

Second Pyithu Hluttaw's 9th regular session holds eighth-day meeting

By Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

THE Second Pyithu Hluttaw's ninth regular session held its eighth-day meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning. At the meeting, asterisk-marked questions were answered by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw and Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing.

Asterisk-marked questions

In the question and answer session, Daw Khin Hnin Thit of Padaung constituency raised a question on whether there is a plan to expand Emerald Green Project in Padaung Township. Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw replied that Emerald Green Project has been implemented in 23 villages of Padaung Township, while people-centered project will be implemented in all the villages of the township for the full four-year cycle of the project. As the Emerald Green Project is being implemented in other townships, there is no plan to expand the project in Padaung Township at the moment, explained the Deputy Minister.

U Myat Lay Oo of Htilin con-

stituency then raised a question on plans to provide electricity to nine villages of Kyin village area in Htilin Township. Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing replied that a 66 KV Pauk-Kyaukhtu power line passes near the subject villages but electricity can be supplied only when sub-stations are constructed and a 11 KV power line laid. Due to the geography of the region and technical requirements, it would be difficult to provide electricity from the power grid. Off-grid system (solar) is the most appropriate way of providing electricity to the subject villages and the Department of Rural Development is being informed and coordinated about this, said the Deputy Minister.

In replying to a question posed by U Nay Myo Htet of Kyauktada constituency on plans to implement base load hydro-electric projects and provide electricity to required places in Myanmar, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing said hydro-electricity is not appropriate to produce base load. The Deputy Minister explained further that there are 27 installed hydro-electric plants generating 2,800 MW. Of the 27, 21 are reservoir type, generating



Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw. PHOTO: MNA

intermediate load of 2,170 MW and only 6 are run-off-river type plants, generating 630 MW for base load. Feasibility studies are being conducted to construct more hydro-electric projects with government fund, local and international investment. Survey and investigation will take at least three years while construction period is from four to ten years, explained the Deputy Minister.

Questions raised by U Myint Oo of Thanatpin constituency, U Win Win of Minbu constituency and U Khun Than Htoo of Hsihseng constituency were also answered by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw and Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing.

Forest Bill to be submitted to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Next, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat obtained the decision of the Hluttaw on the Forest Bill sent with amendments by Amyotha Hluttaw.

Bill committee tabled a motion to submit the bill to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as the two Hluttaws are in disagreement over the bill. After Hluttaw agree to it, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced the Hluttaw's decision to submit the bill to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and proceed further on it.

Motion to review and provide necessary support to Department of Cooperatives

Afterwards, a motion tabled by Daw Wint War Tun of Shadaw constituency urging the government to review and provide necessary support for the Department of Cooperatives to successfully implement its policy, aim and work processes was discussed by Hluttaw representatives.

U Bo Gyi of Chauk constituency, U Tun Tun of Pwintbyu constituency, U Sein Han of Kanma constituency, Dr. U Khin Maung Thin of Ayadaw constituency,

Dr. Daw Thet Thet Khaing of Dagon constituency, Dr. U Sein Mya Aye of Dala constituency, U Tin Ko Ko Oo @ U A Tut of Bilin constituency, U Thein Tan of Hlegu constituency, U Bo Bo Oo of Sangyoung constituency, Daw Nan Htwe Thu of Pasawng constituency, U Nyunt Aung of Monywa constituency, Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung constituency and U Ye Lwin of Ahlon constituency discussed the motion.

In his discussion on the motion, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw explained about the history of the Department of Cooperatives that started as the Ministry of Cooperatives on 5 April 1951. He then said the incumbent government is monitoring whether the policy, aim and work processes of the cooperatives sector is in accord with the economic policies set, and recommended that the motion be put on record.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker then announced the Hluttaw putting on record and keeping the matter under observation after obtaining decision of the Hluttaw.

The ninth-day meeting of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw's ninth regular session will be held on 14 August it is learnt.

Second Amyotha Hluttaw's 9th regular session holds eighth-day meeting

By Myo Myint (MNA)

THE Second Amyotha Hluttaw's ninth regular session held its eighth-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning. At the meeting, five questions on health sectors was raised, a bill discussed and a motion tabled to discuss a bill.

questions on health sector

In the first question of the day, U Htay Oo of Yangon Region constituency 2 asked if the government has a plan to increase nurses and fund for Yangon Eye Hospital. Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Mya Lay Sein said the Department of Medical Services will give priority to assign nurses to Yangon Eye Hospital when new nurse appointments are made in December 2018. As for the fund, the hospital was allocated Ks 1,188.627 million in fiscal year 2017-2018 and when there was a request for additional fund, Ks.

68.97 million was provided, said the Deputy Minister.

U Kyaw Thaung of Sagaing Region constituency 1, on the other hand, asked if hospitals have plans to inform and educate visitors to hospitals, and family member, close relative or friend of a patient who tend to the patient in the hospital to follow the hospital rules. Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein replied that hospitals display the hospital rules on notice boards in the hospital. Doctors and nurses occasionally provide demonstration on washing hands and informative talks on prevention against communicable diseases to visitors and those tending to the patient. As visitors and those tending to the patients are worried about their patients, education and information programs for them in person are impractical and thus distribution of pamphlets on prevention against communicable diseases will be made through hospital support group. Health



Deputy Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Mya Lay Sein. PHOTO: MNA

information will also be provided through media said the deputy minister.

Replying to question raised by U Ko Ko Naing of Sagaing Region constituency 8 on arrangements made for transfer of Township Medical Officers (TMO) and Assistant Surgeons (AS), Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein said when TMO, SMO (Senior Medical Officer) and AS are transferred, the replacement medical personnel is required to work together with the trans-

ferred medical personnel for a minimum of two days of overlapping period before duties and responsibilities are transferred. Instructions were given to State and Region Medical Services departments and Departments of Public Health to follow this requirement, said the deputy minister.

Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein also replied to questions posed by Daw Htu May of Rakhine State constituency 11 on plan to upgrade a rural health clinic in Yanbye Township, Anauk village to a station hospital and U Whey Tin of Chin State constituency 11 on plans to provide an ambulance and a diesel generator to Chin State, Paletwa Township, Simi town and Miza village station hospitals.

Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Bill

Next, Dr. Mya Thaung of Bago Region constituency 7 dis-

cussed the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Bill.

Motion on second amendment of Penal Code

Afterwards, a motion to accept and debate the second amendment of the Penal Code was tabled by U Aung Thein of Bago Region constituency 12 and the Hluttaw decided to accept the motion. In his discussion to the Hluttaw for tabling the motion, U Aung Thein said the Penal Code was enacted and practiced for more than 150 years and punishment for offences like Section 376 rape case are outdated and no longer serves as deterrence. This causes the rise in rape of minors and thus the motion to amend the Penal Code was tabled, explained U Aung Thein.

The ninth-day meeting of the 9th regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw will be held on 14 August it is learnt.