

Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw discusses counter-terrorism

By Aye Aye Thant
(Myanmar News Agency)

THE 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 8th regular session held its ninth-day meeting yesterday morning, where the Condominium Rule was approved.

At the meeting, asterisk-marked questions were asked and answered, a motion and a bill tabled and a report read and explained.

Regarding the asterisk-marked question, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw made an explanation.

A Pyithu Hluttaw representative from Pyawbwe constituency, U Thaung Aye, said, "A motion has been made to give enough protection measures for the stability, rule of law, sovereignty and perpetuation of the State, and for violent attacks not to occur,



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

especially in Rakhine State, and cooperation with international organisations to combat terrorism and to prevent further attacks of the ARSA terrorist groups in Myanmar.

A counter-terrorism law was enacted in Pyithu Hluttaw Law No. 23/2014, in which there are

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19 chapters. Looking back at the previous incidents of 2016 and 2017, it was evident that the terrorists had made an attempt to destroy many security checkpoints including those of the Tatmadaw and many outposts of border guard police force. The terrorists used force, human shields, land mines, arson, killing of administrative officials, security informants and minor ethnic races, and threats to the people to stay away from their homes. It was an undeniable fact that the actions of the terrorists needed to be addressed in the prescribed counter-terrorism laws. Thus this law is needed to be able to tackle terrorist events effectively.

In the present situation, the United Nations, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and other international organ-

isations have made an attempt to intervene in our country, neglecting the acts of the terrorists and groundless news from them that can lead to the UN Security Council and International Criminal Court. It can be assumed that they can hamper the stability and sovereignty of the State. Moreover it can weaken the legal measures and humanitarian aid conducted by the government as well.

As for the government, efforts should be made to take action against the culprits, agitators, terrorists and their related organisations according to the rules and regulations prescribed by the law. Moreover, clear clarification should be made to disseminate the news of Rakhine State to the international community.

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Amyotha Hluttaw

Amyotha Hluttaw discusses improper land use, approves GAP motion

THE ninth-day of the eighth regular session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw was held yesterday. The Hluttaw approved the motion urging the union government to implement proper agricultural practices (GAP). Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw answered questions raised by the MPs, a report was read, and a motion was discussed and voted on by the assembly.

Actions taken against improper land use

U Aung Myo of Sagaing Region constituency (2) asked whether there were plans to investigate the certificates to use the farmland (form-7) that were issued, as well as the illegally acquired certificates to use the farmland (form-7) used for embezzling agricultural loans.

The deputy minister replied that certificates to use the farmland were issued for all levels of Administrative Body of the Farmland, in accordance with section 3 to 14 of Chapter (II) under the 2012 Farmland Rule. He said it would take considerable time, staff and finance to investigate every form-7 issued across the country. Therefore, the forms are usually only scrutinised when their illegal use is evident, or a complaint or suspicion is sub-



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

mitted.

Similarly, agricultural loans are scrutinised when the Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank requests a review due to a suspicion of embezzlement. Offenders are charged with breaking the Civil Servant Law and Rule.

The deputy minister explained that inexperienced part-time workers were hired when issuing a large number of certificates to use the farmland in a relatively short time. He said farmland area calculations were based on old colonial maps, which led to multiple corrections when issuing permits to farmers.

No amendment made to

bill amending TV, broadcasting law sent by Pyithu Hluttaw

Next, Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye read the committee's report on the bill amending the Television and Broadcasting Law, sent with amendments by the Pyithu Hluttaw. The committee considers the amendments made by the Pyithu Hluttaw to be sufficient and, therefore, have not added any additional amendments and suggested to the Amyotha Hluttaw that they accept the bill without making any changes.

Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than then announced that MPs interested in discussing the bill could enrol their names.

Lawmakers urge govt to promote GAP nationwide

The MPs then discussed a motion, tabled by U Hla San of Magway Region constituency, urging the union government to implement the GAP system for the country's agricultural sector.

Dr. Win Myint Chit of Bago Region constituency (8) said that for the GAP system to be successful, there must be proper adherence to the administration, from the most basic aspect of choosing a proper farmland to storing crops, as well as documenting all steps of the process for reviewing and training purposes. He said this would ensure that agricultural products are safe for consumers and trading. He suggested establishing stores that sell GAP agricultural produce in every city and providing GAP training at agricultural education centres.

Tatmadaw MP Major Ye Aung Saw said the GAP guidelines must not be mandatory, and it should be up to farmers to decide the guidelines and practices best suited to them. He suggested that the relevant ministries and government organisations should restore farmland, acquire modern agricultural technology, ensure appropriate crops are grown on the most suitable soil, provide land-use permits to the local people for virgin lands, pen-

etrate the international market and conduct continuous research for improvement.

The motion was further discussed by three MPs, followed by Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw explaining that the GAP protocol was implemented to ensure high-quality crops are produced for the market. He said the staff of the agricultural department would need additional training to carry out the GAP regulations on a nationwide scale. The deputy minister also agreed that it was important for farmers to accept and use the GAP system as they thought best. He explained that due to a limited budget, the authorities were unable to provide every department with proper equipment and are, therefore, carrying out procedures one step at a time.

He added that the authorities were disseminating information about GAP practices to build a strong foundation among the country's citizens. The deputy minister then said that his ministry supported the motion, as it had an encouraging effect upon their work. The motion was put to a vote and approved by the Amyotha Hluttaw by 186 votes for, one against, and two abstentions.

The Amyotha Hluttaw session will continue on 1 June. —Aung Ye Thwin ■

MIC approves two investment proposals last Tuesday

The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) issued two investment permits in accordance with the Myanmar Investment Law at a meeting held on 29 May.

One permit is for wholly foreign-owned enterprises to execute manufacturing, sales and service of motor vehicles and motorcycles. The MIC approved one joint venture for the production and sale of construction plastic products.

The submission of proposals and endorsement applications from investors and post-permit activities of MIC-permitted companies were discussed at the meeting. The two permits

will create more than 1,000 jobs, according to the MIC meeting (7/2018). MIC intends to attract foreign direct investments (FDIs) worth US\$3,000 million during the transitional period from April to September for the 2018-2019 fiscal year (FY). The manufacturing and real estate development sectors will remain top in attracting FDIs during the six-month interim period.

In the 2017-2018 FY, Myanmar received FDIs worth \$5.7 billion through some 222 projects. Singapore made the largest investments of \$2.1 billion, while China brought in \$1.39 billion. —Htet Myat ■

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Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, who had attended the Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly (IPU Assembly) held in October, 2017, immediately responded and clarified the ethnic cleansing accusation made by the OIC. Similarly, the Permanent Representative of Myanmar made a statement on 16 May, 2018 and explained Myanmar's views and position on the Rakhine issue at the UN Security Council, saying that it is important to let the world know the true information regarding the Rakhine issues.

"If we focus on the repatriation process, humanity, human rights issues and freedom of movement in the country for fear of international pressures, it can threaten the stability, sovereignty and perpetuity of the state", he said.

The Hluttaw representative supported the motion and Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced that the motion had been accepted for discussion.

Then Secretary of the Pyithu Hluttaw Committee on the Natural Resources and Environment U Aye Naing submitted the second amendment of the Myanmar Black Pearl bill to the Hluttaw and a member of the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, U Aung Sein, read and clarified the bill. Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat requested the Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the bill to enrol their names.

The fourth law for Amending the Anti-Corruption Law was received and read out to submit by member of the Bill Committee U Sai Phone Myat. Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat requested the Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the bill to enrol their names.

The Hluttaw approved the condominium bylaws submitted by the Ministry of Construction and the Speaker U T Khun Myat announced that the condominium bylaws were approved.

The 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 8th regular session tenth-day will be held on 1 June. ■

Rakhine State celebrates 5th Rakhine National Day



Local people attend the ceremony to celebrate 5th Rakhine National Day in Maungta. **PHOTO: THET LWIN SOE (MAUNGTAW DISTRICT IPRD)**

Local residents across Sittway, Mrauk U, Pauktaw, and Maungta townships in Rakhine State celebrated the 5th Rakhine National Day yesterday.

In Sittway, the celebrations were held at the grounds near the Atulamahrazein Pyi Lone Chan Tar Pagoda in the early morning. U Maung Ba Thein, a respected Rakhine historical scholar, explained the Rakhine

alphabet and U Hla Win read the biography of Dr. Sandar Htay, a noted lecturer.

In Mrauk U, the celebrations were held in Mingalar Aungmyay Nantarkone Monastery, where sermons were preached, Rakhine history explored and literature recited.

Celebrations in Pauktaw involved a talk on the history of Rakhine National Day, followed

by dance troupe performances, literature compositions, and traditional songs.

Maungta also celebrated Rakhine National Day with a speech of the holiday's history and dance performances.

Rakhine National Day was designated during the Rakhine National Congress that took place in Kyaukpau Township in 2014.—Maungta IPRD ■

Fire breaks out in Monywa prison staff housing quarters

An electrical fire triggered by a wire shock destroyed nine apartments in Monywa prison staff housing quarters at 11 p.m. on 29 May.

"The fire outbreak occurred following incessant rainfall. We have arranged to provide temporary shelters for the people who were affected. More than 30 members from nine households were rendered homeless. We will donate some Ks100,000 to each

household," said U Khin Maung Tun, person in charge at Monywa prison.

According to the investigation, the fire originated from electric lights offered to Buddha at the home of a person identified as Lance Corporal Aye Aye Soe, who was away on a trip. The fire quickly went out of control and spread to the neighbouring houses.

Two 40x15 feet houses and a

10x15 feet house in the Monywa prison staff housing quarters were damaged in the blaze. The property losses were estimated to exceed Ks4.5 million. No one was injured in the accident. It took 16 fire engines and several firemen to put out the blaze in 30 minutes. The police have taken action against Lance Corporal Aye Aye Soe under Section 285 of the Penal Code.—Myo Win Tun (Monywa) ■

New tube-well, overhead tank opened in Kyakan Village, Magway Township

A ceremony to open the new tube-well and overhead water tank with a holding capacity of 1600 gallons donated by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Kyakan village,

Magway township, Magway region was held at the village on 29 May.

It was attended by officials from the Magway Region Disaster Management Department

under the Ministry and others.

The contributions will benefit about 700 teachers and students and 750 people from 150 households of the village, according to the Ministry.—MDN ■

Correction

Please read "U Sai Thaw Win" instead of "U Sai Thawdar Win," in the news story and caption of "CMB, Defence Ministry, Nay Pyi Taw Council hold press conference on second one-year performance" on page-10 of May 30 Issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar. — Myanmar News Agency