

Bill to revoke State Protection Law put forward to PyithuHluttaw

THE second PyithuHluttaw resumed for the 19th day of its regular session yesterday with the submission of a bill to revoke the Law to Safeguard the State against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts.

The law, enacted in 1975, allows declarations of states of emergency for any territory in the country and restrictions of any citizen's fundamental rights, if necessary, in any territory in the country.

U TunTun Hein, chairperson of PyithuHluttaw Bill Committee, said a bill to revoke the law was submitted to the parliament as the law is not in conformity with the present situation in the country.

The submission of the bill came after a coordination meeting attended by members of the PyidaungsuHluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, the PyithuHluttaw Public Administration Committee and officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs on 27 and 28 April.

The law must be revoked as politicians are not criminals, said U PeThan, a Lower House rep-



Pyithu Hluttaw is convened in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

resentative from the Arakan National Party, adding that the law has been intentionally used to detain politicians for many years under the single-party system and authoritarian regimes.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint invited submissions of proposals to amend the bill not later than 5 May.

During question-and-answer session that day, Union Minister for Transport and Communication U Thant Sin Maung responded to a question raised by U Pike Ko of Pakokku Constituency on whether there is a plan to inform people of the benefits or impact of telecommunication towers installed in wards and villages via

MRTV or other media.

In his reply, the Union minister said the installation of the telecom infrastructure in wards and villages can contribute toward better network coverage and speedy telecommunications there.

He said no evidence of health effects from radio frequencies of

mobile networks were found as telecommunications equipment used in Myanmar meet international standards.

Educational talks on public concerns over the durability of towers, noise pollution and health hazards will be given to the public during field trips and through MRTV, newspapers, radio and other media, added the Union minister.

Next, the Union minister replied to a question from U Ba Shein of Kyaukphyu Constituency, saying work is underway to build a coastal-going vessel with imports of metal sheets and frames to operate a shipping route from Sittwe to townships in the southern part of Rakhine State.

He said the 200 million Japanese yen in aid for the resumption of ferry schedules for the route is not enough to buy such a vessel, referring to a disaster involving an inland-going vessel last year.

During the session, a congratulatory message sent from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the PyithuHluttaw Speaker was documented.—*Myanmar News Agency*