State and Region Parliaments **News Bulletin**



Issue (35) _ Thursday, 27th July 2017

Mandalay Region Parliament Discussed Regional Auditor-General's Report

July 13, 2017

The MPs of Mandalay Region Parliament had a discussion over the auditor-general's report on 2015-2016 financial year's Mandalay Region's budget on July 6, on the 3rd day of its sixth regular session.

MP U Tin Aung (Chan Mya Tharzi Constituency -1) pointed out as a irresponsibility of municipal committee's members for approving Royal Industry Company's project plan as it proposed without making any inspections. The Mandalay City Development Committee invested 1,200 million Kyats in the project.

U Tin Aung continued, given that the municipal committee members of different generations failed to be accountable on their works, it is necessary to include a clause in municipal law that will secure accountability and responsibility of municipal committee members.

Mandalay Mayor Dr. Ye Lwin replied at the Mandalay Region Parliament that , the directors of the company are called upon to provide explanation of its project to the regional government.

Daw Nyein Thet Nwe (Natogyi Con-



stituency-1) discussed regarding the remaining debt in the Auditor-general's report, since the farmers are being faced with difficulties in accessing with agricultural water significantly, the water tax should be scrutinized and the revenue (water tax) should be spent for better access of the water to the farmers.

Dr. Soe Than, the Regional Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, in response to that discussion that water tax will be collected systematically by forming an institution for that specific purpose.

The minister continued, that outstanding debts occurred not because that, farmers did not settle their payments but because that the General Administrative Offices under previous governments in different era failed to transfer the money that they collected from the farmers. In this way there is a total of eight billion Kyats outstanding. *Reference: Myanmar Times/7daydaily*

Over 900 Complaint Letters Submitted to Mon State Parliament within Over a Year Period

July 10, 2017

The state's Parliament Complaints and Appeal Letter Review and Assessment Committee received more than 900 complaint letters over a year perid March, 2016 to June, 2017. According to the committee's chairperson U Aung Kyaw Thu, the most common issue of people's complaints before the parliament are land disputes and requests to take actions against the administrators. The Committee has solved 50 percent of the complaints, while 20 percent of the complaints are still being handled as they are issues concerned with projects and 30 percent of the complaints are still waiting for the replies from the respective departments according to the report submitted to the State Parliament by the Committee.

According to the Committee, there are 137 transferal letters and informing letters to the state department and the government department's responded letters are 61. The numbers of transferal letters to the Hluttaw representatives are 32. The number of informing and transferal letters to respective departments is 53;, and the respective departments' replied letters are 22; 2 letters were also submitted to Anti-Corruption Commission, and field assessments were carried out 25 complaint cases. *Reference: 7daydaily*



Short News



Newly-elected Rakhine Parliament's Deputy Speaker U Mya Than. (Photo: Maung Kan)

■ U Mya Than, a representative of Rakhine State Parliament and from Arakan National Party (ANP), was elected for the vacant post of Deputy Speaker of Rakhine State Parliament, after winning major votes on 14th July at the state parliament conference. U Mya Than had worked for the government's Legal Department for more than 30 years. His position before his retirement is Assistant Director. *Reference: 7daydaily*

Poor-quality Bricks Used for Ayarwady Region Parliament Building

July 13, 2017

Of three works concerning with the construction of Ayeyarwaddy Region Parliament Building as per 2016-2017 financial year the investigation reveal that low-quality bricks were used in building fence at the Parliament building, according to U San Min Aung, Ayeyarwady Region Parliament Deputy Speaker.

The Parliament's Quality Evaluation Committee found out the issue, only after 25% completion of the construction.

U San Min Aung said "A [small] dam built low-quality bricks was demolished. Price for already built site is reduced. They [contractor] will be paid with low rate for using low-quality bricks. When they re-use the good quality bricks for the construction, the payment will be made to them depending on the quality."

The company proposed to rebuild 190 feet out of the length of the wall that already constructed and [two] Parliament Affair Committee[s] and Leading Committee approved the proposal.

For 2017-18 fiscal year, 1.3 billion kyats is allocated for Ayeyarwaddy Region to construct three staff residences and a guest house for Hluttaw representatives. For 2016-2017 fiscal year, 2.8 billion kyats was allocated, and only over 460 million kyats was spent. *Reference: Mizzima*

State and Region Parliaments News Bulletin



Speaker of the Magway Region Parliament Warns Not to Ask the Questions that Is Not Acquired Permission

July 1, 2017

Magway Region Parliament Speaker U Tar warned the MPs not to ask other questions that are not described in the lists of questions submitted in advance for permission to ask, at the Parliament meeting held on 29th June.

In the response to the question inquiring on what and how actions have been taken to solve the problem for the sand islands formation in the rivers and creeks by the MP from Chauk Township Constituency, the Parliament Speaker warned saying "Please, only ask the questions that are given in advance. Do not ask the questions (which is not included in the lists) that are not submitted in advance (for permission). If asked, how could the ministers answer (since they did not know about the questions in advance)."

The MP, who asked the question, insisted that he gets a warning for a question that was mere paraphrased in order for proper and smooth wording.

Reference: 7daydaily





The Time Given by Regional Government is not Adequate for MPs to Prepare Discussions on Yangon's New City Development Project

July 11, 2017

Minister for Electricity, Industry, Transport and Communication, Daw Nilar Kyaw, presented the explanation of five action plans of Yangon New City Construction Project at the Yangon Region Parliament's emergency meeting that was held on 10th July.

The MPs were expected to submit the topics for the discussion of the project to Region Government by 11th July. Daw Sandar Min (Seikkyi Kanaungto Constituency) [Yangon Region Hluttaw's Chairperson for Finance, Planning and Commerce Committee] said, stated that the one day (the time given to MP to prepare their discussions on the issue) is not adequate. Daw Sandar Min also objected the involvement of a businessperson in the project investment that is going to be made by the Regional Government in the mentioned (new city) project.

Daw Nilar Kyaw explained that the project would not be implemented as planned by last government, and new approach would be applied.

Daw Sandar Min proposed a parliamentary discussion on re-planning of the Yangon New City Project, and the proposal was approved by the Yangon Regional Parliament. The parliamentary discussion, as a result, is expected to be undertaken at the coming fifth regular session of the Yangon Parliament.

Reference: Myanmar Times/ 7daydaily

Hluttaw Committee is Still Working for the Improvement of Realizing the Projects Promised by the Yangon Region Gov't

July 13, 2017

The Pledges, Guarantees and Rights Committee in the Yangon Region Parliament is making efforts through field works, compelling and mediating the cabinet to realize the the works it has pledged, according to the Committee Chairman U Khin Maung Win.

Of the 16 pledges that were given in response to the questions posed at Yangon Region Parliament's 2nd Regular Session, 9 have been accomplished and there are 3 pledges under progress for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Of 6 proposals submitted at the Parliament, 4 proposals were approved by the Parliament for the implementation. The approved proposals include problems of city's traffic, and good management of the commons clearance of the privatized space from public leisure spaces). Yet, the traffic problem and floods continue to happen in the city as many criticized.

According to the committee's (the Pledges, Guarantees and Rights Committee) member Daw Kyi Pyar, incidents of wasting budgets by respective departments have been lessened due to the checks by Hluttaw representatives. *Reference: 7daydaily*

Mandalay Region Parliament Proposed for A Draft Bill on Selling, Renting or Other Means of Management of States and Regions' Property

July 6, 2017

A proposal to draft bills regarding on the selling, renting and other means of transferring of states and region's property in a transparent and accountable manners was submitted at Mandalay Region Parliament at its first day meeting of 6^{th} regular session held on 4^{th} July by MP U Tin Aung (Chan Mya Thazi -1).

U Tin Aung insisted that the law will help avoid corruption, wastes,

and suspicions and disputes when the regional properties are sold, rented or transferred in other means because of the systematic and transparent manners as per the law stipulates. The law can also help determine administration on different properties among regional, municipal and union government.

U Tin Aung continued that according to the constitution, the law (on the management) of properties belonging to union could be developed but it has yet to be developed. If the Union initiated law and it could be managed by them. As the laws is needed for the states and regions as well the laws (the one stipulated by union and the one by the states and regions) will not likely to be conflicting each other.

The parliament approved the proposal and it was further discussed at following meetings of parliaments. *Reference: Myanmar Times*