



State and Region Parliaments

News Bulletin

Magway Region New Land Tax Draft Law to Increase Tax



July 4, 2019

The new land tax draft law which is being redrafted for approval at Magway Hluttaw includes clauses to increase land tax, said Chairman of Magway Region Legislative Committee and Deputy Speaker U Zaw Myo Win, adding that the previous tax rate for an acre of farmland which ranges from 25 pyar (cent) at minimum to 50 kyats at maximum is not compactable with current socio- economic conditions and that the new law plans to raise the rate to minimum 50 kyats to a maximum of 1,000 kyats per acre.

Paying tax will consolidate ownership of farmland and the revenue from tax will help improve agricultural sector, said U Thet Khaing, a member of the committee.

It's reported that the Union Government has sent out instructions to all states and regions to raise land tax.

The new draft law was formulated after conducting workshops with the Legislative Committee, parliamentarians, officials from government department, farmer representatives and civil society organizations.

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

Photo : www.magwayparliament.gov.mm

Ministry of Immigration and Human Resources Set Up, Ministers Appointed in Most States and Regions

July 8, 2019

Following the president's order, Ministries of Immigration and Human Resources have been set up in most states and regions and ministers have been appointed by respective hluttaws.

U Phwe Ah, an MP for Kanpetlet constituency (2), was appointed minister for Chin State; U Moe Kyaw Thu, MP for Shwebo (1), for Sagaing Region; U Myint Aung, MP for Kanma (2), for Magway Region; Daw Moe Moe Suu Kyi, MP for Mayangone (2), for Yangon Region; U Kyaw Min (aka) U Phoe Min, MP for Pulaw (1), for Tanintharyi Region,

were appointed by respective state and regional hluttaws.

All the newly appointed ministers are either chairmen or secretaries of committees in their respective states and regions.

In other states and regions that have not formed the new ministry, schedules are made for the hluttaw sessions. Mandalay Region and Mon State Hluttaw have confirmed for the ministry establishment. However, in Shan State Hluttaw, the decision to set up the ministry has been objected by a vote of 32 for, 87 against, one abstention and one absence.

Reference: *collected from various sources*

Conflicts Could Be Worse than Letpandaung if Mining Projects Continue in Wah Seing Taung



July 6, 2019

If minerals are explored and mined in Wah Sein Taung area, conflicts could break out and they could be worse than the Letpandaung case, Daw Aung Mary, MP for Yinmabin, told Mizzima.

Locals and some lawmakers have protested against the project of Yansi Company from People's Republic of China since December 2018.

“Officials from the government know that people don't accept the project. Yet knowingly, they [government officials] are collaborating with the company in forcing the people to accept the project. If they continue pushing on with the project, people could rise up, and conflicts could flare up, and they could be more serious than Letpadaung conflict,”

Daw Aung Mary said.

The mineral exploration is located in Yinmabin township and covers 100,000 acres where there are 120 villages, 86 schools and 139 monasteries including industry land, religious land and forest conservation. Over 80,000 people live in the area, according to lawmakers.

“For a fallen tree, something which is worth the value of the tree could be compensated. But no compensation equivalent in value of a mountain could replace a demolished mountain. Instead of pulling down the mountain, come and slaughter one villager a day. I'll give my life for it first. I'm sure they have sold the land to the company, and if they insist on mining, then we'll have to respond to it in one way or another,” said U Thein Kyaw

who lives in the project area.

Most people in the area are farmers, and they are worried that their water resource and farmlands would be destroyed by the project.

Mizzima attempted to contact the government spokesperson, the minister of municipality, but as the minister was in a meeting, he was unable to respond.

Sagaing Region Government has been withholding remarks regarding the application to explore copper and associated minerals in Sagaing Region.

On July 3, ministers of Sagaing Region Government held a meeting with locals on Wah Sein Taung project, but the meeting broke up as objections mounted.

Reference: <http://www.mizzimaburmese.com>

Photo : www.sagaingregionhluttaw.gov.mm



Government Implemented 52% of 2,000 Questions

July 2, 2019

The regional government implemented 52 percent of over 1,900 questions raised at Sagaing Hluttaw over three years, said Speaker of Sagaing Hluttaw U Thant.

Over 1,400 starred questions and over 500 unstarred questions were put forward to the regional government, U Thant said at a public meeting of regional government and the people at Sagaing City on June 28.

“Lawmakers raised questions about their local affairs. The regional government tried to do their best. We can

say that the performance of the government and the hluttaw is quite satisfactory,” U Thant continued.

77 motions were put forward, 22 of which were approved while 2 were rejected and 3 recorded. In three years, 6 laws have been passed, and the draft committee is working on 11 laws for the hluttaw’s approval, he added.

A public meeting of Sagaing District was held at Sagaing City Hall, and 5 representatives from each of Sagaing, Myinmu and Myaung townships were able to ask questions to the regional government.

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

Complaints Could Be Sent to Speaker if Roads and Bridges Are Deemed Substandard

June 25, 2019

If the roads and bridges that are being constructed are deemed substandard, complaints could be sent with photos through viber, said the Speaker of Tanintharyi Region U Khin Maung Aye. If complaints reach him, the concerned department is notified and the issue is tackled in collaboration. This aims to minimize

wastage of state funds, he added.

Viber phone number was given out in the late 2018 in his constituency, and people from other constituencies can also lodge their complaints. If people from other constituencies send in their complaints, they would be referred to respective MPs, stated U Khin Maung Aye.

“It’s a way of monitoring whether the budget approved by the hluttaw

was spent in a way that should be and to discourage abuse,” he said.

Besides roads and bridges, abuses of authority by ward and village administrators can be reported, and if reported, they would be dealt with in collaboration with General Administration Department. Complaints can be sent to a viber number at 09962487271.

Reference: *Tanintharyi Weekly*