

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

By Myo Myint (MNA)

THE Second Pyithu Hluttaw's ninth regular session held its tenth-day meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning.

At the meeting, questions on natural disaster relief, audit report and forest sectors were asked and answered, decision of the Hluttaw obtained on Myanmar Mines Rule and a motion on conserving natural swiftlet bird nest habitats.

Q&A session

In the questions and answers session, a question posed by U Pa Htan of Matupi constituency on emergency works conducted in Matupi Township, where houses were damaged due to heavy rains, water erosion and landslides, was answered by Deputy



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung. The Deputy Minister said Ks 27.9 million was transferred to Chin State government in April 2017 to construct retaining walls and water drains in Matupi Township.

The works were assigned to tender winning companies

Taw Win Phu Gya Company and AIDAK Company. Taw Win Phu Gya Company started construction work on the water drains in March 2018 but due to heavy rain on 10 March 2018, the water drain under construction was damaged and the cement mixer fell into in the water drain and the

work was temporarily stopped. Retaining wall constructed by AIDAK Company was completed.

Ministry of Border Affairs is also constructing five water drains and a retaining wall with water outlets with Ks 236.25 million in Matupi Town.

In addition to this, Ministry of Construction had been informed to conduct construction and maintenance of bridges, drains and retaining walls in Matupi town to prevent landslides caused by natural disasters, said the Deputy Minister.

Union Auditor General U Maw Than replied to a question raised by U Kan Myint of Thayet constituency on whether interim reports are made when illegalities such as corruption, misdemeanor, wastage and irregularities occur. Auditor General Handbook had prescribed

for the Union Auditor General Office to report urgently with an interim report to relevant authorities whenever an audit uncover an illegal act that is important, without waiting until the final report is prepared, and Union Auditor General Office has also been instructed likewise.

As per this handbook guideline and instruction, state and region auditor general offices uncover illegalities such as corruption, misdemeanor, wastage and irregularities, Union Auditor General Office send an interim report to the relevant ministry in order to take appropriate action. And according to the importance of the audit finding, it is included in the report to the President and Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, said the Union Auditor General.

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

By Aung Ye Thwin (MNA)

The Second Amyotha Hluttaw's ninth regular session held its tenth-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning. At the meeting, asterisk-marked questions were raised and answered, two reports read and Hluttaw's decision obtained and a motion discussed.

Q&A session

At the meeting, Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe answered to a question posed by Dr. Khin Maung Win of Taninthayi Region constituency 11 on plan to conduct major repair and upgrade of Taninthayi Region Kawthoung District People's Hospital from 100-bed to 200-bed hospital. The Union Minister explained that the hospital only has 101 hospital personnel out of the full strength of 201. To upgrade to a 200-bed hospital, it would need at least 594 hospital personnel and the ministry do not have such number of personnel, and thus at the moment it couldn't be upgraded. As for the major repair, the proposal submitted was incorrect and thus fund couldn't be allocated despite the major repair being planned. It will be arranged in fiscal year 2018-2019, said the Union Minister. At the moment, a single six-apartment three storey staff house costing Ks 640 million is being constructed and another four-apartment four storey staff



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

house costing Ks 568 million is being planned, added the Union Minister.

U Saw Chit Oo of Kayin State constituency 3 then asked about plans to construct a stadium stand, fence and a retaining wall for Zwe Mann Sports Ground in Kayin State, Hlaingbwe Township. Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe answered that the construction of the sports ground was completed on 31 March 2018 in fiscal year 2017-2018 with Ks 90 million provided from Kayin State government fund. But fund for 2,700 ft. outer fence work and 1,800 ft. inner fence work was not allocated. The state government will include the fund for a stadium stand, fence and retaining wall in fiscal year 2019-2020, and if the state government is unable to, the Union Government will provide part of the fund required, said the Union Minister.

A question raised by Dr. Lin Wai Phyto Latt of Taninthayi

Region constituency 5 was also answered by Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr. Myint Htwe.

Hluttaw decides on reports read

Next, Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee members read reports on an amendment to a law and a bill after which Hluttaw's decision was obtained.

Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member Dr. Myo Aung first read the committee's report on the second amendment to the Protection of the Farmer Rights and Enhancement of their Benefits Law sent with amendments by Pyithu Hluttaw. Bill Committee member explained that the amendment suggested by U Kyi Win of the Ayeyawady Region constituency 12 was to confiscate farmlands as state owned and then re-distribute, but this process is outdated and not appropriate for the present time, situation and the market

economy norms and thus not required to be amended. As the committee had discussed in detail with Amyotha Hluttaw representatives who debated the draft law (amendments), Amyotha Hluttaw Farmers Affairs Committee, Amyotha Hluttaw Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery Development Committee, relevant ministries, officials from Union Attorney General Office and experts from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, the Hluttaw is suggested to decide and approve the law with original amendments submitted by the committee and additional amendments presently proposed.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than obtained the decision of the Hluttaw and approved the draft law.

Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member Daw Ohn Kyi then read and explained the committee's report on International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University Bill sent with amendments by Pyithu Hluttaw. Here, too, the Bill Committee member explained that an amendment discussed and suggested by U Tin Aung Tun of Magway Region constituency 5 was not clear and concise and thus shouldn't be amended. The committee also had discussed in detail with Amyotha Hluttaw representatives who debated the bill, relevant ministries, officials from Un-

ion Attorney General Office and experts from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, and the Hluttaw is suggested to decide and approve the bill with original amendments submitted by the committee and additional amendments presently proposed.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than again obtained the decision of the Hluttaw and approved the bill.

Hluttaw debates a motion

Afterwards, a motion tabled by U Myo Win of Mon State constituency 8 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 and lands set aside for expansion of towns and villages were also lost in a similar manner, was discussed by U Kyaw Swe of Magway Region constituency 11, U Aye Min Han of Mon State constituency 1, U Nyi Sein of Shan State constituency 5, U Myint Naing of Rakhine State constituency 5 and U Maung Maung Latt of Sagaing Region constituency 9.

The Second Amyotha Hluttaw's ninth regular session will hold its eleventh-day meeting on 21 August, it is learnt. ■

Myanmar-Lao Boundary Reproduced Sheet No.12 signed



Officials sign the Myanmar-Lao Boundary Reproduced Sheet No.12 on 16 August. **PHOTO MNA**

A delegation of Myanmar led by U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, attended the Thirteenth Meeting of the Myanmar-Lao Border Authorities at Central Level which was held in Luangprabang Prov-

ince, Lao People's Democratic Republic from 15 to 16 August.

During the meeting, U Myint Thu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and H.E. Mr. Sengphet

Houngbounguang, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, signed the Myanmar-Lao Boundary Reproduced Sheet No.12 on 16 August.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Independent Commission of Enquiry Chairperson departs from Yangon



Ambassador Rosario Manalo (Centre Left) seen off by officials at Yangon International Airport yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

INDEPENDENT Commission of Enquiry Chairperson Ambassador Rosario Manalo departed from Yangon yesterday morning while the commission member Ambassador Kenzo Oshima departed from Yangon later in evening the same day.

Independent Commission of Enquiry Chairperson Ambassador Rosario Manalo

and the commission member were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Strategic Studies and Training Department Director-General Daw Kay Thi Soe, Protocol Department Deputy Director-General U Zaw Tun Oo and other responsible officials.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated naval patrol in Naf River

A SIX-MEMBER border police team led by Police Captain Naing Lin, commander of Kyeekyun police post on two fast attack Naval water craft met up with 12-member Border Guard Force

from Bangladesh led by Subedar Md. Adul Jalil on two motor boats near the meeting point at 15 nautical mile in the middle of Naf river; water border of the two countries, near the mouth

of Yay Twin Pyin stream and conducted a coordinated patrol along the Naf River reaching 18 nautical mile point near Thee Chaung stream at 11:20 am, it is learnt.—Police Information ■



Myanmar-Bangladesh coordinated naval patrol seen. **PHOTO: POLICE INFORMATION**

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A question raised by Daw Khin Than Nu of Mindon constituency on whether land lease fee obtained from leasing forest land to construct telecommunication towers are taxed was answered by Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environment Conservation U Ohn Win. The Union Minister said 10 companies had constructed 240 telecommunication towers and forest land and departmental lands and the land lease fee, insurance, commercial tax 5 percent were being deposited into relevant department accounts as Government funds. From 2015 to date, Ks 1345.2 million



Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung. **PHOTO: MNA**

has been transferred as government fund, said the Union Minister.

Similarly, questions posed

by U Khin Cho of Hlaingbwe constituency on plans to promote commercial planting of Accacia Mangium (Japanese Padauk), Dr. U Than Aung Soe of Minhla constituency and U Min Thein of Taungdwingyi constituency on arrangements made to prevent poaching of wild elephants and safeguards made to protect humans from wild elephants, was answered and explained by Union Minister U Ohn Win.

Motion to conserve natural habitat for swiftlet bird nest discussed and decided

Next a motion tabled by Daw Tin Tin Yi of Kyunsu constituency urging the government to conserve and protect mountain cliffs on islands that

are a natural habitat for the swiftlet bird nest was discussed by U Soe Paing Htay of Myeik constituency, Daw Khin Sandi of Launglon constituency, U Khin Zaw of Kawthoung constituency and U Nyan Hein of Thanbyzayat constituency.

In his discussion on the motion, Union Minister U Ohn Win said bird nest collection was permitted in Taninthayi Region Dawei District Launglon Township, Kawthoung District Kawthoung Township, Myeik District Kyunsu Township and Palaw Township, Ayeyawady Region Patheingyi and Ngazun townships.

The works of the tender winning bird nest collectors are checked and overseen by work

management groups formed with Forest Department and General Administration Department officials. Modern method of collecting bird nests through man-made nest houses were also being properly checked and overseen so that there is no damage to the natural environment and the birds. As such, the Union Minister explained to put the motion on record and keep it under observation.

The decision of the Hluttaw was then made to put the motion on record and keep it under observation.

The Second Pyithu Hluttaw's ninth regular session will hold its eleventh-day meeting on 21 August, it is learnt. ■