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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 141, 9th Waning of Wagaung 1380 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Tuesday, 4 September 2018

Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's ninth regular session holds 16th-day meeting

MPs call for review of budget for dam project, ineffective irrigation expenses

THE 16th-day meeting of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's ninth regular session was held at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning. At the meeting, two reports were read and Hluttaw representatives discussed the basic principles, project works and budgets of the National Planning Bill and Union Budget Bill.

Reading of reports

At first, Joint Bill Committee member U Nay Myo Tun read the committee's findings and comments report on bill amending the Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Land Management Law, sent back by the President with comments.

An announcement was made for Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the report to register their names.

Next, on behalf of the Union government, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win reported to the Hluttaw the draft bill amending the Public Debt Management Law sent by the Union government.

The Deputy Minister said the law was enacted in 2016 and the Union government has also designated the fiscal year to be changed from 1 April-31 March to 1 October-30 September. This change will be implemented in fiscal year 2018-2019, he added. Due to this change in fiscal year,



Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's ninth regular session holding its 16th-day meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

some wordings in the law had to be changed, reported the Deputy Minister.

An announcement was then made for Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the report to enroll their names.

Hluttaw representatives discuss National Planning Bill and Union Budget Bill

Afterwards, Hluttaw representatives discussed the basic

principles, project works and budgets of National Planning Bill and Union Budget Bill.

In her discussion, Daw Yin Min Hlaing of Gangaw constituency said Myittha (Multipurpose) Dam Project was started in 2002, with an estimated cost of Ks 55.182 billion. It was increased to Ks 122.851 billion in 2009-2010 and was increased again to Ks 271.255 billion. It was increased yet again to Ks 304 billion in 2017-



Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win.

PHOTO: MNA

2018. The doubling of the cost from 2002 to 2009 was at least acceptable as 7 years had passed, but doubling again in 2012 and 2017 is grossly unacceptable. In 2016-2017, the remaining 23 billion was also permitted.

The 2016-2017 estimate of Ks 271.2 billion includes more than Ks 2,920 million (nearly 3 billion) of unforeseeable expenses,

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and as this amount could be used to construct a river crossing bridge it should be reviewed, said Daw Yin Min Hlaing.

U Tin Tun Naing of Seik-kyi-Khanaungto constituency discussed about more than 50 per cent of Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation budget being allocated to the Irrigation Department for construction of new dams and irrigation infrastructure. The expenditures are costly but ineffective expenses, as mentioned in the World Bank report, and the ministry ought to review this, said U Tin Tun Naing.

Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency commented about state-owned sector and private sector being respectively allocated more than 25 per cent and 74.57 per cent of the investment for fiscal year 2018-2019. She discussed about the requirement to establish detailed financial, monetary, foreign exchange, trade and

investment policies to ensure private sector investment of 74.57 per cent as planned.

She also discussed about the reported plan in agriculture sector to reduce the cultivated area by 818,484 acres (1.6 percent of total cultivated area), compared to fiscal year 2017-2018, but no indication of which crops are being reduced and the reason for the reduction.

Similarly Dr. Than Aung Soe of Minhla constituency, Daw Khin San Hlaing of Pale constituency, U Yan Lin of Kyai-



Dr. Than Aung Soe of Minhla constituency. **PHOTO: MNA**

klat constituency, U Sai Thant Zin of Hsipaw constituency, U Soe Aung Naing of Kyonpyaw constituency, Dr. Pyae Phyo of Ayeyawady Region constituency 7, U Myint Han Tun of Budalin constituency, U Sai Oo Khem of Hsenwi constituency, U Myo Win of Mon State constituency 8, U Zaw Min Thein of Laymyethna constituency, Dr. Maung Maung of Yangon Region constituency 6, U Tha Aung of Myothit constituency, U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo of Hline constituency, Dr. Aung Khin of Pyin Oo Lwin constituency, U Sai Tun Sein of Mongpyin constituency, U Kyaw Ni Naing of Shan State constituency 11, U Khin Maung Thi of Loilem constituency, U Shwe Ko of Kyaukpadaung constituency, U Than Soe of Yangon Region constituency 4 and U Kyaw Myo Min of Monyo constituency also discussed the bills.

The 17th-day meeting of the ninth regular session of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is scheduled to be held today. — Myo Myint, Han Lin Naing (MNA) ■



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein is seen off by Yangon Region Hluttaw's Deputy Speaker U Lin Naing Myint as he leaves for Singapore to attend 39th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary General Assembly. **PHOTO: MNA**

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw delegation to attend 39th AIPA General Assembly in Singapore

A delegation led by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein and his party left Yangon by air yesterday morning to attend 39th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary General Assembly (AIPA) from 3 to 7 September in Singapore.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and party were seen off at Yangon International Air

Port by Yangon Region Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Lin Naing Myint and officials from Hluttaw Office.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker was accompanied by Hluttaw representatives U Zaw Thein, Daw Su Su Lwin, Dr Than Win, U Aung Kyi Nyunt and officials from Hluttaw Office. — MNA ■

Experts meet for combating AMR under Mekong basin region health security project

A workshop on combating Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) under the Mekong basin region health security project was opened with an address by Health and Sports Ministry's Permanent Secretary Prof. Dr. Thet Khaing Win at the Summit Park View Hotel, Yangon, yesterday.

In his opening speech, the Permanent Secretary said there is a special requirement for countries in Mekong basin region to cooperate in facing the problems and challenges of AMR. AMR problem resulting from excessive usage of antimicrobial medicines by human, animals and in agriculture works are to be handled through the tactics of informing, monitoring, controlling outbreak and conducting research. Myanmar has formed National Multi-Sectoral Steering Committee (NMSC) for Combating AMR led by Union Minister for Health and Sports in January. Central department to coordinate and eliminate AMR was put under national



The opening ceremony of workshop on combating Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) held in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

health laboratory and technical work group meetings were successfully held in August 2018 and techniques obtained from the present workshop are required to be practically implemented together, said the Permanent Secretary.

Next, Professor Dr. Htay Htay Tin of Ministry of Health

and Sports, Department from Medical Services and Dr. Stephan Paul Jost, World Health Organization (WHO) Representative to Myanmar delivered speeches. The workshop will approve tactics to combat AMR, country wise priority works and networking among related organisations. — MNA ■

Students from remote areas to send applications for universities of medicine to MoH by 28 Sept

STUDENTS who matriculated from remote areas where regional allowance is provided by the government and from six self-administered regions who met the specified qualification can apply to attend universities of medicine under Ministry of Health and Sports, Department

of Human Resources for Health for academic year 2018-2019.

Applications are to be made directly to Department of Human Resources for Health by 28 September. Details about the application can be enquired to Department of Human Resources for Health. —MNA ■

Rising water in Sittoung River forces schools to close

THE rising water in the Sittoung River in Nyaunglebin, Bago Region, has forced 14 schools in the township to close, according to the Nyaunglebin Township General Administration Department.

The river has seen the rising water level for the second time in this rainy season following the first one in the last week of July which forced 45 schools to close in the township.

The water level of the Sittoung River reached over three foot above its danger level in Madauk yesterday, according to the 2:30 pm observation of the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

The weather said the water level is expected to fall about one foot in next two days, but it may remain above its danger level. — Peinzalok Thein Nyunt ■