

## **Public participation required for elimination of discrimination against HIV/ AIDS patients: Union Health Minister**



Nay Pyi Taw, 9 Nov- Dr Aung Than of Shwebo Constituency asked the measures of the Union government to eliminate discrimination against HIV/ AIDS patients and help them against loss of basic rights.

Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin described p r o m o t i o n o f h e a l t h education programmes as a means to reduce discrimination against HIV/AIDS patients. He suggested increased participation of Health Ministry and related m i n i s t r i e s , M y a n m a r Human Rights Commission, local and foreign social organizations, parliamentarians, and legal experts to reduce marginalization.

U Khin Maung Nyo of Loikaw Constituency asked whether the government can arrange to appoint esteemed traditional medical practitioners holding certificate, and educated tradit ional medical practitioners holding degree in traditional medicine as chairperson of Traditional Medicine Council.

The Union Minister replied that the appointment can only be done under the law and only the directorgeneral of Traditional Medicine Department can be appointed to the position.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi of Kawhmu Constituency submitted a proposal urging the Union government to form a supervisory com-mittee constituted with personnel of Health Ministry, members of Hluttaw committees/commission, academicians, intellectuals and intelligentsia, and local and foreign donors in order to upgrade Yangon People's Hospital on which the public relies to high standard medical centre. Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin expressed ministry support for the proposal. The Hluttaw approved her proposal. Dr Khin Maung Swe of Kyauktada Constituency submitted a proposal urging to cooperate in the interest of urbanites and rural folks to bridge the gap of medical service delivery between urban and rural areas.

Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin asked to put the proposal on record, which the proposer agreed. It was decided to monitor the works of Health Ministry in response to the proposal.

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