



State and Region Parliaments

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'No-Motorcycles Zone' in Yangon under Review

June 8, 2019

The Minister of Electricity, Industry and Transport, Daw Nilar Kyaw has said that townships in Yangon where motorcycles can be used are being evaluated.

Motorcycles have been prohibited in Yangon Region since the administration of the previous government, except in Mawbi, Hleku, Htantabin, and Dala townships.

However, as motorcycles are widely used illegally in most satellite towns, there is a need to control them, said Daw Nilar Kyaw.

"We are re-evaluating areas where motorbikes can be allowed. We are also negotiating necessary amendments to laws. After that, we'd be able to regulate illegal motorcycles," Daw Nilar Kyaw said at a press conference at Yangon Regional Government Office on June 5.

Although motorcycles are banned in Yangon Region, a lot of them can be seen running on the streets. Areas where motorcycles can be allowed should be determined and licenses should be issued, said some MPs during the hluttaw meetings.

Since neither the majority of motorcycles that are running on the streets of Yangon nor the riders have licenses, this creates a particular difficulty to control crimes when



Motorcycle riders are seen in a township in Yangon Region. (Photo:Kyaw Zin Than)

they occur, said an MP. "It's impossible to completely ban the use of motorcycles today. If we regulate it according to townships, it's manageable. We heard that the government has such plans, and we welcome them," said MP U Yan Aung Min of Shwe

Pyi Thar Township, who in 2017 put forward the motion.

Some locals also express that as they rely on motorcycles in satellite towns, permission should be given with proper regulations."

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

MP from Lay Myet Hnar Questions the Management of Mining

June 9, 2019

MP U Soe Khaing of Lay Myet Hnar Township has said in the hluttaw that mining was being carried out illegally; low quality sand and stones were being used in construction projects and that they had to be bought at a price higher than the local rate, greatly affecting the quality of construction work and the timely completion.

U Soe Khaing also mentioned illegal quarrying at mountain walls. "In order to scrutinize the permits, with the supervision of district administrators, scrutinizing teams are led by township administrators, and arrest teams are formed to regulate the matter," replied Colonel Kyaw Swar Hlaing, Minister of Ayeyawaddy Region Security and Border Affairs.

Reference: *Mizzima*

Municipal Election Postponed Indefinitely Due to Lack of Budget

June 6, 2019

The minister of Mon State Construction and Municipality has said that although it has been two years since Mon State Municipal Law was approved, municipal elections cannot be held yet since there is no fund and that the election would be held during the term of the administration of the current government. The municipal election is put on hold indefinitely for the time being. Although there is no committee, with the help of MPs, municipal works would be carried without much difficulty, he said.

Since chapter four of the municipal law prescribes that municipal committees must be formed, the deferral of the formation of the committee by the government is questionable, said Mon State Speaker Daw Tin Ei.

“Since the adoption of the municipal law, the government should have kept in mind they should prepare a budget for the municipal election,” she added.

Mon State municipal law was revised and approved in June 2017, and in December of the same year the municipal electoral procedure was approved.

“If the formation of the committees is immaterialized, things will go back to centralization. Centralization would give power to ministers and the government, I believe,” opined Deputy Speaker Dr Aung Naing Oo.



The approved municipal law states that the term of the committee is equal to that of the government, and the current government has only 22 months left in office. Although it was said that election would be held during the term of this government, it was said that the budget for election was not

included in 2019-2020 and that it would be proposed for the fiscal year 2020-2021. That means the election would coincide with the general election and could give rise to difficulties, some observers said.

Reference: Thanlwin Times

Ayeyawaddy Region Development Council Draft Law Proposed at Hluttaw

May 8, 2019

Minister of Municipality U Kyaw Myint told Mizzima that a proposal to form the regional development council was included in a bill that was submitted to the hluttaw.

“Previously, there were only township municipality and the Ministry of Regional Development. There is a need for regional development council. In the new bill, the proposal to form the regional development council is included to lead the

development work of the region,” he said.

A member of the municipality of Pathein Township, U Thet Naing Zaw said that he welcomed such a move and that people with capacity to lead should be elected to positions, and if that happened, the management of development works would be better.

Ayeyawaddy Region Development Council draft bill was proposed at the 17th regular session by the regional minister of municipality,

and the Draft Bill Committee is reviewing it.

“The bill entrusts more authority in the council to enforce rules and regulations, and clauses of heavier fines for breaking laws are included,” said the minister.

Currently, there are 26 township municipal committees and 7 city municipal committees in Ayeyawaddy Region. Municipal committee members were elected to positions at the end of 2016.

Reference: Mizzima



Mon State Government's press conference (MNA)

Construction of 1 Billion Kyats Worth Road Decided by the Government: Mon State Chief Minister Clarified

June 6, 2019

Mon State Chief Minister Dr Aye Zan has admitted that he had mistakenly said that Aung Tabyay-Hnit Kayin Road in Ye was constructed with the verbal direction of the State Counselor. The chief minister said during a press conference that it was carried out with the decision of the state government. The construction of the road cost 1 billion kyats and the construction contract was given to a company without any proper tendering process.

"A ministry proposed the project to the state government, saying it has limited time and the construction needs to be completed soon. For instance, the department for rural road submits the proposal. We, the state government, decided that the department would manage the project," said the chief minister, at a press conference on Mon State

Government's undertakings.

"In implementing national projects, union-level ministries must seek approval from the President's Office and Union Government, and the state and regional-level ministries must obtain approval from the state and regional government," Dr Aye Zan read the governmental procedures during the press conference.

However, according to the directives 1/2017 released by the President's Office on 10 April 2017 regarding the tender procedures on the organization of government ministries, procurement of goods and services, rent and sale, there was no mention of the requirement for calling for tender for projects with a cost of more than ten million kyats.

"This has been a common practice. Since I was in the ministry of electricity, I witnessed such matters decided in the cabinet. There was an agenda to give a contract worth 1 billion to U

Sein Wun and SMD without tendering processes. I said this was against the law. U Aung Kyaw Thu (Public Fund Scrutiny, Finance and Economic Review Committee) also asked why state fund was used for business enterprises of certain companies and development work such as building roads. Giving the contract to SMD was not right, he said. And I think the chief minister didn't like that. He [the chief minister] said he took full responsibility; that he would deal with the hluttaw. He said such things and decided himself," said U Min Htin Aung Han (Mawlamyine - 1).

Regional and state governments and ministries are very weak in following through their pledges to the hluttaw, and they are not following proper procedures, said MP Daw Aye Mya Mya Myo on the 14th day during the 12th regular session of the second Pyithu Hluttaw.

Reference: Mon News Agency