

# Pyidaungsu Hluttaw gives nod to US\$ 40.5 million loan from Asian Development Bank

THE matter sent by the President regarding the US\$ 40.5 million from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for funding projects of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation was accepted by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in yesterday's ninth-day meeting of the Hluttaw's ninth regular session.

U Maung Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance, elaborated on the loan, saying that the project has to conform with the 12-point national economic policy and at the same time support the ministry's projects as well as state and region's projects. He said a feasibility study was conducted on the loan whereby an approval was received from the Development Support Coordination Group and after which, the matter was sent to the union government to consider acquiring the loan. He added that the country's foreign debt statistic is included in the government's yearly and half-year debt report. The Deputy Minister requested the Hluttaw to accept the matter.

Similarly, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw also explained the matter to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

## Controversial land management bill approved

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw also discussed the bill amending the Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Land Management Law (2017), which garnered opposing views from the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw.



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is being convened in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

U Htay Oo of Yangon Region constituency 2 said regardless of whether a new law is enacted or an existing law is amended, if the contents of the law are carefully compiled then it will prevent those in authority from exploiting parts of the law for their convenience, and will permit the law to carry out its intended purpose.

The reports on the bill from both the Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw were then discussed by U Tin Htwe of Waw constituency, Daw Naw Chris Tun (a) Dr. Arr Kar Moe of Kayin State constituency 7, U Kyi Win of Ayeyawady Region constituency 12, U Soe Thein (a) U Maung Soe of Taninthayi Region constituency 10, Dr. Aung Khin of PyinOoLwin constituency, U Sai Lone San Khet of Shan State

constituency 7, Naw Hla Hla Soe of Yangon Region constituency 10 and Dr. Kun Win Thaung of Kachin State constituency 11.

After much deliberation, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced that the bill has been accepted. **MPs discuss report on Basic Education Department construction projects**

Hluttaw representatives then discussed Report No. 6/2018 from the Joint Public Accounts Committee concerning the construction projects of the Department of Basic Education, under the Ministry of Education, carried out in fiscal year 2017-2018.

Dr. Aung Khin of PyinOoLwin constituency said that after scrutinizing the Department of Basic Education's approved projects for fiscal year 2017-

2018, it was found that 251 projects out of the entire ministry's 2,700 projects have been completed. It was also found that some states and regions were able to fully pay for the completed projects while some state and regions could not. There were also unnecessary delays in call for tender evaluation and contract signing processes, resulting in a pushback of the department's construction projects' completion dates to November.

Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency said the Tender Evaluation Committee should be reformed into a more transparent, responsible and accountable committee after considering the committee's weaknesses, shortcomings and wrong decisions it had made this year. She added

that the Tender Committee's grading system should also be reevaluated and there should be rules and regulations in place to ensure construction equipment and materials meet the proper standards, and to act against those that lower the standard quality for personal benefits. The Tender Committee is solely held responsible for the companies that have passed its evaluation procedures and to be held accountable so that the tender process can be smoother and more efficient, said Daw Cho Cho. She added that she agreed with the Joint Public Accounts Committee's report.

The report was also discussed by Dr. Hla Moe of Aungmyethazan constituency, Daw Khin Than Nu of Mindon constituency, U Tin Tun Naing of Seikkyi-Khanaungto constituency, U Win Win of Minbu constituency, U Kyaw Tint of Tatkon constituency, Daw Thandar of Einme constituency, Dr. Thet Thet Khaing of Dagon constituency, U Sai Tun Sein of Mongpyin constituency, U Tun Wai of Phaungpyin constituency, U Sai Oo Khem of Hsenwi constituency, U Myo Zaw Oo of Lewe constituency, U Than Soe Aung of Pyinmana constituency, U Win Myint Oo (a) U Nay Myo of Nyaungshwe constituency, U Zaw Hein of Taninthayi Region constituency 7, U Nyan Hein of Thanbyuzayat constituency, U Tin Ko Ko Oo (a) Atut of Bilin constituency and U Tin Aung Tun of Magway Region constituency 5. —Myo Myint, Han Lin Naing ■

## Civil Services Academy discusses branch of studies

THE advisory group and board of studies of the Civil Services Academy (CSA), Central Institute of Civil Service, Union Civil Service Board, held coordination meeting No.4/2018 at the meeting hall of the Union Civil Service Board yesterday. During the meeting, Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board Dr. Win Thein delivered a speech and officials discussed topics relating to the education and teaching processes of the Civil Services Academy.

Present at the meeting were members of the Union Civil Service Board and responsible officials. —Myanmar News Agency



Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board Dr. Win Thein addresses the coordination meeting in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

## Thailand Labour Minister arrives in Nay Pyi Taw

A DELEGATION led by Thailand Labour Minister Pol. Gen. Adul Sangsingkeo arrived in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon to attend a ministerial meeting to discuss labour issues between Myanmar and Thailand.

The delegation was welcomed by the Deputy Director-General of the Department of Labour, under the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, and his entourage. The discussion will be held today at

the meeting hall of the ministry.

Today's meeting will focus on issues of protection and promotion of opportunities for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand, ensuring the legal rights of Myanmar workers who went to Thailand via MoU based system, maintaining the continued success of the MoU system, cooperation of the Joint Working Group from both countries, and recruiting Myanmar fisherman in Thailand. —Myanmar News Agency ■