

Pyithu Hluttaw 21 November, 2014

Myanmar taking measures to reduce trade deficits

Nay Pyi Taw, 21 Nov — A question was raised at the Pyithu Hluttaw on Friday on how to deal with the country's trade deficits, with Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan responding that the fiscal year of 2014 from 1 April to 12 September saw export earnings of US\$4,965.726m and import of \$7,366.937m, resulting in a trade deficit of \$2,401.211m.

Regarding measures to enhance the export volume, the deputy minister said that priority has been given to rice, beans and pulses, oil crops, fishery products, textiles and clothes, and wood and forest products. He added that rules and regulations have been relaxed to boost exports, expecting that trade deficits will become less when finished products can make inroads into neighbouring markets.

Another question was concerned with the writing of the e-government master plan and how to implement its functions. In connection with the question, U Thaung Tin, deputy minister for Communications and Information Technology, said that the master plan is being drawn up since March 2014 with the help of the Asian Development Bank.

The plan is expected to be completed next March, with the deputy minister saying it will include action plans for state/region governments as well. Efforts will be made to ensure that ministries can follow the master plan, he said, adding that successful implementation of the e-government system will take 20 months. —MNA

Source: *The Global New Light of Myanmar*, 2014-11-22