

# State and Region Parliaments News Bulletin \_\_\_\_\_\_

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On April 1, 2019, Shan State Hluttaw, Chairman of Legislative Committee, U Sao Aung Myat and members of the committee and officials from respective ministries are discussing the bill on conservation of Inlay Lake and the water and forest of Shan State. Photo- Shan State Parliament

# A Three-year Record of Bago Regional Hluttaw A Bridge between Hluttaw and Constituents

It is reported that an MP performance scorecard is being developed based on the latest (February 8, 2019) collection of data with the aim that people can learn and appraise the performance of the second Bago Hluttaw's performance.

The following information will be included in the performance scorecard of each MP:

- Personal profile
- Valid votes he/she won in the election
- Current responsibilities in hluttaw

- Attendance of regular and special sessions
- Submission of committee reports
- Proposal of motions and discussion
  of proposed motions
- Raising questions
- Pledges on questions
- Asking questions to ministries
- Number of questions (Qualitative Method)

MP Performance Scorecard on three years is intended for distribution among voters and will include the number of starred questioned raised by each MP, and info-graphs on regional development, on check and balance on the executive and judiciary, on ethnic nationality rights, on women and children and on people with disabilities are available for study on https:// theananda.org.

The records and information are compiled by Pace on Peaceful Pluralism, a civil society organization based in Bago Region.

Reference: https://theananda.org



## Mansi MP Requested a Bridge for a Second Time



#### April 8, 2019

The collapse of 120 feet long embankment connecting Hanhtet and Manthe villages in Mansi Township, Kachin State has flooded farmland and caused transportation disruption for the local people, reported U Min Min, MP for Mansi Township Constituency (1).

To ease the difficulty in transportation of the local people, U Min Min

submitted a request for a bridge in the special hluttaw meeting in the second Kachin State Hluttaw.

"I proposed the motion in Hluttaw. The minister of planning and finance gave me a verbal promise after the session. He said he was going to request for a budget for 2019-2020 the soonest," recounted U Min Min.

For the moment, the local people are making do with a bamboo bridge, on which heavy vehicles cannot pass. There are 700 households in Hanhtet-Manthe village, most of whom make a living by farming.

The collapse of the embankment has caused damage to 120 acres of farmland belonged to 12 farmers and transportation disruption for 100 students and villagers of the two villages.

Reference: http://burmese.kachinnews.com

## State Hluttaw Handling the Case of Farmers Accused of Encroaching on Military Land

### April 12, 2019

Kayah Sate Hluttaw is handling to resolve the accusation of Daw Nan Kwe and U Myat Soe Aung from Myaynigone village, Nwarlawo village tract, Kayah State by the military on encroaching upon the military land, Hluttaw Speaker U Hla Htwe said.

On February 21, 2019, the farmers whose lands were taken over by the military asked the State government, State Hluttaw and State Justice to review the accusation by the military.

Captain Pyae Khin Than from Battlefield Engineering Division (Hopone) sued Daw Nan Kwe and U Myat Soe Aung with Criminal Trespassing Law Article 447 on February 7, 2018.

The 74 year-old Daw Nan Kwe, who has been working on her ancestor land her whole life is experiencing terror of such accusation.

Daw Nan Kwe sighed, "It's very difficult. I can't move

around much. And I have been feeling quite unwell. In the beginning, just the sight of a soldier scared the heck out of me. It's very depressing. Although I'm not feeling well, I have to go to court. Very distressing. I'm very tired."

Beginning in 1991-92, the Burmese military took over farmland from 11 villages including the ones in Nwarlawo village tract.

At the entrance of Loikaw, to the east of Loikaw-Taunggyi Pyidaungsu Hiway, 787 acres was seized for 250th Light Infantry, adjacent to it, 626.82 acres for 356th Artillery Division, to the north of Myaynigone, only in half a mile distance (to the west of Loikaw-Tuanggyi Pyidaungsu hiway) 597 acres for 261th Light Infantry: a total farmland of 2010.82 acres was seized for the three military bases.

Reference: http://www.kantarawaddytimes.org





# Karen State Hluttaw Approve Expansion of Taungkalay New Town Housing Project

### April 3, 2019

A project to expand Taungkalay new town housing project, located in Sanpree village tract, Hpa-An Township, Karen State, has been approved on the third day of the second Karen State Hluttaw's tenth regular session on April 3.

The motion was submitted by U Than Naing, the Minister of Karen State Planning, Finance and Development on April 1, the first day of the second Karen State Hluttaw's tenth regular session. The minister said, "We have to consider not only the people in the region who have been affected but also others who have been affected by cement factory construction. Moreover, an industrial zone is there. There is an urgent need for housing for workers. And for government officials and pensions, Hpa-An municipality will develop more if we develop a housing project. For al these reasons, we are undertaking such a project."

After 928.93 acres of land, on which the Taungkalay new town housing project is to be developed, was declared to be state owned on April 23, 2018 by the directive no 491/2018 of the Ministry of Interior Affairs, Light Infantry Division No. 22 transferred it to the representative of Karen State Government, the administrator of Hpa-An District, U San Maw on June 12, 2018.

A committee was formed by Karen State Government on November 20, 2018 to develop Taungkalay housing project, and the committee will lead the implementation of the project.

In the project, affordable housing will be included. In the allotted area, in cooperation with Chinese companies, SMH company (on 100 acres) and Golden ZENNITH Construction company (on 20 acres) will construct 4-unit five-story residential buildings on a benefit sharing basis with the state government.

As Karen National Union (KNU) had also subdivided the same land

into 60x120 plots and distributed to local people in 2017, a dispute has flared up between the KNU and Karen State Government and some local people who own plots there are under constant worry.

Regarding that state of situation, U San Maw said, "Depending on the degree of grievances, we are going to compensate from 60/80 and 40/60 plots."

There was much discontent from some local people whose fences had been demolished by the government using force as well as criticism over the lack of transparency on the part of the government.

It's reported that the state government has sought permission from the union government for the project, and subsequently been granted permission by the President Office on October 30, 2018, in a notification no.511 (582)/12 which agreed in principle the development of such a project.

Reference: http://kicnews.org