

## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw concludes its eighth regular session

AT the 11<sup>th</sup>-day meeting of the second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's eighth regular session held yesterday morning, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than explained the works conducted during the eighth regular session.

During the day's meeting, two bills were put on record, the discussion of the Hluttaw representatives on the National Education Policy Commission (NEPC) work report was responded and explained, and a report on the Revenue Appellate Tribunal Bill was read.

### Two bills put on record

At first, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker announced the Hluttaw putting on record the fourth bill to amend the Anti-Corruption Law and the bill amending the Television and Video Law, considered as approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

### Hluttaw decides, approves Science, Technology and Innovation Bill

Next, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the approval of the Hluttaw on the Science, Technology and Innovation Bill, sent by the President with comments, after the Hluttaw decided on the bill by paragraph.



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

### NEPC, MoE on NEPC work report discussion by Hluttaw representatives

Later, the NEPC and the Ministry of Education (MoE) responded to and explained the discussion held by the Hluttaw representatives on the NEPC work report for six months (2017 October to 2018 April).

NEPC Vice-Chairman U Nyi Hla Nge explained the commission collecting data/information, coordinating, discussing and deciding to establish the national education policy.

Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi said the

education reform was implemented according to the National Education Law 2014 and the 2015 Law amending the National Education Law. The priority and strategic project works outlined in the National Education Strategic Plan (2016-2021) were also implemented.

During the three academic years of 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018, the number of students increased from over 8.6 million to 8.89 million and 9.17 million. Priority was given to difficult areas resulting in a significant increase in students in middle and high schools.

The ministry not only creat-

ed education opportunities but implemented them according to the National Education Strategic Plan. Only through discussions with teachers and learners can perform deep learning and quality education be implemented. Experts who can compete in the labour market can only be produced if vocational education and training are first class. The union minister explained that only through the united force of the parents, teachers, public, state/region governments and the Hluttaw representatives can quality education be implemented.

Following this, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw putting on record the NEPC six months work report no. 3, as well as the discussion of the Hluttaw representatives, the response and explanation by the NEPC and the Ministry of Education.

### Hluttaw approves revenue appellate tribunal bill

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw joint bill committee member Daw Nwe Nwe Aung then read the report on additional findings and comments of the joint bill committee on the Revenue Appellate Tribunal Bill, sent by the union government. The

committee member said the joint bill committee report on the bill was submitted during the seventh-day meeting of the second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's eighth regular session. At the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting held on 12 June 2018, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives U Khun Win Thaung, U Soe Thein @ U Maung Soe and U Myo Win discussed and submitted an amendment to the report. The committee conducted a hearing on 14 June 2018 about the suggestions made by the Hluttaw representatives, where the Hluttaw representatives accepted the additional amendment of the joint bill committee. The bill committee member explained that the additional amendment of the joint bill committee is being reported to the Hluttaw for approval.

A motion to approve the report by paragraph was made, and the Hluttaw decided and approved the report.

Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win then tabled a motion to approve the entire bill.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw approving the entire bill after the decision of the Hluttaw was obtained. **SEE PAGE-7**

## Preparatory meeting for third 21<sup>st</sup> century Panglong conference successfully ends

THE preparatory talks for the third session of the Union Peace Conference-21<sup>st</sup> Century Panglong were held at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Present at the meeting were secretaries of the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee U Khin Zaw Oo, U Hla Maung Shwe, U Zaw Htay, U Aung Soe, and Lt-Gen Tin Maung Win, joint committee members, representatives from the government, the Hluttaw, and Tatmadaw agencies, the group formed of people who deserve to attend this conference, ethnic delegates, and humanitarian agencies.

The meeting reviewed the sectors concerning the government, the Hluttaw, and the Tat-



The preparatory meeting for the Union Peace Conference-21<sup>st</sup> Century Panglong holds its meeting. PHOTO: MNA

madaw agencies discussed in the 19 and 20 June meetings.

U Khin Zaw Oo explained the discussion results on politics, U Hla Maung Shwe on economics,

U Zaw Htay on social affairs, and Dr. Wah Wah Maung on land and the natural environment.

Next, U Khin Zaw Oo said using the results from the previ-

ous discussions, the Mon national dialogues and the Civil Society Organisations (CSO) forums, the meeting has identified a single platform for the government,

the Hluttaw and the Tatmadaw agencies. He said the meeting was successful and suggested holding working committee meetings regularly every six months following the third session of the Union Peace Conference.

The meeting has reportedly compiled a list of sector-wise discussion points to be brought up during the third session of the Union Peace Conference.

U Jimmy, from the group formed of people who deserve to attend this conference, said the social affairs sector has listed 10 points for discussing policy. He said four points from the second union agreement are included in the social affairs sector, based on two reports from the national dialogues and CSOs. —Myo Myint ■



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### Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker on works conducted during eighth regular session

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than explained the works conducted during the second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's eighth regular session. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker said 11 days of meetings were held during this session, where six laws were approved and four bills were sent to the President

to sign.

In addition to this, a discussion and confirmation on two international agreements sent by the President and the matter of loan from the Central Bank of Myanmar were conducted. In the soon to be called ninth regular session, the annual budget and the tax bill for the 2018-2019 fiscal year will be discussed and approved, as well as other Hluttaw duties performed.

Instructions were issued to

report to the Central Committee for Development Programme by 30 April 2018 on the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw development fund for the 2017-2018 FY and the completion status of constituency-wise region development works. Of the 325 townships, three remain to submit this, and these have to be reported, as soon as possible. If there are extra funds for the works that are not conducted due to various reasons, it is to be returned via the Myanma Eco-

nomic Bank branches, said the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.

Moreover, all need to study and assess the priority works by the constituency for the forthcoming fiscal years. The township-wise development works are to be completed within the fiscal year; and payments, as well as other supporting evidence, are to be systematically maintained and readied for scrutiny, added the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.

While the Hluttaw meetings are adjourned, all need to listen to the true voices of the people in their respective constituencies and are urged to cooperate and do their best according to the law, said the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker.

Finally, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the successful completion of the second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's eighth regular session.—Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant ■

## Union Minister U Thein Swe receives Indian Ambassador to Myanmar

UNION Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Vikram Misri on Tuesday at the ministry's hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, matters relating to the implementation of the agreement between Myanmar and India on border crossing signed on 11 May such as upgrading the Tamu-Moreh

and Rikhawdar-Zokhawthar gates, construction of buildings in international border gates, work requirements, cooperation plan between the two immigrations to smooth the border entry/exit process, works conducted for officials to conveniently cross the Paletwa-Zoripui gate and assist in the registration works and other border crossing related works were discussed.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister U Thein Swe holds talks with Indian Ambassador Mr. Vikram Misri in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

## Pearls fetch over 2.5 mln euros at 55<sup>th</sup> Myanma Gems Emporium

THREE-HUNDRED forty-one lots of pearls fetched over 2.5 million euros yesterday at the 55<sup>th</sup> Myanma Gems Emporium in Nay Pyi Taw.

All 360 pear lots exhibited yesterday with basic price of 500 euros and above for each lot were bought by traders.

A pearl lot with 524 pearls weighing 433.85 momme fetched the highest price of 32,999 euros and a pearl lot with 67 pearls weighing 30.30 momme fetched the lowest price of 788 euros at yesterday's sales, according to Daw Mya Mya Win, Assistant General Manager of the Myanma Pearl Enterprise.

Myanmar held annual pearl sales six times in Hong Kong and pearls produced by pearl farms in Taninthayi Region have found a strong market there, added Daw Mya Mya Win.

The second day of the 55<sup>th</sup> Myanma Gems Emporium was continued in Mani Yadana Jade Hall, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday

where 360 pearl lots, 336 gem lots and 6,795 jade lots totaling 7,490 lots were on display.

Over 4,000 local and international gem merchants attended the second day of the emporium.

U Than Zaw Oo of the exhibition department said the event was held to gather local gem merchants, especially buyers and sellers, in a single place. At this emporium, over 500 companies and license holders exhibited jade lots. At the moment there are over 1,200 registered local gem merchants, both buyers and sellers, in the country.

There are over 3,000 foreign gem merchants. Yesterday, about 2,500 entered the emporium and inspected the jade lots.

The benefits for both buyers and sellers is the possibility to see at one place up to 6,000 jade and gem lots.

Normally it would be diffi-



Jade merchants viewing pieces of jade at the Myanma Gems Emporium in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

cult to round up 4 to 5 gem merchants to inspect 4, 5 or 10 lots, said U Than Zaw Oo.

In normal sales outside, there are limitations to declaring the sale price and paying tax. At

the exhibition, full tax according to set rates goes into the state coffer and the seller received the remaining sales amount, added U Than Zaw Oo.

The third day of the 55<sup>th</sup> My-

anma Gems Emporium will continue in Mani Yadana Jade Hall today, where jade and gem lots will be inspected and sold under an open tender system.—Kyaw Thu Htet (MNA) ■