



State and Region Parliaments

News Bulletin

Kachin State Hluttaw Emergency Session Adjourned by an Objection



Photo-lprd-kachin

January 29, 2019

A Kachin State Hluttaw emergency session to make changes in the state government was adjourned by an objection raised by an MP, who said that the Chief Minister does not have the authority.

The emergency meeting was held to fill three vacant positions for ministers and to form a new ministry. On the first day of the meeting on January 28, there was already tension.

The meeting discussed the Chief Minister's proposal to re-structure the state government and seek the approval of the Hluttaw, according to the Constitution section 248, sub-section 1, clause 1. The proposal sought to split the Ministry of Transportation, Electricity and Industry into the Ministry of Construction and Transportation and the Ministry of Municipality. An MP for Tanaing

Township Constituency (2), U Zaw Win, objected to the proposal, stating that the Chief Minister is not authorized by the constitution to make changes in the government.

"I don't mean to object not to splitting or splitting the ministry. According to the Constitution, Chief Ministers are not authorized to make ministerial additions," said U Zaw Win, from the NLD, in the session, holding the Constitution in his hand.

He continued, "It's not possible for us [law makers] to allow the power reserved only for the president to be used by the Chief Minister. This is impossible at all."

Upon the objection of U Zaw Win, Speaker U Tun Tin adjourned the first day of the meeting. It is reported that the session was suspended until further instruction is received from the president.

According to the Constitution,

only the president has the power to make changes to ministerial make-up. Therefore, instruction was sought after from the president. Some MPs who wish to remain anonymous said that prior to the meeting the Chief Minister had been informed that the proposal was not in compliance with the Constitution but that he did not heed the warning. They remarked that the Chief Minister must have assumed that there would not have been any objections.

"As the parliament is responsible to keep the government in check, when the government does not behave in accordance with rules and procedures, we have to say what has to be said. It is not out hatred or love, but it's our duty," said U Zaw Win.

Reference: <http://7daydaily.com>



Questions on Ending Civil War and the Military Rejected in Shan State Hluttaw

December 28, 2018

In Shan State Hluttaw, a proposal to end civil war, essential for the safety of the people and a question on the authority of the military was rejected, said MP U Sai Lone of Mai Kai Township Constituency – 2.

In the twelfth regular Hluttaw session, U Sai Lone presented a

stared-question regarding the military's detainment of a citizen, saying that it is well known that an accused's time in custody from the time he was arrested by the police until the judge passes sentence on him is counted as part of his/her prison term. He asked, if after a military column detains a person for a long time and hands him over to the

police, whether his detention in the hands of the military can be considered as part of his prison term; whether the military has authority to arrest a citizen for as long as it wants and how long the military can take a citizen into custody. The Hluttaw Speaker replied to the question in a letter that since the Shan State Hluttaw by-law 98 states that questions on the Shan State government should deal with the government's action taken for the people or the governance that Shan State government holds responsibility for, and that other questions should be submitted to the Union Hluttaw.

A man in Mai-Kai Township was arrested by the military stationed in the area for over 3 months for using a walkie-talkie. The MP submitted the question on behalf of his constituents who wanted to know whether the arrested has the rights according to existing laws. Not being able to present it in the regional Hluttaw but being instructed to refer to the Union Hluttaw do not give the answer to the people and the efforts of MPs for the people will not be known by the people, U Sai Lone said. There are other MPs from other states and regions who are not allowed to ask such questions, he lamented.

Reference: www.kanbawzatainews.com

Short News

■ It's reported that a Mandalay Hluttaw website is being developed to host information and data on Mandalay Hluttaw and it will be launched in February. The website is addressed at www.mandalayregionhluttaw.gov.mm and will feature the profiles of members of parliament, questions and motions, daily discussions, Hluttaw committees and their responsibilities and mandates, and other matters including field visits of committees and reports.

Reference: <http://7daydaily.com>

■ The Deputy Speaker of Ayeyarwady Region Hluttaw has resigned, confirmed U Aung Kyaw Khaing, the Speaker of the regional Hluttaw on January 30. The NLD decided to remove U San Min Aung on January 13 on the accusation that the Deputy Speaker manipulated for his personal benefits in a car purchase for the Hluttaw. However, he will continue to remain as an MP, said the Speaker. Meanwhile, the report against U San Min Aung, MP for Bogalay Township Constituency (2), has reached the Anti-Corruption Commission and that actions on the report will be released soon, said a member of the Anti-Corruption Commission.

Reference: www.7daydaily.com

Kachin State Hluttaw Approves 3 Ministers for Vacant Positions



Dashi La Seng, U Kyaw Kyaw Win, and U Nawli. Photo-Elizabeth/ RFA

January 31, 2019

The names of three regional MPs from the NLD have been proposed for the three vacant ministerial posts in the Kachin State government and have been approved unanimously by the state Hluttaw on January 30.

U Kyaw Kyaw Win for the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and U La Seng for Natural Resources and Environment Conservation were appointed to head the respective ministry and the minister of Kachin

State Ministry for Municipality, U Nay Win, was transferred to Kachin State Social Welfare. As for the Ministry of Municipality, U Nawli (aka) Zahkawng Hkam Roi was appointed to head it.

It is reported that on January 18 the State Counselor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi telephoned Kachin State Chief Minister Dr Khet Aung, instructing him to ask U Mya Thein, the minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Dr Thin Lwin, the minister for Social Welfare, and U H La

Aung, the minister for Natural Resources and Environment Conservation to submit their resignation from their respective positions.

Consequently, U Mya Thein and Dr Thin Lwin sent in their resignation letters and were permitted by the president to resign from ministerial posts on January 22.

Although U H La Aung did not write the resignation letter he was terminated by the president, making vacant 3 ministerial positions.

Reference: <https://myanmar.mmtimes.com/> www.rfa.org

A Seminar on Land Tax Draft Held in Pyay

January 28, 2019

A seminar regarding the draft for land tax of Bago regional Hluttaw was held at Khittaya city town hall in Pyay on January 26.

The seminar was held to listen to the voices of the people about the draft, to set land tax rate that is compactable with a current socio-economic condition, for the region to get taxes on land as prescribed in the land tax law, and to use tax money for the development of the region.

“We’ll keep records of the feedbacks from the seminar. The committee will review it and changes will be proposed in the upcoming Hluttaw session. We’ll try to make it reflect the desire of the people and pass a good

land law as soon as possible,” said U Ye Naing, a member of Rule of Law and Draft Law Committee.

Previously, different forms of land taxes were collected on different kinds of land such as land for farming, orchards, vegetation, rubbers, and depending on the specific category, the maximum tax on an acre was 22 kyats, but in the new draft law the maximum is proposed at 3,000 kyats per acre, said a local attendee of the seminar.

In the seminar, cooperation of the land department on matters of land registration and ownership, feedbacks on reasonable tax rates, and responsibility of landowners to pay taxes made up the core of the discussion.

Reference: <http://7daydaily.com>