

Second Pyithu Hluttaw's ninth regular session holds ninth-day meeting

By Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

THE Second Pyithu Hluttaw's ninth regular session held its ninth-day meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning. At the meeting, asterisk-marked questions were answered by Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun and Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin. Also at the meeting, a motion was tabled and a report read.



Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin. PHOTO: MNA



Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun. PHOTO: MNA

Questions and answers

During the asterisk-marked question session, U Myint Oo of Thanatpin constituency first raised a question on plans to open an AGTI (Associate Government Technical Institute) and a Teachers' Training College in Bago. Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun said the Ministry of Education is coordinating among its departments on opening an AGTI in Bago, if land is available.

If land is obtained at the Department of Higher Education, Bago University, for the AGTI (Bago) plan, budget allocation for the building, furniture and teaching aids will be included in fiscal year 2018-2019 and implemented when the budget is obtained, said the Deputy Minister.

As for teachers' training, education colleges were already opened in Taungoo and Pyay cities, in Bago Region, where D.T.Ed. (Diploma in Teacher Education) and PPTT (Pre-Service Primary Teacher Training) courses were conducted, producing about 300 D.T.Ed. teachers and 600 PPTT teachers (annually). Furthermore, teacher to student ratio in Bago Region is from 1:24 to 1:19 in primary level, showing that sufficient number of teachers was already employed in Bago Region. Therefore, there is no plan at the moment to open a teachers training college in Bago, said the Deputy Minister.

Replying to a question raised by U Aung Kyaw Oo of

Mongton constituency on the reason for the seemingly sudden plan to change question formats in the matriculation examination during 2018-2019 academic year and whether it would be more appropriate to first change the question format in grade ten this education year, Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun replied that the main aim of changing the question format is to promote critical thinking over rote learning.

But more importantly, the question formats are not changed entirely, as there'll be questions in rote learning format as well as in meaningful learning formats, only with the exception that there'll be more questions on meaningful learn-

ing formats. The questions will cover the entire syllabus with questions balanced in easy, moderate and difficult levels so students who had covered the entire syllabus wouldn't find much difficulty in sitting the examination, said the Deputy Minister.

Furthermore, the new question formats are being published in state-owned media and internet websites of Ministry of Information and Ministry of Education for students to study, while trainings, talks and discussions with high school teachers were conducted for new question formats, explained the Deputy Minister.

Questions raised by U Saw Thalay Saw of Shwegyin constituency, U Sein Aung of Paletwa constituency, Daw Nan Moe of Mongton constituency, U Min Thein of Taungdwingyi constituency, U Kyaw Myint of Taikkyi constituency, U Nyunt Aung of Monywa constituency, U Khin Maung Myint of Yaksaw constituency, U Yan Kyin Kan of Kunlong constituency, Daw Thandar of Einme constituency and Daw Khin Saw Wai of Yathedaung constituency were also answered by Deputy Ministers U Win Maw Tun and U Kyaw Lin.

Motion urging the govern-

ment to provide research grants to researchers

Next, Dr. Hla Moe of Aungmyaythazan constituency tabled a motion urging the government to increase the development momentum of Myanmar education by establishing a good research environment and providing research grants to researchers.

After the Hluttaw decided to discuss the motion, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the motion to enroll their names.

Bill committee report on literature and art copyright bill

Afterwards, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker informed the Hluttaw of the receipt of Literature and Art Copyright Bill, approved and sent with amendments by the Amyotha Hluttaw.

The Bill Committee report on the bill was then read and submitted by a Bill Committee member, after which the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced for Hluttaw representatives who want to table an amendment motion to enroll their names.

The Second Pyithu Hluttaw's ninth regular session will hold its tenth-day meeting on 17 August, it is learnt.

Second Amyotha Hluttaw's ninth regular session holds ninth-day meeting

Aung Ye Thwin

THE Second Amyotha Hluttaw's ninth regular session held its ninth-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning, where asterisk-marked questions were raised and answered, a bill and a motion discussed.

Asterisk-marked questions

In the asterisk-marked question session, Daw Ei Ei Pyone of Ayeyawady Region constituency 8 first posed a question on how lands that can be used for other means are being managed to be in accord with the aim of the government. Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw replied that when permission is granted to use land for other means, the land must be used as permitted within six months and if it is not used, the permit has to be forfeited. The permit

will also have to be forfeited once the period permitted expires. As such, permitted land users need to follow law and notifications, said the Deputy Minister.

Furthermore, the ministry's central farmland management group is managing the utilization of lands that can be used for other means and had also informed farmland management groups in Nay Pyi Taw Council, states and regions to do likewise. These groups will manage and review the utilization of lands permitted for other use in coordination with relevant state and region governments, replied the Deputy Minister.

U Ye Htut of the Sagaing Region constituency 5 then raised a question on plans to prepare about 1,900 acres of farmlands near Letpadaungtaung copper project and distribute them to farmers who lost their farmlands to the project. Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and



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

Irrigation U Hla Kyaw replied that a farmland exploration committee has been formed and the committee had conducted field trip to identify the 1,900 acres of farmland.

The committee found 1,727 acres of vacant, fallow and virgin land in Yinmabin and Kani townships, where permission was already granted to use it as

a farmland, but no one is using it. Sagaing Region government is following up with farmers who had lost their farmlands to the project, to know their willingness to work on the 1,727 acres of land, and the matter is still ongoing, replied the Deputy Minister.

Similarly, a question raised by U Myo Win of Mon State constituency 8 was answered by the Deputy Minister.

Discussion on Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Bill

Next, Daw Ei Ei Pyone of Ayeyawady Region constituency 8 and Naw Hla Hla Soe of Yangon Region constituency 10 discussed the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Bill.

Discussion on a motion tabled by U Myo Win of Mon State constituency 8

U Myo Win of Mon State

constituency 8 tabled a motion urging the government to control and manage the management committee, development committee and farmland management committee to ensure that there is no corruption because plots were formed on many farms and plantation lands and sold off illegally, causing losses of farms and plantation lands. In addition to these lands, lands set aside for expansion of towns and villages were also lost in a similar manner, said U Myo Win on his motion. The motion was discussed by U Htay Oo of Yangon Region constituency 2, Dr. Kyaw Than Tun (Canton) of Mandalay Region constituency 3, U Kyaw Myint Oo of Mandalay Region constituency 10 and U Win Kyaing of Bago Region constituency 10.

The Second Amyotha Hluttaw's ninth regular session will hold its tenth-day meeting on 17 August, it is learnt.