

# **State and Region Parliaments** News Bulletin

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## Lawmaker to Request Return of Land Occupied by Mandalay USDP Office

#### 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016

Since the land occupied by the USDP Mandalay Region Head Office was transferred illegally, return of land to public would be asked again at the coming parliament session, claimed regional MP U Aung Shwe (Democratic Party Myanmar, Chan Aye Tharzan 1).

In 2002, since Union of Myanmar Wholesale Cooperative Federation transferred the land to USDP illegally, he requested to return the land at the regional hluttaw second session during last September. He did not find the Development Affairs Minister's response satisfactory. Thus he decided to submit it again to the Regional Hluttaw.

The land was transferred in accord with rules and regulations and the ownership title was obtained. The authorities made permission only because conditions were compliant, said U Win Maung, the Chairman of Mandalay Region USDP.

(Ref: Extracted from http://burma.irrawaddy.com/)

### **Short News**

■ The special session (1/2016) of the Second Magway Region Hluttaw will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> November. The email address mgyhluttaw@gmail.com will be used so that MPs can submit questions and motions, and carry out committee activities timely in accord with 2013 Region/State Hluttaw Law and Magway Region Hlutaw by-laws.

(Ref: Extracted from Bago Region Hluttaw Facebook Page)

■ An emergency session will be held at the Rakhine State Hluttaw to discuss current issues in Maungdaw, Rakhine State boarder. MPs will have to arrive in Sittwe by 21st October and the session will commence on 24<sup>th</sup> October, Monday.

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

### Photo News

"Peace Symposium" in process at the Kachin State Hluttaw on 21<sup>st</sup> October (*Ref: Kachin State Hluttaw Facebook Page*)





## Independent Media Coverage of Shan State Hluttaw Restricted

#### 20<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Independent media outlets covering the Shan State Hluttaw (parliament) in the state capital Taunggyi have been discriminated against and are being restricted in their coverage of the parliament.

Khun Zaw Oo from the Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB) said that the only media allowed to take photos and film video of the parliament during its sessions are the Information and Public Relations Department from the Ministry of Information and Myawady, MRTV, and SkyNet TV.

He said: "Independent media, who are not state-owned media, have to



cover the news from a TV placed inside a tent outside the parliament. The sound quality from the sound box is unclear. We can't take photos. The photos taken from the TV screen are of bad quality. This is especially bad for broadcasting media. We can't take



"Workshop on Hotel and Tourism Development" in process Sagaing Region Hluttaw on 21<sup>st</sup> October. The Chief Minister, the Speaker and the Minister of Security and Boarder Affairs attended the workshop. (*Ref: Sagaing Region Information Page*) photo when there is reflection from the TV. The sound is quite unclear so we don't know what is being said [in the parliament]."

U Kyaw Thu Zaw, the director of the Parliament Office, said that the Information and Public Relations Department has to be allowed to cover news from inside the parliament because they have a duty to inform the public about what is happening in parliament, but that no other media organisations would be allowed in the parliament.

He said: "We have only allowed them [the Information and Public Relations Department] in because the parliament is very small. There is no space for observers from outside, even when broadcasting groups come to film inside the parliament. It is distracting for the parliamentary representatives."

According to Chapter 9 of the media by-law, the media shall have the right to acquire public information prescribed in the article (6), session (A). The media, by providing media identification card, also have access to documents and make copies of them without any payments excerpt the actual cost.

(Ref: S.H.A.N http://www.bnionline.net/)

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## Traffic Light Sensor System Questioned at the Region Hluttaw

### 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015

Criticism arouse as a traffic control system of 154 traffic lights aimed at reducing gridlock in Yangon is still not in place though the regional government previously cliamed to start using it by the end of August.

MP U Wai Phyo Han (Insein 2) asked why the project was not finished and whether it was due to the financial condition of the companies tasked with the project. At the regional hluttaw on 19<sup>th</sup> October, Mayor U Maung Maung Soe pledged to review why the project was delayed and to inform the public.

"People are raising a lot of questions on the ongoing traffic jams. They are expected it by the end of August. So why is the project not finished? Why authorities gave pledges so easily if they knew the project would not be completed by this time? Our people hold high expectations of government for changes," said U Wai Phyo Han.

It is also learned from the government that it takes 38.92 billion kyats to build the traffic control centre of 154 traffic lights and to improve technical issues.

(Ref: Extracted from http://myanmar.mmtimes. com/)

The Second Yangon Region Hluttaw's Committee								
No.	Committee Name	Members						
		MPs	Military Representatives	Non-MPs	Total			
1	Bill Committee	9	2	-	11			
2	Finance, Planning and Economic Committee	9	2	-	11			
3	Judiciary, Rule of Law, Complaint and Plea Letters Review Committee	9	2	-	11			
4	MPs Scrutinizing Committee	9	2	-	11			
5	Social and Administration Committee	9	2	-	11			
6	Transportation, Communication, Construction and Industrial Committee	9	2	-	11			
7	Government Pledges, Guarantees and Hluttaw Rights Committee	9	2	-	11			
8	Ethnic Affairs Committee	9	2	-	11			
9	Agriculture, Livestock Breeding, Energy, Electricity, Mining and Forestry Committee	9	2	=	11			
10	Public Budget Committee	9	2	-	11			

The Second Ayeyarwady Region Hluttaw's Committee								
No.	Committee Name	Members						
		MPs	Military Representatives	Non-MPs	Total			
1	Legislative Committee	7	3	-	10			
2	Ethnic Affairs Committee	9	2	-	11			
3	MPs Scrutinizing Committee	7	2	-	9			
4	Public Letters, Complaints and Plea Letters Review Committee	11	2	-	13			
5	Judiciary, Local Development, Government Pledges, Guarantees and Undertakings Reiew Committee	10	3	2	15			
6	Legislation Review Committee	1		8	9			
7	Public Budget, Planning and Finance, Economic and Trade Development Committee	9	2		11			
8	Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Natural Resources Committee	12	2	1	15			
9	Energy, Communication, Industrial and Construction Committee	9	2	-	11			
10	Religious, Development Affairs and Public Communication Committee	9	2	-	11			
11	Social, Education, Health and Natural Disaster Prevention Committee	9	2	-	11			

Committe of other State/Region Hluttaws will be provided as relevant. Source: EMReF