

State and Region Parliaments News Bulletin

Issue (21) _ Thursday, 22nd December 2016

Kayin State Hluttaw Approved 2017-2018 Budget Proposal

9th December 2016

The Second Kayin State Hluttaw held the fifth day of the 3rd regular session on 9th December. During the session, U Htun Naing, the Minister of Planning, Budget and Development Affairs, submitted 2017-2018 Budget Bill of Kayin State for the Hluttaw's approval. U Saw Win Htein (Phapun 2) discussed in favour of the budget bill. After MPs agreed on the proposed budget, the state hluttaw approved the 2017-2018 Budget Bill of Kayin State.

(Ref: Kayin State Hluttaw Facebook Page)



MPs Lambast Yangon Region Budget Bill

9th December 2016

Yangon Region MPs have criticized on the regional government over its draft 2017-18 budget, stating that not much reforms were seen. According to the budget proposal submitted by the government on 8th December, the capital of 2017-2018 is 424.1 billion kyats, and 302.5 billion kyats will be allotted while the remaining 121.6 billion kyats will be supplemented by the tax collected.

Nineteen MPs debated the budget bill, with many criticising the lack of time given to examine the bill and what they described as the inclusion of "unnecessary" projects and expenses.

U Nay Phone Latt (Thingangkuun-1)

"The budget is indifferent from those passed by the former regional government. The proposed budget includes funding for the construction of golf courses. Plus a huge increase has been requested for construction of bridges. The government was elected on a promise of Time for Change. However, the budget was not drafted with input from MPs, let alone public. It also overshadows the role of MPs. The budget should be done through the cooperation of all. The budgeting process shows what kind of government a country has. Those who designed the budget need to know more about the principles of the new government. That the new government would use the old budget system is damaging for its image."

Daw Kyi Pyar (NLD, Kyauktada-1)

"There are some repetitions in budget requests. The Auditor-General's Office had requested funds for 42 photocopiers, despite eight having already been bought last year. Yangon City Development Committee [YCDC] builds toilets every year within its YCDC area, but actually there are no public toilets in my township. Similarly, they request money for housing for staff, but there's no housing for any YCDC workers in my township. As a democratic country, the budget needs to be transparent." (Ref: Extracted from http://frontiermyanmar.net/)



Rakhine State Hluttaw Discussed Increase in 2017-2018 Budget

12th December 2016

On the third day of Rakhine State Hluttaw's emergency session on $7^{\rm th}$ December (2/2016), 10 MPs discussed the budget bill, urging that more budget should be spent on local development.

"It is not proper to spend only 20 percent of the budget on transportation which would benefit the public immediately while 1500 million kyats will be used for government civilian housing projects. If possible, up to 50 percent should be allotted to transportation, and government housing

projects should be planned better for the future. Instead of single-storey buildings, 3-storey or 4-storey buildings should be constructed," said U Zaw Zaw Myint, a representative of Buthidaung Constituency.

MPs also discussed that the Union should allocate revenue gained from Rakhine State' natural resoures.

"Development plan would not be effective with this budget by the Union as Rakhine is the second-most impoverished state. Revenue from natural resources of Rakhine State should be allotted to the state budget," U Aung Win (Myapon 1).

The proposed budget for 2017-2018 Rakhine State is 50 billion kyats.

(Ref: Extracted from Narinjara http://www.bnionline.net/)



Photo News

A group led by Kachin State Hluttaw Speaker U Tun Tin investigates the construction site of a middle school in Watkon (Shwepyithar) in Bhamo on 11th December.

(Ref: Kachin State Hluttaw Facebook Page)

| The Second Magway Region Hluttaw's Committee | | | | | |
|--|---|---------|--------------------------|---------|-------|
| No. | Committee Name | Members | | | |
| | | MPs | Military Representatives | Non-MPs | Total |
| 1 | MPs, Government Gurantees, Pledges, Undertakings Review Committee | 5 | 1 | - | 6 |
| 2 | Education, Health abnd Social Development Committee | 6 | 1 | - | 7 |
| 3 | Legislative Committee | 8 | 1 | - | 9 |
| 4 | Ethnic Affairs Committee | 5 | 1 | - | 6 |
| 5 | Budget Review Committee | 8 | 1 | - | 9 |
| 6 | Judiciary, Legislations, Complaint and Plea Letters Committee | 14 | 1 | - | 15 |
| 7 | Labour, Immigration and Population Committee | 8 | 1 | - | 9 |
| 8 | Construction and Transportation Committee | 8 | 1 | - | 9 |
| 9 | Natural Resources, Environment, Electricity and Energy Committee | 8 | 1 | - | 9 |
| 10 | Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Development Committee | 8 | 1 | - | 9 |

Committe of other State/Region Hluttaws were provided in previous issues. Source: EMReF

State and Region
Parliaments
News Bulletin

Collected and Presented by Enlightened Myanmar Research Foundation -Contact - +95 9 26000 75 19





www.facebook.com/emrmyanmar



Photo News



The second emergency session of Kayah State Hluttaw (2/2016) in progress on 13th December. (Ref: Kayah State Hluttaw Facebook Page)

Mandalay Region Hluttaw Approved Budget Bill After a Few Editions

10th December, 2016

On 9^{th} December, Mandalay Region Hluttaw approved 2017-2018 budget bill after making some editions.

Among projects of the budget bill submitted by the regional government, 3.8 billion kyats for restoring lakes including Sun Ye Inn in Sintgaing Township were cancelled by the hluttaw.

In addition, 2.9 million kyats for 4-storey building and 2.8 million kyats for 12 vehicles, which were both requested by General Administration Department, were cancelled. The hluttaw decided that 3 billion kyats requested for building district and township offices should be spent on activities , which would benefit public.

"The amount on local development is very low. Of course, budget will be allotted if it is necessary in-deed. But now, there are offices already. So are the vehicles. It is sufficent to run the department. So we decided that more money should be spent on projects that will benefit the public instead of high-cost buildings," said U Myint Aung Moe, a representative of Thazi 2.

However, MPs criticized that they were given only 3 days to review the budget and did not get to know the details. (Ref: Extracted from www.7daydaily.com)

Mon State Government's 6-month Fiscal Report to be Revised

16th December 2016

At the Mon State Hluttaw's fourth regular session on 14th December, the State Hluttaw decided that the Mon State Government's 2016-2017 fiscal year report, which covers the first six months, would have to be revised after many details found incorrect by hluttaw representatives.

The major errors in the government's report included the number of buffaloes and oxen, which rounded up to 650,000 from 341 village tracts in Mon State. The report failed to mention the completion of certain road projects under the border affairs budget while it was also full with jargons.

"Looking at the government's report, to speak for the economic sector, it is likely right that there are over 70,000 acres of farmland that are being used for cultivation. Regarding the buffaloes and oxen,

the number of buffaloes may have been around 100,000 and the number of oxen may have been 550,000 and the report totals it at 650,000. Ultimately, however, the number is not fitting with reality," said Dr. Aye Zan, State Hluttaw representative of Kyaikto Constituency No 2.

"It seems that this six month report is also based on the facts from previous reports. It is best to present it again after checking errors in the report and revising it," said U Than Htay, Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Transportation. According to him, how much of the report is incorrect is uncertain, since the governmental team has not checked and revised it yet. However, during this government's term, it will revise in order to keep data on the right track.

(Ref: - Extracted from MNA http://bur-mese.bnionline.net/)