constituency asked whether there is a plan to appoint the high-qualified persons who are competence in management in rotation system; as I has learnt that appointment of headmasters is based on service years, whether there is a plan to promote the ranks of youths with obedience, outstanding and innovative capabilities as headmasters; the persons who are appointed as headmasters of basic education high schools cannot enjoy the salary of gazette officers on the probation period they assume charge of their duties; they get the salary of gezetted officers after the probationary

period; if it is true, whether there is a plan to give salary of gazette officers to them on the date they assume charge of their duties.

The deputy minister replied that the Ministry of Education does not realize the system of appointing the managers in rotation. It is nature that the managers are to make relations with teachers, staff, students and parents. Some personnel were transferred to other places due to their behaviors of offending the disciplines.

They are put under continuous observation, and if they cannot uplift their behaviors, more action will be taken against them. In fact, staff members of the Ministry of Education move to towns of their families.

Promotion and transfer of staff are based on wishes of the respective personnel and vacancies. Therefore, there is no plan to appoint the managers and staff in rotation without their wishes.

With regard to the second question, the Ministry of Education manages appointment of headmasters on a basis of service marks as an equal system for all personnel. With regard to appointment the youths with obedience to the order and directives, outstanding and initiative skills as headmasters, it is difficult to assess a staff in a short time. However, with the measurement of educational concept, school management, turning out of students in unity under disciplines, achievement of high pass rate and proficient of students, the outstanding youths are being honoured with promotion. Indeed, appointment of headmasters is based not only on the service years but also on qualification.

Regarding the second question, he said that as the post of headmasters of basic education high school is a gateway to the post of officer, they are to be appointed on probationary period. After the management committee of the Ministry of Education has approved the appointments, it is necessary to seek the approval from the Union Civil Services Board. After that, they can get salary of gazette officer.

Daw Nan Se Awa of Hpa-an Constituency asked whether there is plan to open Law Department at Hpa-an University. The deputy minister replied that the number of day students from seven townships of Kayin State attending the law major at Mawlamyine University in 2010- 2011 academic year are 29 first year students, 24 second year students, 18 third year students and 20 fourth year students.

Although those day students wishing to learn Law major courses are to attend Mawlamyine University, those of Law major in distance education are to attend Hpa-an University. In this academic year, a total of 141 Law major students-38 in first year, 28 in second year, 42 in third year and 33 in fourth year- in distance education are attending Hpa-an University.

Those who are not willing to attend Mawlamyine University may learn Law major in distance education at Hpa-an University.

Arrangements have been made for students to undergo their courses at Mawlamyine University because students can study education under distance education system in their own regions without having any effect on their carriers.

Day students can take their respective courses at Mawlamyine University, saving time and money. Arrangements have been made to use effectively human resources.

Some specialized courses are not taught at every university like universities in international community. Students can gain experiences and regional knowledge by attending Mawlamyine University and they can share their own traditions and customs each other, enhancing friendship and amity among national races. As teachers who are proficient in Law are not enough to be appointed recently, there is no plan to open Law major course (day course) at Hpa-an University during the present academic year.

Regarding the question raised by U Shi Thee of Leshi Constituency who asked whether there is a plan to open a exam centre at Panhsaung sub-township BEHS, the deputy minister replied that there are prescriptions to open a new exam centre for matriculation examinations. It is required for an exam centre to have a fence for safety of school compound and examination rooms that can guarantee safety. It is also necessary to have a bank, a treasury, regiments and units and Myanmar Police Force for keeping question and answer papers safe. If there is only Myanmar Police Force at the region where an exam centre will be opened, it is required to have a safe meeting set standards.

Besides, local authorities have to give a guarantee that they have a fully responsibility for security of questions and answer papers so as to be able to hold examinations successfully.

Responsible persons of a school who want to open an exam centre are to compile abovementioned facts including photo and documents and submit them to relevant Basic Education Department and Myanmar Examination Board through offices of region/state/township education officers.

Only when inspection tour of officials from Basic Education Departments is finished, will opening of a new exam centre be carried out.

If there is a problem at an exam centre, other exam centres across the nation will be affected. Opening of a new exam centre calls for close scrutiny. So Hsamayar BEHS (Branch) in Leshi Township and Panhsaung sub-township BEHS will be granted permission to open new exam centres if they meet abovementioned points.

Regarding the question raised by U Khin Win of Pandaung Constituency who asked whether there is a plan to relax rules for graduate education staff, general workers, aged over 25 in order to appoint them as PATs, the deputy minister answered that the Ministry of Education has opened 41272 basic education schools including 36181 primary schools across the nation up to 201-2012 academic year. A primary school is allowed to appoint a general worker. There are 42000 staff who are discharging duties at same pay scale at the posts of cleaners, peons and school guards in BEHSs and BEMSs.

A total of 4000 trainees are allowed to take teachership diploma courses being opened at Education Colleges. Numbers of staff at those courses make up 25 per cent.

Application-submitted graduates (external) aged under 25 and graduate staff aged under 30 qualified with specific qualifications are to sit examinations and those with high marks will be allowed to choose science and arts subject.

Relaxation has been made for staff aged 30 including general workers of basic education schools to apply for teachership diploma course and they will be allowed to take the course in accord with their examination results. The ongoing programme will be continued in order not to degrade the education standard of the State.

Dr Soe Yin of Kamayut Constituency submitted a proposal to draft a Private Universities Bill for opening and establishment of private universities which are suitable for today's international education system in Myanmar to the Hluttaw. U Than Nwe of Butalin Constituency and Daw Tin Nwe Oo of Dagon Myothit (North) Constituency supported the proposal and Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu said that it should be carried out taking a proper time as it is a appropriate one.

Hluttaw approved the proposal of Dr Soe Yin and decided to draft the bill at an opportune time.

Next, the Bill Committee chairman submitted a report of the committee regarding the Bill to amend the Political Parties Registration Law approved and sent by Amyotha Hluttaw on 20 October.

As there is no amendment to the bill in the report of the Bill Committee and by Hluttaw representatives up to 26 October, Pyithu Hluttaw decided to approve the Amyotha Hluttaw-approved Bill. It will be carried out in accord with Pyithu Hluttaw Rule-168.

Then the Bill Committee chairman submitted a report of the committee regarding the Hluttaw Office Bill approved and sent by Amyotha Hluttaw. The chairman said that Pyithu Hluttaw Bill submitted by Pyithu Hluttaw Rights Committee was sent to Amyotha Hluttaw; works are being carried out in accord with the laws and rules by Amyotha Hluttaw; the Bill prescribes Hluttaw Office, Hluttaw representatives offices, matters related to separate allotment of finance, administrative and management.

Pyithu Hluttaw Law, Amyotha Hluttaw Law and Region or State Hluttaw Law are to be amended and promulgated after Pyithu Hluttaw Bill was approved.

The process of scrutinizing the Hluttaw Office Bill should be suspended as the works for the Bill would be carried out completely and widely after Pyithu Hluttaw Law and Amyotha Hluttaw Law were enacted and Pyithu Hluttaw Bill is under scrutiny in accord with laws and rules in both Hluttaws.

In seeking the approval of the Hluttaw for the report of the Bill Committee, the Hluttaw decided to set the process of scrutinizing the Bill as an ongoing task.

The 42nd regular session came to an end at 1.25 pm and the 43rd session will be held within the coming week.

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