

Each and every citizen needs to enjoy democratic rights and opportunities in disciplined manners -

Incumbent government will have to continue confiscating lands to implement projects, plans and undertakings in the interests of the people and the State -

Fair undertakings with goodwill which will profit the people, the country, the Union will have to be welcomed [Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, 7th day]

NAY PYI TAW, 26 July- The seventh day Pyidaungsu Hluttaw regular session was held at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Hall in the Hluttaw Complex here this afternoon, attended by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 620 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives.

The Hluttaw sought approval of the Hluttaw representatives to amend the Foreign Currency Management Bill as amended in report of Joint Bill Committee. The bill was approved with the majority vote of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

U Aung Mya Than of Nyaungdon Constituency, U Sai Win Maung of Shan State Constituency No (5), Dr Htay Win of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No (5), U Aung Myint of Gangaw Constituency, U Sai Than Naing of Papun Constituency, U Sein Tun of Htantabin Constituency, U Shwe Maung of Buthidaung Constituency, U Ohn Tin of Rakhine State Constituency No (10) and Daw Nan Se Aua of Hpa-an Constituency discussed the proposal submitted by U Tin Htut of Zalun Constituency on “doing justice to farmland confiscation not to harm farmers”. They discussed the proposal is a good one in the interest of the farmers.

They welcomed the directive of the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to form a commission. Once the proposal is approved, tasks will be carried out in accordance with Section (228), Sub-section (a) of the constitution. Now is time the country is marching towards democracy. The new government led by the President is initiating measures for all-round development, rural development and poverty alleviation. Easing difficulties of farmers should be prioritized. Their lives should be improved. The proposal is seconded to alleviate poverty and create job opportunities for farmers.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann said in his discussion: The proposal submitted by Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Tin Htut of Zalun Constituency is an opportunity for all. It is an opportunity for all citizens and the Union, rather than a challenge. Legislatures, government and judicial bodies are democratically elected. Questions can be raised, and proposals and bills can be discussed frankly in an organized manner in the Hluttaws. The Hluttaws are fulfilling desires, attitudes and needs of the people. Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Tin Htut submitted the desire of people and attitudes and needs of farmers as a proposal.

The Tatmadaw government deserves thanks for creating such opportunities. The Tatmadaw government initiated multi-party democracy system and market economy, holding referendum. The world was taken aback by peaceful transition. Each and every citizen needs to enjoy democratic rights and opportunities in disciplined manners. As the people, the people’s representatives, the people’s government and the civil servants have specific duties and authorities in respective organizations, they will be able to serve the interest of the country and its people appropriately.

The incumbent government will have to continue confiscating lands to implement projects, plans and undertakings in the interests of the people and the State. Fair undertakings with goodwill which will profit the people, the country and the Union will have to be welcomed.

If discussions from various aspects on the proposal of Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Tin Htut are reviewed, the issues are based on:-

- (1) compilation of accurate demographic data,
- (2) whether respective individual's or organization's implementation of policies introduced by leaders with goodwill and good intentions is fair or legitimate,
- (3) whether original objectives of projects and plans can be carried out or are reasonable,
- (4) transparency, and (5) check-and-balance system.

Taking lessons from the case, we must continue democratic reforms boldly.

We should not be hesitant.

Democracy wins every one's heart. It can be said it is owned by the public, not a thing of an individual or a group. Undisciplined conducts cannot be done, citing democracy.

Democracy has discipline. We should be cautious in order to avoid mob democracy and democratic authoritarianism.

I want to reiterate the call for performing duties in the interests of the people, the country and the Union fairly with no consideration of political affiliation, dogmatism, regionalism, sectarianism, and religion and personality cult.

As the Hluttaw representatives discussed the proposal submitted by U Tin Htut with genuine goodwill, the persons who will be assigned duties in accord with the decision of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw need to perform duties in the interests of the people, the country and the Union, getting rid of greed, vengeance and retaliation.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than said in his discussion that the Union government, and respective Region/State governments and Hluttaws will settle the issues in accordance with Farmland Law, bylaws and rules and regulations in consideration of case-wise reality. The Union government will handle the case fairly. He then proposed to put the proposal on record.

The proposal was put on record with majority vote.

As the Hluttaw agreed to form the commission to investigate farmland acquisition, the Hluttaw will form the investigation commission.

Today's session concluded at 4.05 pm and the date for sixth day session will be announced later.

Source: NLM 2012-07-27