



State and Region Parliaments News Bulletin

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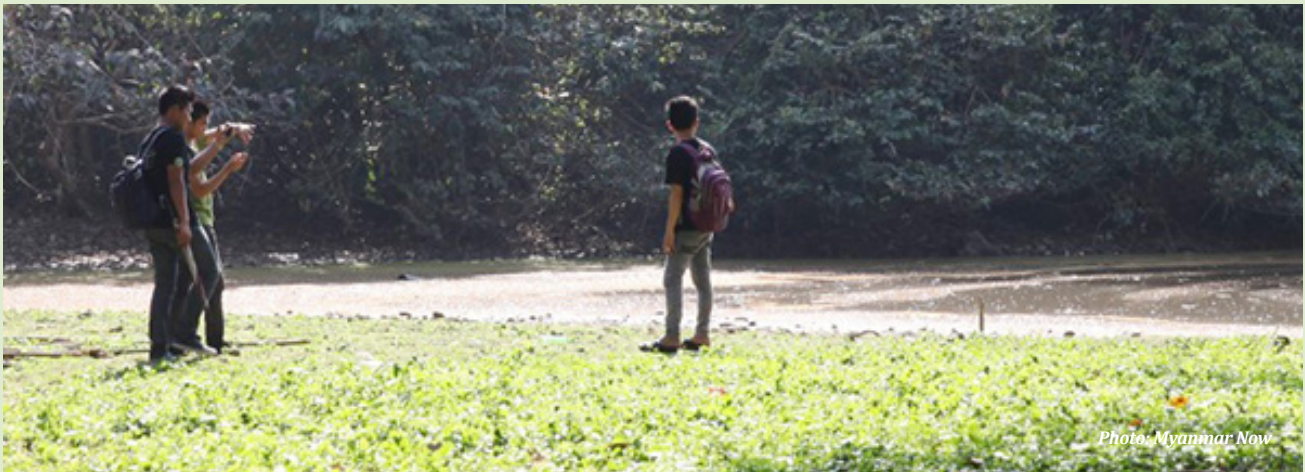


Photo: Myanmar Now

Yangon Parliament to Review Park Lands Rental

26th May 2017

The Yangon Region Government is losing large amounts of money in the current rental fees of 996 shops in its parks, and the Public Budget Committee of the Yangon Hluttaw will review contracts and negotiate with business owners.

According to the Auditor General 2015-2016 report, the Government is losing nearly K57,000 millions annually. U Tint Lwin, who is the chairperson of the Public Budget Committee said the reason lies in the contracts, which are signed under unreasonable terms.

"The contracts do not make any sense. The purpose of having a contract is to be fair and just. These contracts are not fair from the beginning. So what is the point of having those contracts?" he said.

Rental and loss

According to the report by the Attor-

ney General Daw Khin Than Hla to the Yangon parliament, since the park lands rental fees are very low, the government is losing a lot of money. In addition, some companies do not follow the terms and conditions in the contracts and some businesses were handed over without tender bids.

In the case of the 80-acre land in the People's Park near the Shwe Dagon Pagoda, the Natural World Company is renting the per square for K6 for 25 years, starting from 2011. According to the report, the government is losing K14,281 millions annually for the agreement.

In the case of the Mya Kyun Thar park land rented to 8 companies, the per square foot rental is K25, which could cause losses of about K21625 millions annually for the government.

The Attorney General Office has urged the parliament to review the contracts, said Daw Kyi Pyar, a Yangon Region MP.

Daw Kyi Pyar added that the parliament would urge the government to tackle the contracts and would oversee the government's accountability.

"The current government should negotiate with the business owners, and reach new agreement," she added.

U Htay Aung, who is a former YCDC committee member said YCDC was the responsible body for renting park lands, but the committee only acted upon the regional government's orders.

"The YCDC prepared the contract when the regional government asked. It was the same with the People's Park, which was rented out on order of the former Yangon Chief Minister.

U Htay Aung continued that since the rental fees were very low, they face opposition by the government officials who were in close relations with the business owners when trying to obtain reasonable rental rates.

(Ref: Phyo Thiha Cho/Myanmar Now, 7 Day Daily)



Kayah State Politicians Reflect on Limited Public Engagement

11th May 2017

Kayah State MPs and politicians say the local government only listen to government departments and has so far failed to engage with the public.

MPs have been conducting with field investigations to understand what their voters need.

“MPs raise questions in the Hluttaw about the public’s difficulties. When we

raise these questions, only the Hluttaw representatives know the details about their constituents, but the government officials and the ministers don’t know because they don’t do any field surveys. The responses they give to our questions are not satisfactory for us. They only know how to read out the answers given by their department heads,” said U Aung Naing Oo, a Hluttaw representative from Mese Constituency 1.

He encouraged the ministers to go out and meet with the public before creating policy.

U Luu Kyi, the joint secretary of the Kayah Unity Democracy Party (KUDP), said that MPs can act upon the public’s request only when the central allows. Due to the centralization and limited engagement with the public, the government is relatively weak in meeting the public’s needs.

(Ref: www.kantarawaddytimes.org)

Illegal Gold Mining near Tarlay Stream to Be Questioned at Shan State Parliament

23rd May 2017

Illegal gold mining along the Tarlay Stream near Tarlay, Tarchileik, Shan State will be addressed at the parliamentary session which will commence on 6th June, said U Khin Maung Tint, a representative of Tarchileik.

“There are about 100 mines along the Tarlay Stream, including migrants from all over the country and Pyithu Sit (People’s Militias). The stream will be depleted soon due to tailing disposal. How the issue will be addressed? Should the miners be allowed under rules and regulations?”

Since 2010, there have been a lot of mining activities including those by the Chinese citizens in the mountains near Tarlay and along the stream, followed by the tailing discharge into the stream. The locals also apply for farm land, but later are involved in gold mining, according to the MPs.

(Ref: *The Voice Daily*)



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Photo News



On 22nd May, the Sagaing Hluttaw MPs, the Department of Roads, the Department of Planning and the Municipal Body members held a meeting for road and bridges construction in Sagaing Township by the Department of Roads in 2017-2018 fiscal year.

(Ref: Daw Su Myat Htet's Facebook - Sagaing Region Hluttaw MP)

Short News

■ A meeting for the Museums and Libraries draft law, which will be passed by the Magway Region Hluttaw, was held at the Township Department of Information on 25th May. Magway Hluttaw Bill Committee members, the Deputy Township Administrator, the Township Legal Officer, the Assistant Township Education Officer, Staff Officer of the Department of Information and interested individuals attended the meeting.

(Ref: <https://www.facebook.com/ayehlaing.oo.1/posts/1906555452896234>)

■ The Second Kayin State Hluttaw published a newsletter (Issue 2/ No. 5) which describes the activities of the fourth regular session and disseminate it the libraries under the Department of Information. The newsletter is also available on the Kayin State Hluttaw's Facebook Page.

(Ref: <https://www.facebook.com/kayinstate.hluttaw/posts/432080583834001>)

■ The Kachin State Hluttaw will hold its seventh regular session on 29th May, the Elderly draft law and the Service Industry draft law will be discussed.

(Ref: Bill Committee of Kachin State Hluttaw)

Companies with Bad Quality Work to Be Listed by Magway Hluttaw

15th May 2017

The Magway Hluttaw Speaker has ordered the MPs to review companies that were responsible for projects in their respective constituencies in 2016-2017, and on 19th May 2017, to submit a list of companies that failed to meet the quality.

"We ordered MPs to review and

make a list of companies that did not do a good work. It is part of the parliament check-and-balance process. Based on what the MPs submit, we will work with the regional government. Especially, the parliamentary committees will review and submit suggestions to the government," said the Deputy Speaker U Zaw Myo Win.

Once the list is submitted by the

MPs, the Speaker and the MPs will meet with those companies.

According to U Zaw Myo Win, The Construction and Transportation Committee of the Magway Region Hluttaw will also submit a report on the performances of the companies during the fifth regular parliamentary session which will be held in June.

(Ref: Myintmakha Media)

Photo News



The Bill Committee of the Bago Region Parliament held a meeting to amend the Fresh Water Fisheries Law from 23rd to 26th May.

(Ref: Bago Region Hluttaw Facebook Page)

Ayeyarwady Region Hluttaw Held a Meeting for Inclusive “Fresh Water Fisheries Law”

22nd May 2017

On 26th 27th April, The Bill Committee of the Ayeyarwady Region Hluttaw held a joint-meeting with the Agriculture, Irrigation and Natural Resource Committee; the Myanmar Center to Empower Regional Parliaments (MCERP); Network Activities Group (NAG) and the Pyoe Pin Programme for the “Fresh Water Fisheries Law.”

The joint-meeting was led by MCERP and, the attendees discussed what to include and exclude in articles of the Fresh Water Fisheries draft law, submitted by the government to the parliament. Then the MPs reviewed and approved articles by articles. The draft law will be discussed and passed at the upcoming sixth regular session.

(Ref: MCERP)

Government, Parliament and Party Met for the Development of Yangon Region

28th May 2017

The Yangon regional government, the CEC members of the NLD and regional parliamentarians held at a meeting to discuss development projects in Yangon Region at the NLD headquarter in Bahan, Yangon on 28th May.

Misunderstanding among the three pillars (Government, Hluttaw and the party) will be addressed through the meeting, said U Win Htein.

Such meeting was held for the first time in Yangon Region, but will not be the last.

“We are reviewing our first-year activities and we hope to work with the regional government more collaboratively,” said U Myint Htay, the Yangon Regional Chairperson of the NLD.

Meetings of the three pillars have been held in other States and Regions as well, except in Rakhine and Kayin States, according to the CEC members.

(Ref: The Voice Daily)