

### **Third regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues for 17th day**

NAY PYI TAW, 1 March- President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein addressed 17th day regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building here at 10 am today.

The session was also attended by Vice-Presidents Thiha Thura U Tin Aung Myint Oo and Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann, Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union U Thein Soe, Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Lt-Gen Soe Win, Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, Union ministers, the attorney-general of the Union, the chairman of Union Civil Services Board and 556 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives.

At today's session, President U Thein Sein addressed third regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in commemoration of first anniversary of assumption of duty under Section 210 of the constitution.

(The President's address is reported separately.)

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw put the address of the President on record. Six Hluttaw representatives discussed National Plan Bill for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

U Win Oo of Yebyu Constituency discussed that he urged the Union ministries and State-owned enterprises to ask for budget for bona fide necessity, to manage the budget to ensure less wastage and to do what is really worth to and he, on behalf of all the people, requested the government to help the country and its citizens rise above poverty.

U Aye Mauk of Mahlaing Constituency discussed that he urged the government to put existing investments into effective application; to reinforce it if needed; to suspend new and unnecessary projects; to stop and reduce the capacity of construction, irrigation, industry and rail transportation projects; to postpone them to next FY if needed or to switch into good system as they could be submitted at RE; to stop ordering system and undertakings which are not accorded with the constitution and the law; and to thoroughly manage the budget in accord with the constitution.

U Aung Thein Lin of South Okkalapa Constituency discussed that concrete is more preferable option than asphalt in upgrading roads in the country to international standard ones in accord with the changing political system of the country as the country's climate, low cost, easy accessibility to raw materials, completion on schedule and sustainability are to be considered.

He reviewed that concrete roads would minimize fund wastage by slow progress of new roads running round in circles of repairing tarred roads if a plan for upgrading roads into concrete ones well-matched with the weather of the country with heavy rainfall.

He said requested budget for each department of the Ministry of Science and Technology should be reduced by 20 per cent and human resources development, providing teaching aids needed by technological universities and equipping students with sufficient numbers of computers should be prioritized in policy, objectives and procedures of the said ministry.

U Khet Htein Nam of Kachin State Constituency (1) suggested that plans should have been laid by the Ministry of Information for air programmes of ethnic races from MRTV as prescribed in Paragraphs (a) and (b) of Section (22) of the constitution to help develop language, literature, arts and culture of national people, national unity, camaraderie and friendship.

In drawing the 2012-2013 project, the ministry of culture should include the traditional performing arts and cultures of national races in the Myanmar traditional cultural performing arts competitions at various levels in accord with the constitution so that the cultural heritages of the national people can be maintained and promoted.

It will be beneficial that the education ministry plans to teach Myanmar first to young children of national races who have little or no exposure to the Myanmar language and then to teach them understandable national race languages so that they can achieve success in their education at pre-primary level. Only then, can good education foundation be built. As this can activate the role of the constitution, a system in which local national race language is taught together with the Myanmar language at the preprimary level should be included in the education plan.

The ministry of religious affairs needs to include accounts headings for every national race in the budget of the 2012-2013 fiscal year. The Union level peace-making group has approved a fund to be used in the effort for building eternal peace with the national race armed groups.

It is hoped that assistance can be received to a certain degree in Myanmar's important effort for lasting peace.

Therefore, it is advisable to include those accounts headings for national races in the coming fiscal year.

In his discussion, U Kyaw Ni Naing of Laukkai Constituency said the Ministry of Immigration and Population according to its goals needs to adopt a project in which the entrances and exits of airports and border gates are to be installed with IT networks. It should also consider issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards and household membership certificates that reach out to all parts of the country.

Dr Nay Lin of Seikkan Constituency said in his discussion that out of the tasks of the foreign affairs ministry, repairing and renovation of the residences and staff housings of diplomats is necessary as they are concerned with the image of the nation. Moreover, drawing of clear demarcation lines is a must for the State. Regarding necessities of office equipment, furniture and vehicles, it is required to make assessment based on the needs.

The session was adjourned at 12.55 pm and it will resume on 5 March. At the session, the President delivered a speech and the national planning bill was discussed.

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