



State and Region Parliaments

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Kayah State Chief Minister Investigated over Breaching Provisions of the Constitution

August 20, 2020

The Kayah State Hluttaw investigation committee is investigating Kayah State Chief Minister, U L Phaung Sho for allegedly breaching provisions of the Constitution, said U Theh Reh, a Phythu Hluttaw MP for Hpruso Township.

Article 263 (a) of the constitution lists 5 reasons on which the chief minister may be impeached, namely high treason; breach of any of the provisions of the Constitution; misconduct; disqualification of qualification of the Chief Minister of State prescribed in the Constitution; and inefficient discharge of duties assigned by law.

A quarter of Kayah State Hluttaw MPs signed a letter calling for a probe that the chief minister had breached article 263 (a) and submitted to the speaker, said U Theh Reh, the chair of the investigation committee.

Five members of the hluttaw had called for an investigation over the repeated failure of the chief minister to keep the land where the state day celebration is annually held as public land and not to lease it to businesses.

According to the findings of the investigation body, the chief minister had misappropriated fund from leasing state heavy machineries rental service; he leased public land on which annual Kayah Day is celebrated to businesses on 50-year contracts; and he put 400 million kyat from rental fee of 18 state owned heavy machineries including excavators into his bank account, instead of transferring to a public account, said U Theh Reh.

The Office of the Auditor General looked into the money from the



Kayah State Chief Minister, U L Phaung Sho (Photo: Kayah Government Office facebook Page)

lease of heavy machineries and found that not all the money went into state coffers but a fraction of it, he added.

“Only after this issue was brought up, did they take measures. They did have their own bank accounts from 2016 to 2018. Afterwards, these accounts disappeared. But these machines are so wrecked that they are practically useless now and can’t be leased anymore,” he said.

The team had investigated the three-acre of public land where businesses are now running, and the chief auditor general had been

called in for question over the fund from leasing the vehicles, he said.

U Theh Reh-led-investigation was formed on August 14, and the team will report its finding to the speaker of Kayah State Hluttaw on August 28. If the alleged breaches are found to be significant, the chief minister is likely to be removed from office.

Kayah State Chief Minister U L Phaung Sho plans to run for State Hluttaw in constituency No.2 in Mese Township representing the NLD.

Reference: <https://www.myanmar-now.org/mmm/news/>

The Issue of Pe Sin Island Not to Be Kept Secret: Deputy Speaker

July 20, 2020

The remark by the regional government over the application for use of Pet Zin Island is not a matter to be kept secret, said U Kyi Soe, the Deputy Speaker of Tanintharyi Region Hluttaw. Except what could jeopardize the security and protection of the union, whatever the people should know needs not be kept secret, he said.

Yangon-based Excellent Fortune Development Group company filed an application for use of 140-acre Pe Sin Island in Launglon Township as vacant, fallow and virgin land. The company sent the application to vacant, fallow and virgin land management committee to run businesses related to tourism and residential apartments.

In such application, the regional government has to give its remark to central committee for vacant, fallow and virgin land management. The minister of agriculture, livestock and irrigation had said that the remark by the regional government to the central committee was the regional government's top secret that it could not be disclosed.

Such a claim is contrary to the NLD's election manifesto, the deputy speaker said.

"I think it should be done as



promised in the election manifesto," he added.

U Sai Myo Win and wife Daw Nan Khin Myint Yi who are applicants for Pe Sin Island had also applied for five other places along the coast totalling 700 acres of land in Launglon Township. In addition, the couple are preparing to apply for

two other places in the same township, according to the regional Land Record Department.

Sixteen civil society organizations (CSOs) had urged the government not to give the right to anyone particular business for the use of islands and beaches including Pe Sin Island.

Reference: <http://daweivatch.com>

Rakhine State Government Has Never Submitted Annual Report to the Hluttaw in Five Years

August 19, 2020

The Rakhine State Government led by Chief Minister U Nyi Pu has, in five years, neither submitted its annual report nor extraordinary events to the Rakhine State Hluttaw, and that it was disrespect for the state hluttaw, said U Mya Than, the Deputy Speaker of the Rakhine State Hluttaw.

"They never presented the annual report. They should take it up to the hluttaw once a year. This requirement is prescribed in the government law as well as the hluttaw law. Actually, they should report what they have carried out and what extraordinary events happened to the hluttaw. They have never done that in five years," he said.

Such failure to report to hluttaw means disrespect for the hluttaw, he added.

"I think it just goes to show that they don't respect the hluttaw. As the chief minister was directly appointed by the president, he doesn't have any regards for the hluttaw. If such behaviour continues in the 2020, it'd be more difficult for the hluttaw," he commented.

Such failure of the state government to report to the hluttaw is its weakness, this may, in some day, have to be dealt with existing laws and regulations, and that although the general election is drawing near, this issue has to be brought up in the regular hluttaw sessions in November, December and January, he said.

Reference: *Narinjara*



Supporters Question Why Mon State Karen Ethnic Affairs Minister Was Not Elected

August 9, 2020

Supports of Mon State Karen Ethnic Affairs Minister Saw Aung Myint Khaing are questioning why the NLD (Central) had not chosen him as a candidate for the coming election.

According to Saw San Win, the Secretary of Karen Literature and Culture Committee, “Pa-O ethnic affairs minister and Bama ethnic affairs minister are selected again. People are sad about Saw Aung Myint Khaing not making the list. He was actively involved in rubber businesses and Karen literature and culture preservation. All had expected that he would be chosen again to run. I don’t know how the

party made the decision.”

The NLD published a list of 1,131 candidates to compete in the election. The criticism emerged as some NLD representatives who the local people like and support were not included again.

Local people want local leaders from Ethnic Armed Groups who had signed the National Ceasefire Agreement, members of Karen literature and culture committee, and minister Saw Aung Myint Khaing who both the Karen and other ethnics like. The minister had given his name to run in Kyaukse Township, according to his supporters.

“I think the party had chosen its candidates according to the processes based on their rules and

regulations. As for me, if they choose me, I will do. If they don’t, then I don’t have to. I am grateful to those who give me their support. My political career doesn’t end here. I will continue working for my ethnic people and the welfare of other people,” Saw Aung Myint Khaing told the KIC.

State MP U Aung Kyaw Thu, who submits the majority of motions and Karen Ethnic Affairs Minister Saw Aung Myint Khaing, who had the support of most ethnic people, were not selected by the NLD to run again in the coming election. A battery of criticism by the local on the NLD is emerging.

Reference: KIC