

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 28 October, 2014

Ministries elaborate on reasons for more budget allocations

Nay Pyi Taw, 28 Oct- A new budget allocation bill came under discussion at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw here on Tuesday, with union ministers and deputy ministers clarifying the principle of the bill and its initial debates on why their ministries need additional budgets.

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung elaborated on how his ministry is undertaking projects by the funding received from the Union Funds and how it will seek funds for future projects. Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe explained the causes of reduced earnings, new installations of cable lines to prevent unwanted electric hazards, the construction of new power stations, and arrangements for enough power supply to meet the rising demands in summer.

Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung told the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw about the share of budget allotment for his ministry and projects to be undertaken by additional budget allocation. U Khin Zaw, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, talked of the construction of dams, compensations to project-affected people, and measures to ensure the effective use of cultivable land. U Khin Maung Aye, Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, explained how his ministry is implementing the fight against poverty and the drive for rural development.

Deputy Minister for Energy U Aung Htoo told the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw that his ministry is short of funds, which he said resulted from increased rates of pension pays as well as from the necessity of more funds to finish ongoing projects. Deputy Minister for Industry U Myo Aung briefed on outstanding debts his ministry owes for steel plants, plans for their expansion, and the prospects of sales of steel products.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaug Htaik explained why his ministry's expenses exceeded allotted budget, citing for reasons the construction of sport grounds, stadiums and swimming pools, raised electricity fees, and appointments of foreign sport instructors and trainers.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint told the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw that the maintenance and repair of road facilities and plans to upgrade them through foreign assistance and loans. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues tomorrow. – MNA

Source: *The Global New Light of Myanmar*, 2014-10-29