

Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw discusses counter-terrorism

By Aye Aye Thant
(Myanmar News Agency)

THE 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 8th regular session held its ninth-day meeting yesterday morning, where the Condominium Rule was approved.

At the meeting, asterisk-marked questions were asked and answered, a motion and a bill tabled and a report read and explained.

Regarding the asterisk-marked question, Union Minister for Construction U Han Zaw made an explanation.

A Pyithu Hluttaw representative from Pyawbwe constituency, U Thauang Aye, said, "A motion has been made to give enough protection measures for the stability, rule of law, sovereignty and perpetuation of the State, and for violent attacks not to occur,



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

especially in Rakhine State, and cooperation with international organisations to combat terrorism and to prevent further attacks of the ARSA terrorist groups in Myanmar.

A counter-terrorism law was enacted in Pyithu Hluttaw Law No. 23/2014, in which there are

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19 chapters. Looking back at the previous incidents of 2016 and 2017, it was evident that the terrorists had made an attempt to destroy many security checkpoints including those of the Tatmadaw and many outposts of border guard police force. The terrorists used force, human shields, land mines, arson, killing of administrative officials, security informants and minor ethnic races, and threats to the people to stay away from their homes. It was an undeniable fact that the actions of the terrorists needed to be addressed in the prescribed counter-terrorism laws. Thus this law is needed to be able to tackle terrorist events effectively.

In the present situation, the United Nations, the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and other international organ-

isations have made an attempt to intervene in our country, neglecting the acts of the terrorists and groundless news from them that can lead to the UN Security Council and International Criminal Court. It can be assumed that they can hamper the stability and sovereignty of the State. Moreover it can weaken the legal measures and humanitarian aid conducted by the government as well.

As for the government, efforts should be made to take action against the culprits, agitators, terrorists and their related organisations according to the rules and regulations prescribed by the law. Moreover, clear clarification should be made to disseminate the news of Rakhine State to the international community.

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Amyotha Hluttaw

Amyotha Hluttaw discusses improper land use, approves GAP motion

THE ninth-day of the eighth regular session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw was held yesterday. The Hluttaw approved the motion urging the union government to implement proper agricultural practices (GAP). Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw answered questions raised by the MPs, a report was read, and a motion was discussed and voted on by the assembly.

Actions taken against improper land use

U Aung Myo of Sagaing Region constituency (2) asked whether there were plans to investigate the certificates to use the farmland (form-7) that were issued, as well as the illegally acquired certificates to use the farmland (form-7) used for embezzling agricultural loans.

The deputy minister replied that certificates to use the farmland were issued for all levels of Administrative Body of the Farmland, in accordance with section 3 to 14 of Chapter (II) under the 2012 Farmland Rule. He said it would take considerable time, staff and finance to investigate every form-7 issued across the country. Therefore, the forms are usually only scrutinised when their illegal use is evident, or a complaint or suspicion is sub-



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

mitted.

Similarly, agricultural loans are scrutinised when the Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank requests a review due to a suspicion of embezzlement. Offenders are charged with breaking the Civil Servant Law and Rule.

The deputy minister explained that inexperienced part-time workers were hired when issuing a large number of certificates to use the farmland in a relatively short time. He said farmland area calculations were based on old colonial maps, which led to multiple corrections when issuing permits to farmers.

No amendment made to

bill amending TV, broadcasting law sent by Pyithu Hluttaw

Next, Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye read the committee's report on the bill amending the Television and Broadcasting Law, sent with amendments by the Pyithu Hluttaw. The committee considers the amendments made by the Pyithu Hluttaw to be sufficient and, therefore, have not added any additional amendments and suggested to the Amyotha Hluttaw that they accept the bill without making any changes.

Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than then announced that MPs interested in discussing the bill could enrol their names.

Lawmakers urge govt to promote GAP nationwide

The MPs then discussed a motion, tabled by U Hla San of Magway Region constituency, urging the union government to implement the GAP system for the country's agricultural sector.

Dr. Win Myint Chit of Bago Region constituency (8) said that for the GAP system to be successful, there must be proper adherence to the administration, from the most basic aspect of choosing a proper farmland to storing crops, as well as documenting all steps of the process for reviewing and training purposes. He said this would ensure that agricultural products are safe for consumers and trading. He suggested establishing stores that sell GAP agricultural produce in every city and providing GAP training at agricultural education centres.

Tatmadaw MP Major Ye Aung Saw said the GAP guidelines must not be mandatory, and it should be up to farmers to decide the guidelines and practices best suited to them. He suggested that the relevant ministries and government organisations should restore farmland, acquire modern agricultural technology, ensure appropriate crops are grown on the most suitable soil, provide land-use permits to the local people for virgin lands, pen-

etrate the international market and conduct continuous research for improvement.

The motion was further discussed by three MPs, followed by Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw explaining that the GAP protocol was implemented to ensure high-quality crops are produced for the market. He said the staff of the agricultural department would need additional training to carry out the GAP regulations on a nationwide scale. The deputy minister also agreed that it was important for farmers to accept and use the GAP system as they thought best. He explained that due to a limited budget, the authorities were unable to provide every department with proper equipment and are, therefore, carrying out procedures one step at a time.

He added that the authorities were disseminating information about GAP practices to build a strong foundation among the country's citizens. The deputy minister then said that his ministry supported the motion, as it had an encouraging effect upon their work. The motion was put to a vote and approved by the Amyotha Hluttaw by 186 votes for, one against, and two abstentions.

The Amyotha Hluttaw session will continue on 1 June. —Aung Ye Thwin ■

I will carry out the implementation of the priority goals of the Union Government which are as follows:

1. Rule of law and improvement of the socio-economic life of the people,
2. National Reconciliation and internal peace,
3. Amending the Constitution which is the foundation for building a Democratic Federal Republic.

(Excerpt from the speech by President U Win Myint at the ceremony to take oath of office at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 30th March 2018)

We face various kinds of internal and external challenges while we endeavor for political, economic and social development of our country. As we are aware of the importance of our international responsibility, we have adopted a path consistent with the needs and situation of our country respecting at the same time the views and opinions of the international community.

(Excerpt from the speech by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on the 2nd Anniversary of NLD Government on 1st April 2018)

Systematic arrangements made for resettlement of recent returnees

THE government is making systematic arrangements for the resettlement of the 62 displaced people who returned from Bangladesh voluntarily earlier this week, with their security considered important.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye made the remarks yesterday in his capacity as the chairman of the committee on the acceptance and resettlement of returnees at a work coordination meeting of the committee in Sittway, Rakhine State.

Regarding the repatriation, the Union Minister stressed the need to sit down with returnees individually for discussion about their resettlement in their original places of residence and their livelihoods.

He also pledged to make arrangements to bring back their relatives who are in Bangladesh back to Myanmar through diplomatic channels.

After scrutinising the re-



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu attend the meeting for the resettlement of displaced people who returned from Bangladesh. **PHOTO: MNA**

turnees, those who have a home in Myanmar will be handed over to their families, he added.

“Regarding the security, we are making more efforts for border security currently,” said Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye.

The Immigration Department has granted National Verification cards to them and are assisting them in applying for citizenship.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Re-

settlement has planned to provide them with aid both physical and mental to carry out reunions with their families, to provide cash assistance to pregnant women and to provide social pensions to those who are aged.

Those who lost their homes in the fire during the conflicts will be provided with money under the Cash for Work programme for their resettlement near their original residences.

At yesterday’s meeting, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu called for making the best for resettlement of the returnees to benefit them in the long run.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Minister U Soe Aung, members of the Rakhine State Cabinet and state-level officials.

Dr. Aung Thu Rein, Director of the Ministry of the Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Ministry, and local authorities visited Thayargon and Thingant villages in Sittway Township and met with Rakhine and Kaman ethnic people.

At the meeting, the ethnic people reported on requirements for school enrolment, teachers at schools, school furniture and health care.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Tatmadaw, Myanmar Press Council hold sixth workshop

The Tatmadaw and the Myanmar Press Council (MPC), in an effort to promote mutual cooperation and solidify trust, held their 6th workshop in Myawady Sarpay Building on Mogaund Road in Yangon yesterday.

Present at the workshop were MPC vice-chairmen U Ohn Kyaing and Dr. Myo Thant Tin, MPC members, Maj-Gen Soe Naing Oo, Maj-Gen Tun Tun Nyi from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), and other military officials.

The MPC vice-chairmen delivered separate keynote



Attendees seen at the Tatmadaw and Myanmar Press Council workshop in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

speeches, followed by Maj-Gen Soe Naing Oo, who introduced the attendees.

Maj-Gen Tun Tun Nyi, who

is also the Director of Public Relations and Psychological Welfare, then explained the co-operation of the Tatmadaw in

access to information, freedom of press and newsgathering. This was followed by transparent discussions of media ethics

and media laws.

Finally, U Ohn Kyaing and Maj-Gen Soe Naing Oo delivered closing speeches.

U Ohn Kyaing said the workshop achieved mutual consideration and understanding and that they will better regulate media agencies.

Maj-Gen Soe Naing Oo, who is also Chairman of the Tatmadaw True News Information Team, thanked all in attendance for their active participation and expressed his joy in the gradual building of trust from the first workshop to the current one.—Myanmar News Agency ■

MIC approves two investment proposals last Tuesday

The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) issued two investment permits in accordance with the Myanmar Investment Law at a meeting held on 29 May.

One permit is for wholly foreign-owned enterprises to execute manufacturing, sales and service of motor vehicles and motorcycles. The MIC approved one joint venture for the production and sale of construction plastic products.

The submission of proposals and endorsement applications from investors and post-permit activities of MIC-permitted companies were discussed at the meeting. The two permits

will create more than 1,000 jobs, according to the MIC meeting (7/2018). MIC intends to attract foreign direct investments (FDIs) worth US\$3,000 million during the transitional period from April to September for the 2018-2019 fiscal year (FY). The manufacturing and real estate development sectors will remain top in attracting FDIs during the six-month interim period.

In the 2017-2018 FY, Myanmar received FDIs worth \$5.7 billion through some 222 projects. Singapore made the largest investments of \$2.1 billion, while China brought in \$1.39 billion. —Htet Myat ■

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Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat, who had attended the Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly (IPU Assembly) held in October, 2017, immediately responded and clarified the ethnic cleansing accusation made by the OIC. Similarly, the Permanent Representative of Myanmar made a statement on 16 May, 2018 and explained Myanmar's views and position on the Rakhine issue at the UN Security Council, saying that it is important to let the world know the true information regarding the Rakhine issues.

"If we focus on the repatriation process, humanity, human rights issues and freedom of movement in the country for fear of international pressures, it can threaten the stability, sovereignty and perpetuity of the state", he said.

The Hluttaw representative supported the motion and Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced that the motion had been accepted for discussion.

Then Secretary of the Pyithu Hluttaw Committee on the Natural Resources and Environment U Aye Naing submitted the second amendment of the Myanmar Black Pearl bill to the Hluttaw and a member of the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, U Aung Sein, read and clarified the bill. Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat requested the Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the bill to enrol their names.

The fourth law for Amending the Anti-Corruption Law was received and read out to submit by member of the Bill Committee U Sai Phone Myat. Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat requested the Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the bill to enrol their names.

The Hluttaw approved the condominium bylaws submitted by the Ministry of Construction and the Speaker U T Khun Myat announced that the condominium bylaws were approved.

The 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 8th regular session tenth-day will be held on 1 June. ■

Rakhine State celebrates 5th Rakhine National Day



Local people attend the ceremony to celebrate 5th Rakhine National Day in Maungta. **PHOTO: THET LWIN SOE (MAUNGTAW DISTRICT IPRD)**

Local residents across Sittway, Mrauk U, Pauktaw, and Maungta townships in Rakhine State celebrated the 5th Rakhine National Day yesterday.

In Sittway, the celebrations were held at the grounds near the Atulamahrazein Pyi Lone Chan Tar Pagoda in the early morning. U Maung Ba Thein, a respected Rakhine historical scholar, explained the Rakhine

alphabet and U Hla Win read the biography of Dr. Sandar Htay, a noted lecturer.

In Mrauk U, the celebrations were held in Mingalar Aungmyay Nantarkone Monastery, where sermons were preached, Rakhine history explored and literature recited.

Celebrations in Pauktaw involved a talk on the history of Rakhine National Day, followed

by dance troupe performances, literature compositions, and traditional songs.

Maungta also celebrated Rakhine National Day with a speech of the holiday's history and dance performances.

Rakhine National Day was designated during the Rakhine National Congress that took place in Kyaukpau Township in 2014.—Maungta IPRD ■

Fire breaks out in Monywa prison staff housing quarters

An electrical fire triggered by a wire shock destroyed nine apartments in Monywa prison staff housing quarters at 11 p.m. on 29 May.

"The fire outbreak occurred following incessant rainfall. We have arranged to provide temporary shelters for the people who were affected. More than 30 members from nine households were rendered homeless. We will donate some Ks100,000 to each

household," said U Khin Maung Tun, person in charge at Monywa prison.

According to the investigation, the fire originated from electric lights offered to Buddha at the home of a person identified as Lance Corporal Aye Aye Soe, who was away on a trip. The fire quickly went out of control and spread to the neighbouring houses.

Two 40x15 feet houses and a

10x15 feet house in the Monywa prison staff housing quarters were damaged in the blaze. The property losses were estimated to exceed Ks4.5 million. No one was injured in the accident. It took 16 fire engines and several firemen to put out the blaze in 30 minutes. The police have taken action against Lance Corporal Aye Aye Soe under Section 285 of the Penal Code.—Myo Win Tun (Monywa) ■

New tube-well, overhead tank opened in Kyakan Village, Magway Township

A ceremony to open the new tube-well and overhead water tank with a holding capacity of 1600 gallons donated by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Kyakan village,

Magway township, Magway region was held at the village on 29 May.

It was attended by officials from the Magway Region Disaster Management Department

under the Ministry and others.

The contributions will benefit about 700 teachers and students and 750 people from 150 households of the village, according to the Ministry.—MDN ■

Correction

Please read "U Sai Thaw Win" instead of "U Sai Thawdar Win," in the news story and caption of "CMB, Defence Ministry, Nay Pyi Taw Council hold press conference on second one-year performance" on page-10 of May 30 Issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar. — Myanmar News Agency