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

By Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

THE Second Pyithu Hluttaw's tenth regular session held its fifth-day meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday where asterisk-marked questions were raised and answered, a motion tabled and the Hluttaw informed about receipt of a bill from the Amyotha Hluttaw.

Asterisk-marked questions

The first question of the day was raised by U Sai Ngaung Hsai Hein of Maukmai constituency who asked whether there was a plan to make the owner name registered in the car registration booklet to be taken as evidence in a law court for the legal ownership of the car. Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo said this was not possible at the moment but the department considers the discrepancy between the present owner and the registered owner of the car as a problem to be overcome. This could not be done by the



Second Pyithu Hluttaw holds 5th-day meeting of its 10th regular session in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

ministry alone and that they were coordinating with relevant departments. Once the coordination and discussions were completed the registered

ownership and address of the car will be true and correct explained the Deputy Minister.

Dr. U Maung Thin of Meiktila constituency next asked the law under which the Ks 6,426 million from the special fund of the Office of the President was being used to monitor social media, to what extent the monitoring was conducted, what sort of action would be taken, whether the action was in accordance with existing laws under the Constitution and whether it was in accordance with the policy regarding the usage of the spe-

cial fund from the Office of the President.

Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo answered that although the Ks 6,426 million fund to purchase equipment and machineries for the Social Media Monitoring Team was not included in the fiscal year 2017-2018 budget, it was an emergency requirement for State security, rule of law, peace and tranquility works. The Office of the President submitted this matter to the Union government to utilize this fund in accordance

with the Union Budget Law and upon receiving agreement it was submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting and followed up accordingly. The formation of the Social Media Monitoring Team-SMMT, monitoring and controlling were in accordance with the Constitution as well as existing laws while the purchase of equipment and machineries were in accordance with the policy regarding the usage of the special fund of the Office of the President, explained the Deputy Minister.

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The formation of the Social Media Monitoring Team-SMMT, monitoring and controlling were in accordance with the Constitution as well as existing laws.

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Deputy ministers answer asterisk marked questions at fifth-day ...

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Questions raised by U Myo Zaw Oo of Lewe constituency, U Oo Tun Maung of Ponnagyun constituency, U Zaw Min Thein of Laymyethna constituency, U Myo Zaw Aung of Kawlin constituency and U Maung Maung Oo of Insein constituency were answered by Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Soe Aung and Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo. **PHOTO: MNA**



Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo. **PHOTO: MNA**

Motion to expand and reorganize the Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division into a Department

After the question and answer session, U Aye Naing of Dagon Myothit (South) constituency tabled a motion urging the

Union Government to expand and reorganize the Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division under the Forest Department into a full separate department in order to conserve world and Asia natural heritage sites as well as



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. **PHOTO: MNA**

natural reserve areas around the country, rare wild animals and species without affecting the rights of the local people.

U Aye Naing explained further on the benefit of expanding and reorganizing the division and the motion was supported

by U Nay Htet Win of Sinbaungwe constituency.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat announced Hluttaw's agreement to discuss the motion after obtaining the decision of the Hluttaw. The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker also announced

that Hluttaw representatives who wish to discuss the motion should enroll their names.

Receipt of Trademark Copyright Bill

Following this, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker announced the receipt of the Trademark Copyright Bill which has been returned with amendments from the Amyotha Hluttaw.

A Bill Committee report on the bill was then read by committee secretary U Kyaw Soe Lin and the Speaker requested Hluttaw representatives who want to table an amendment motion to register their names.

The sixth-day meeting of the tenth regular session of the Second Pyithu Hluttaw will be held on 27 November it is learnt.

(Translated by Zaw Min)

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

By Aung Ye Thwin

THE Second Amyotha Hluttaw's tenth regular session held its fifth-day meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. During the meeting, asterisk-marked questions were asked and answered, an amendment bill was discussed, and a report was read out before the Hluttaw.

During the session, U Soe Thane of Kayah Constituency 9 asked the government about its plans for making the use of Myanmar currency compulsory for all transactions across the country, to make the Kyat stronger and to curb illegal hoarding of money.

Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, U Bo Bo Nge, replied that the CBM is making efforts to raise the value of the Kyat and prevent dollarization. The bank is making extensive use of dollars in the market

to bolster the Kyat, he added.

The government has allowed the opening of currency exchange counters in all the states and regions of Myanmar. However, it has been found that cash payments are being made using foreign currency at hotels, restaurants, private schools established by foreign investors, for flat rentals to foreigners, and in souvenir shops," he said.

"In the ministries, dollars are being used for land leases and joint venture investments. That's why the Ministry has reissued relevant orders to the union ministries, states, and regional governments, city development affairs committees in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, and Mandalay," said U Bo Bo Nge.

Under Section 63 of the Central Bank of Myanmar Law and Section 8 of the Foreign Exchange Management law,



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. **PHOTO: MNA**

for transactions and payments, ordinary account holders are permitted to pay only in Myanmar currency, and not foreign currency.

"If needed, payments can be made in foreign currency with the permission of the CBM. We have found that consumers find it easier to make payments in dollars than in Myanmar currency. If they do not abide by the laws, notifications will be made and implemented according to the laws.

In order to tackle the currency problem, cooperation between the states and regional governments is of great importance. Plans are under way to take action against those who don't obey the prescribed laws," he said.

U Wai Sein Aung of Rakhine State constituency 1 asked if the government plans

to start a Masters Degree in English at the Sittway University. The Union Minister for Education, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi, said that plans are under way to start Masters Programs for those students who meet the eligibility criteria in the 2018-2019 academic year.

"On completion of their Masters Degree, they will have to pursue further studies in order to conduct lectures. The Ministry of Education will open a Masters Degree Programme in English at the Sittway University during the 2019-2020 academic year. For the purpose, the Ministry of Education has arranged for local English teachers to improve their English proficiency at the Yangon University," he said.

U Siang Awr of Chin State constituency 2 asked if the government has any plans to edit

and review scientific and technical terms and publish updated dictionaries. The Union Minister for Education replied that the Department of Higher Education and Universities' Printing Press and the Translation and Publication Department are working with academicians and education experts from different universities to update dictionaries.

The Union Minister also answered questions raised by Dr. Sai Hsai Kyauk Sam of Shan State Constituency 6 and U Mang Law Maung of Chin State Constituency 8.

Afterwards, Hluttaw representatives discussed the Literature and Art Copyright Bill, sent with amendments by the Pyithu Hluttaw. Daw Ei Ei Pyone of Ayeyawady Region constituency 8 and Dr. Pyae Phyo of Ayeyawady Region's Constituency 7 participated in the discussion. Later, Amyotha Hluttaw bill committee member Dr. Myo Aung read out and explained the Occupational Safety and Health Bill, sent with approval and amendments by the Pyithu Hluttaw. The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker then asked representatives who want to discuss the bill to register their names.

The sixth-day meeting of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw's tenth regular session will take place on 27 November.

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)



Union Minister for Education, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi.



Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, U Bo Bo Nge.