



State and Region Parliaments

News Bulletin

Public Hearing on Inlay Lake Conservation Draft Bill to Be Held



May 22, 2019

Shan State Hluttaw Bill Committee has informed Shan State Hluttaw that a public hearing would be held on Inlay Lake conservation draft bill in order to produce a comprehensive law at Shan State Hluttaw Office, Kyar Khaung Hall from June 5 to 7, commencing at 10 in the morning.

The draft bill was made available for review on www.shanstateparliament.gov.mm and Facebook page of Shan State Hluttaw. Suggestions can be sent to shanparliament@gmail.com until May 31, 2019 as the latest. Suggestions can be sent on the following points.

- A. Are the draft bill's objectives relevant?
- B. Are the requirements of the

- draft bill clear?
- C. Do the objectives meet the needs?
- D. Do the objectives have characteristics of a law?
- E. What would be some foreseeable consequences of the draft bill?
- F. Could there be any unintended consequences?

- G. Are the contents of the draft bill in line with financial rules, regulations and procedures?
- H. Can the draft bill contribute to the rule of law?
- I. Does it support check and balance between the parliament and the government?

Reference: Shan State Hluttaw Facebook Page

Short News

■ Karen State Hluttaw Facebook Page has announced that suggestions regarding small mining and casual labors draft bill can be sent to Karen State Hluttaw Office until May 31, 2019. With the announcement, the draft bill is available for download.

Reference: Karen State Hluttaw Facebook Page

How to Supervise Companies Holding Investment Permits but Having No Capacity for Implementation

May 9, 2019

At the thirteenth regular Mon State Hluttaw session, MP U Aung Kyaw Thu (Thaton Constituency-2) has asked how Mon State government was going to deal with a number of companies in Mon State that obtained investment permits from the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) but lacked implementation capacity. The Minister of Planning, Finance and Immigration and Population, U Wunna Kyaw, clarified that although these companies had obtained investment permits, they still lack permission from other state departments that their implementation was delayed, and that it was not the case that their implementation had come to a complete stop. The minister further said that officials from MIC and Mon State Investment Supervision Team were conducting regular annual monitoring.

When the MP further said that some companies that had investment permits were acting like international brokers, selling their permits abroad. According to the permit given by MIC, after 3 years of construction period has passed, to renew the permit, the state government has to give recommendation based on the condition of implementation of projects and improvement. He then asked whether the state government



was going to report on the true condition of the companies that did not implement anything. He pointed out that it was illogical for a company to renew its permit when it did not do anything. He questioned whether the state government had any effective measures for such cases.

The Minister responded in reply

that he would report truthfully if the company did not accomplish anything, and that he would also report accurately to the degree that the companies had implemented, and that the state government had twice urged the companies that had not implemented any tangible projects.

Reference: Mon State Hluttaw Facebook Page

Implementation of Community Forest Law Questioned

May 9, 2019

At the thirteenth regular Mon State Hluttaw session, a lawmaker from Thaton Constituency (1), Daw Khine Khine Leh posed a question to the state government regarding community forest for firewood. She asked whether steering committees that were formed under Forest Department did the conservation work of the forests after Community Forest Law was passed; whether the forest that was transferred to the villages was in the hands of the villagers or under the name of any individual; and whether there were any plans according to the law passed by the State Hluttaw.

Mon State Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Dr Min Kyi Win, answered that there were no activities regarding community

forests; that there were forests that were planted with state funds, and they were planted according to 1992 forest law and by laws; that according to by-laws, once the forest had been transferred to steering committees, the management falls under the steering committees and the users and not the forest department. After some time, people encroached upon community forests to plant rubber plants that there was hardly any community forest left. According to the community forest law, permission must be sought from village administrator to start a community forest, and the forest department would implement it, and that if the forest was established according to the law, measures would be taken according to the laws.

Reference: Mon State Hluttaw Facebook Page

Sagaing Region Hluttaw Speaker Reminds Ministers

May 17, 2019

Sagaing Region Hluttaw Speaker has reminded the regional minister to seriously answer the questions in the hluttaw.

In the concluding speech of the hluttaw meeting on May 15, U Than said, "Before holding any meetings, the hluttaw announces it on Facebook page to inform the people about the agenda. Since the hluttaw sessions always go live, there are people who enthusiastically watch the questioning and answering session. I am once again urging you, lawmakers and ministers, to

take it upon yourselves seriously and not out of mere duty"

During the 18th regular Sagaing Region Hluttaw session, which was held from April 25 to May 15, lawmakers raised several questions to respective government ministries, including: 9 questions to the Ministry of Security and Border Affairs, 26 questions to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Immigration, 12 questions to the Ministry of Forestry and Mining, 43 questions to Electricity, Industry and Transport, 14 questions to the Department of City Development, 27 questions to the Ministry of Social Welfare, and one question to

Auditor General.

"This is the second the Speaker has warned the ministers. The thing is some ministers have little respect for the hluttaw. For instance, some ministers come unprepared to the hluttaw twice or three times," said MP U Tun Tun Win of Kani Township.

There have been cases where respective ministers did not come to the hluttaw personally but had sent other ministers on their behalves. The Speaker reminded the ministers to respect the hluttaw.

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

Mon State Hluttaw Speaker Dis-satisfied with Ministers' Accounts



Photo-Mon State Parliament Facebook Page

May 12, 2019

Mon State Hluttaw Speaker Daw Tin Ei has told the ministers that their answers to the hluttaw were unsatisfactory. The speaker has urged the ministers to give their accurate and complete accounts since the chief minister often took the lead in answering questions from the hluttaw.

"Please answer the questions about the ministers which concern you. If you had given your answer truthfully and satisfactorily, MPs wouldn't have asked you follow-up

questions. Since you have received the question in advance I urge you to present your answer comprehensively," Daw Tin Ei exhorted, on the last day of the thirteenth Mon State Hluttaw session which was held from May 2 to 10.

This is the second time she has reminded the ministers to do their homework.

"As they ask questions, they often throw a batteries of follow-up questions. They should ask only one follow-up question. But since they posed a series of them, the ministers were pushed to a tight

corner. This should be controlled. The chief minister has to inevitably step in. If the questions were asked honestly we would have no problem. But since they were leading questions, we were having this problem," said U Tun Htay, Mon State Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Transport.

Since the questions were about ground situation, they had to give the best answer after validating the facts on the ground, and if the questions concerned policy data, they had to request it from respective ministries and departments, he said.

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