



State and Region Parliaments

News Bulletin

Thirty Months of Second Rakhine State Hluttaw (Part – 1)



October 28, 2018

The second Rakhine State Hluttaw was set up on the eighth of February 2016 and it's now been 30 months. All this time, it has grown in maturity and capacity in undertaking its tasks.

However, collaboration between the Hluttaw and the government has not been satisfactory, appraised the Speaker of Rakhine State Hluttaw in September 2018 during the eighth regular session of the Second Rakhine Hluttaw.

The Speaker evaluated, "It's [Hluttaw] been over two years. We took up positions in Hluttaw and government to work for the welfare of the people who chose us because they trusted us. If asked whether the Hluttaw and the government

have fulfilled their responsibilities, neither have. If asked whether the Hluttaw and the government would be accountable to the people, neither would. We need to try very hard and overcome our weaknesses."

Acting on people's voice

The Rakhine MPs have held eight regular sessions, two special sessions and four emergency sessions from February 2016 to September 2018, a total of 30 months. During those sessions, 570 starred questions and 210 unstarred-questions were raised, 43 motions submitted out of which 38 were accepted and 5 put in records.

Questions reflect people's needs

The questions posed in the Hluttaw

by MPs were on administration and security, local health care programs, education development programs, preservation of Rakhine cultural heritages, environment management programs, sports, transportation, water distribution in the villages, agri-business development and fishery development. These questions weren't asked out of curiosity but they really reflect the needs of the people and advocate for actual implementation. The motions, too, aim at promoting the welfare and development of the Rakhine people.

(To Be Continued)

Reference: Rakhine Hluttaw journals published by Rakhine State Hluttaw

An article written by Kyun Ngamanthar and published by Development Media Group – www.dmediag.com.

Report on Road Management Department’s Projects Submitted at Ayeyarwady Hluttaw



Photo: Mizzima

November 19, 2018

A report on the on-site investigations of projects being undertaken by Road Management Department (RMD) in five townships and the painting job of Director’s Offices, which was budgeted at six million kyats, was submitted to Ayeyawaddy Region Hluttaw.

The report was put forward by the Committee for Public Account, Planning and Finance, Economic and Trade Development on November 19. It documented the findings of the conditions of projects carried out by RMD in Zalun, Hinthada, Kyaunggone, Pathein and Myaungmya townships.

“Funds were requested during GRF for building the entrance road to Pathein. We found a huge discrepancy in the budget. The main issue is the bad quality of work. The worst deviation in figures in Pathein was a mini-budget proposal for a project from the previous fiscal year. Six million kyats was budgeted for the painting job of the Assistant Director and Director’s offices. These findings came out during the on-site investigations”, said the secretary for the Committee for Public Account, Planning and Finance, Economic and Trade Development, Daw Yi Yi Tun.

The fencing of 3 compounds

owned by RMD cost over 44,000,000 kyats. No residents live there. The fencing was meant to deter encroachment from squatters. The Committee urged that unnecessary spending should be avoided and that other reasonable means should be employed.

In the proposed budget allotment by the RMD, expenses for road maintenance was put under ordinary spending using spending code 0402. The huge budget for road maintenance was requested for the length of the road. However, it’s impossible to know whether maintenance was actually carried out. The report recommended that exact measurement be mentioned in the proposal.

The estimated budget was very high and the Committee suggested that it should reflect the current rate in the market. The Committee also urged that the RMD should put the route conditions into consideration in the design and construction of roads.

Ayeyarwady Region Hluttaw recorded the findings and analyses of the report and urged the regional government to act on the recommendations of the report.

Reference: www.mizzimaburmese.com

Short News

■ The newly appointed Minister for Mon State Security and Border Affairs, Colonel Nay Htut Oo said at the Hluttaw emergency sessions on November 16 that he will work on drug issues as a first priority and observance of traffic rules and regulations a second priority. His appointment for a new Minister for Mon State Security and Border Affairs is the second time in a row. The first change was done on August 21, 2015. Reference: www.7daydaily.com

■ Rakhine State Hluttaw will hold a special session on the 27th of November. U Tin Maung Win, who won in the by-election and a newly assigned military MP will take an oath. In addition, the proposal to appoint a new judge will be approved by the State Hluttaw. Reference: www.7daydaily.com

Collaboration of Governmental Departments Weak During Hluttaw Committee's Field Visits

November 23, 2018

Collaboration of governmental departments during field visits carried out by Thanintharyi Region MPs to respond to complaint letters has not been very active, according to Dr Htoo Nay Aung, the Chairman for Guarantees, Pledges, Complaint and Plea Letters Review Committee.

He said, "Collaboration and assistance by relevant governmental

departments and General Administration Department has been very limited that this makes it hard for the Committee to carry out its responsibilities."

Although the government departments were requested in advance for assistance for field visits, the weaknesses in collaboration cause interruptions and unnecessary delays.

The Committee will make a field visit on the eighth and ninth of

December in Myeik and Pulaw townships and the lack of vehicles is a major constraint.

From the time Dr Htoo Nay Aung took up the chairmanship in February 2018, 52 complaint letters have been received and referral to governments, field visits, and calls for hearing from governmental departments have been carried out.

Reference: *Thanintharyi Journal*

Rakhine Government Unable to Resolve Land Disputes Brought to Hluttaw in 4 Years

September 7, 2018

300 cases of land disputes in Rakhine State from 2015 to 2018 have been filed by victims to the State Hluttaw, said U Aung Win, the Chairman for Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry and Irrigation Association.

Among the reported cases, land grabbing by businessmen has been the highest in number. The rest of the cases include mis-issuance of the certificate for the right to work on the land (form-7) by the Department of Land Records, disputes among farmers, tilling the graze land by certain villagers and disputes on ownership of farmlands.

Over 80 cases, out of 300 cases filed in the last four years, have been resolved by the State Hluttaw. The Hluttaw responded to the complaints by doing on-site checking and sending reports to the state government. However, the government's undertaking on the reports has been inadequate that many cases are left unresolved, said U Aung Win.



The state government denies such accusation. The Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Mining responded that the government cannot deal with the problems because the Hluttaw did not file the case systematically.

"If the Hluttaw officially reported it to the government, it would deal with the complaints according to the laws. The legislature and the executive must negotiate with each

other. We're ready to take action if there is such negotiation," said U Kyaw Lwin.

In resolving land disputes where the lands were confiscated by the military, the state government has no authority. Since only the union government has the authority in such cases, many cases of land disputes cannot be resolved.

Reference: www.dmediag.com