



State and Region Parliaments

News Bulletin



Hluttaw To Question Quarry Companies Again

November 6, 2018

The chairman for Finance, Planning and Economic Committee of the Mon State Hluttaw, U Aung Kyaw Thu, said the companies quarrying rocks in Mon State will be called for question within six months.

He further said that he had to do an on-site monitoring due to the practice of exceeding the permitted amount in the license in quarrying.

“When we did a quarry-site visit we found that there is a huge gap between the permitted amount and

the actual extraction. We will do a thorough check to prevent such breaches of contracts. We want contractors to pay appropriate taxes as well”, he continued.

He urged the local people who know well about quarrying and respective administrators of villages and townships to cooperate in visiting sites.

Further site checking will be done in Kyaikhto, Kyaikmayaw, and Yay townships where quarries are located and contractors will be met, he added.

In acquiring licenses to quarry rocks some businessmen extend their license’s permit from 1,500 to 2,000 quarries whereas other businessmen apply for 30,000 from 1,500. Given this inequality, systematic reviews on granting license are called for, he suggested.

The state government would provide full protection for quarry businesses if they apply for license with correct figures, Dr Aye Zan said on 29th August.

Reference: Hintha Media

Question on Yangon Government's Account of Public Funds (Final)



Photo : Yangon Region Hluttaw Facebook Page

(Continued from previous week)

Questions and criticism came out in a series from lawmakers after the Auditor General's report was released, although a much-detailed study of the report has yet to be done.

The most criticized issues fall on activities that were carried out by the Yangon government without informing the Hluttaw.

On the other hand, higher wheel taxes are being collected this year from vehicles in Yangon Region.

In the fiscal year 2017-18, up until July, since there are 529,437 vehicles, the vehicle tax of more than 40 billion kyats will be obtained.

The government has yet to account to the public as for how the people's money from increased

taxes were spent.

The Hluttaw has said during the discussion of the General Auditor's report that it does not have responsibility to repay the debt incurred by the government by breaching financial rules and regulations.

Given this situation, it must be ensured that incidences of using the taxes collected from the people are not used for development works but for repaying debts do not happen.

The Yangon government's account of public funds is now infamous. When MPs pointed out that the government enlisted the price of a chair at an exorbitant price of 70,000 kyats, the government replied that it was a typo error.

In order to prevent such discrepancy it is necessary that auditors be

given responsibilities. Anti-corruption Commission should also monitor such abuses of public fund and take measures accordingly.

"In the first year, they [Yangon government] said YBS yielded returns. Now they say, it's making losses. What's behind these? We have to keep watch over this", said Daw Nyo Nyo Thin, an ex-MP of Yangon Region.

Hence, it's time to raise questions on who would really take the responsibility and accountability for other losses of public funds incurred by the government like the Yangon Government did.

Reference: *Extracted from Zaw Min Naing's "Yangon government's account of public funds to be questioned on the basis of the report of Auditor General", published by Weekly Eleven News, No.50, Vol 13.*



UN Special Envoy and Rakhine Hluttaw Officials Discuss Rohingya's Repatriation

October 17, 2018

It is reported that the UN Special Envoy on Myanmar Mr. Christine Schraner Burgener and Officials from Rakhine State Hluttaw had a discussion on repatriation of Rohingya refugees. They met at the Rakhine State Hluttaw office on the 16th of October, said the Deputy Rakhine State Hluttaw Speaker.

"He [Mr Burgener] said that the purpose of his visit is to discuss how two communities can co-exist in harmony, rehabilitation of the

Rohingya and their freedom of movement", he continued.

The Speaker of Rakhine State Hluttaw U San Kyaw Hla said in the discussion that since the peaceful co-existence of the two peoples (the Rohingya and the Rakhine) is a long-term process it is not feasible at the moment.

"What I said was that it takes a long time for two communities to live in harmony and that as of now it isn't possible. I said that rehabilitating them [the Rohingya] by removing the IDP camps and granting them

freedom of movement aren't easy matters", said U Mya Than.

"Besides, some people coming in from Bangladesh may be qualified as Myanmar citizens while others may qualify for associate Myanmar citizenship. We also need to screen out other people from Bangladesh coming in with the Rohingya. People who fulfill the citizenship requirement will have the freedom of movement. That's what I told him", added U Mya Than.

Reference: www.narinjara.com

Two Ministers for Security and Border Affairs and 48 Military MPs Reshuffled

October 29, 2018

Two ministers for State Security and Border Affairs and 48 military MPs across the country were replaced, the Union Election Commission stated in October 2018.

Kachin State Minister for Security and Border Affairs, Colonel Thura Myo Tin, Mon State Minister for Security and Border Affairs, Colonel Win Naing Oo and 30 other military MPs from State and Region Hluttaws were re-assigned.

Colonel Thura Myo Tin was replaced by Colonel Nay Myo Tun and for Colonel

Win Naing Oo, Colonel Nay Htut Oo.

Likewise, 8 Pyithu Hluttaw military MPs and 8 Amyotha Hluttaw military MPs were changed.

An incumbent military MP commented that the reshuffle was due to promotion, return to original assignments and that it was a regular procedure.

"It's the decision by the Commander in Chief. The Hluttaw has to accept the lists of the military MPs sent here", said the chairman for Phyithu Hluttaw Representative Review Committee.

Reference: www.7daydaily.com



Kachin State Minister for Security and Border Affairs

(Photo- Kachin News Group)