

Pyithu Hluttaw 20 November, 2014

Pyithu Hluttaw raises questions on organ donation and digital television broadcasting

Nay Pyi Taw, 20 Nov — The Ministry of Health is drafting a new bill on the donation of organs to prevent illegal trafficking and the acquiring of organs through illicit means, Deputy Minister for Health U Win Myint told the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) on Thursday. He was responding to a question whether the new bill allows anyone to donate their organs if they have the same tissue type as the recipient.

There are two kinds of organ donation, one being donation of an organ of a brain-dead person and the other, of a living person, according to the deputy minister. Although there is no problem in organ donation in the case of the former, that of the latter may lead to illegal trafficking and illicit organ acquisition, the deputy minister added.

Therefore, the Ministry of Health is redrafting a new bill to prevent these undesirable incidents, the deputy minister said. Another question raised at the Pyithu Hluttaw concerned digital television programmes, which were introduced recently to Myanmar.

Regarding the question, Deputy Minister for Information U Pike Htway said that 25 stations are not broadcasting with the Digital DVB-T2 system while 68 more stations will broadcast with the system in the 2014-15 fiscal year. Set-top boxes to receive the channels have also been distributed free of charge to the public and more set-top boxes will also be available in the 2014-15 fiscal year, according to the deputy minister. Then, the secretary of the Bill Committee explained the bill for holding a national referendum to adopt the bill amending the 2008 constitution.—MNA

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