

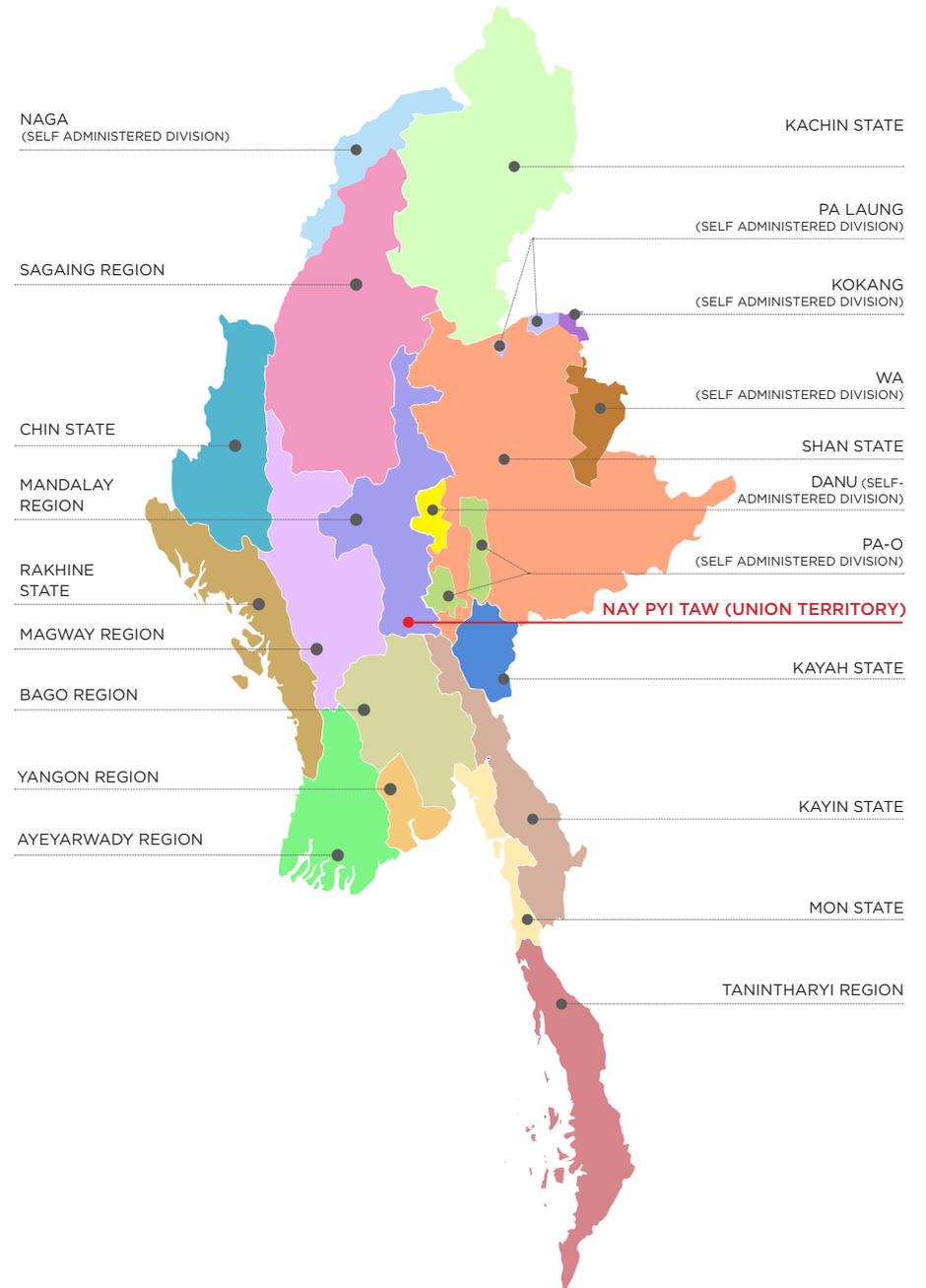


The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Hluttaw BROCHURE



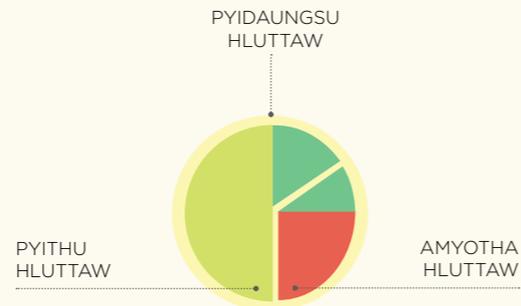
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar





The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

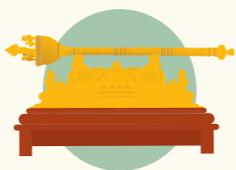
Hluttaw BROCHURE



1. The Composition of the Hluttaw

2. Electoral System

3. Hluttaw Representatives



4. Functions of the Hluttaw



5. Functions of the Hluttaw Sessions



6. Hluttaw Committees



7. Hluttaw Visits



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Foreword

The Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) on Hluttaw Development is very pleased to publish the first edition of the illustrated brochure of the Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Playing a role of fundamental importance for Myanmar's democratization process, the Hluttaw is still young. It is now in the second year of its second term following the first five-year-term. The publication of the brochure is timely as it is essential for the people to familiarize with the Hluttaw which is formed of their representatives.

This brochure will help the public who visit the Hluttaw to understand its functions. It can provide information both to the public and to the students yet to visit the Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw will be stronger and more effective if the people are actively engaged in its functions of Legislation, Oversight and Representation. Only when the people strongly trust the Hluttaw, can they fully enjoy the benefit of democracy.

The technical support by German Bundestag, Bundesrat and the Hanns Seidel Foundation, and the financial support by the Foreign Ministry of Germany (Auswärtiges Amt) in making this brochure possible are greatly appreciated and acknowledged.



U T Khun Myat

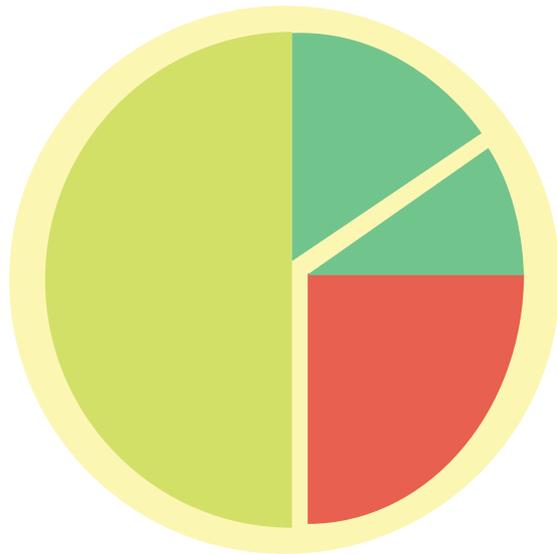
Chairman

*Joint Coordination Committee
on Hluttaw Development*

1. The Composition of the Hluttaw (Parliament)

1.1 The Term of the Hluttaw

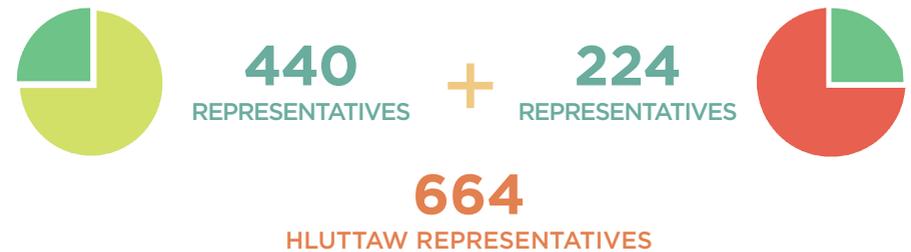
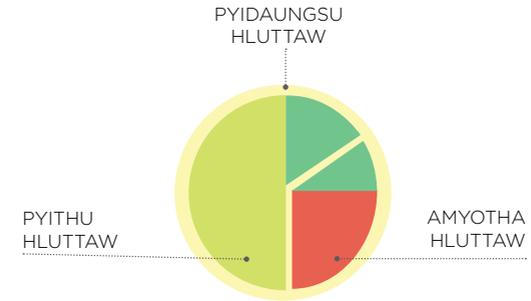
One term of a Hluttaw is five years from the day of the first session of Pyithu Hluttaw (House of Representatives).



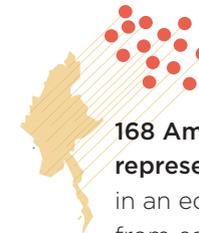
- PYIDAUNGSU HLUTTAW (UNION PARLIAMENT)
- PYITHU HLUTTAW (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)
- AMYOTHA HLUTTAW (HOUSE OF NATIONALITIES)
- DEFENCE PERSONNEL IN HLUTTAW

5
YEARS

1.2 Composition of the Hluttaw



Not more than **330 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives** are elected on the basis of township/ population

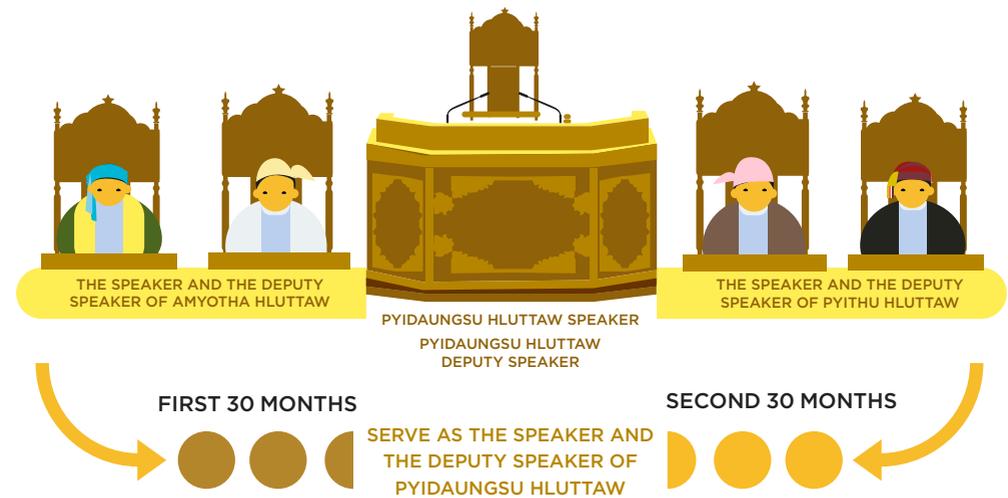


168 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives are elected in an equal number of 12 from each of the 14 States and Regions

110 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives are the Defence Services personnel nominated by the Commander-in-Chief in accordance with the law

56 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives are the Defence Services personnel nominated by the Commander-in-Chief in accordance with the law

1.3 Head of Hluttaw



The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw will serve as the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in the first thirty months of the parliament term.

For the remaining thirty months of the term of the parliament, the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw become the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

<p>NAME U Win Myint</p> <p>CONSTITUENCY Tamwe</p> <p>POLITICAL PARTY National League for Democracy • Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw</p>	
---	--

<p>NAME Mahn Winn Khaing Thann</p> <p>CONSTITUENCY Constituency Number (8), Kayin State</p> <p>POLITICAL PARTY National League for Democracy • Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw</p>	
--	--

<p>NAME U T Khun Myat</p> <p>CONSTITUENCY Kut Khai</p> <p>POLITICAL PARTY Independent • Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw</p>	
---	--

<p>NAME U Aye Tha Aung</p> <p>CONSTITUENCY Constituency Number (6), Rakhine State</p> <p>POLITICAL PARTY Arakan National Party • Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw</p>	
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Elections



EVERY 5 YEARS

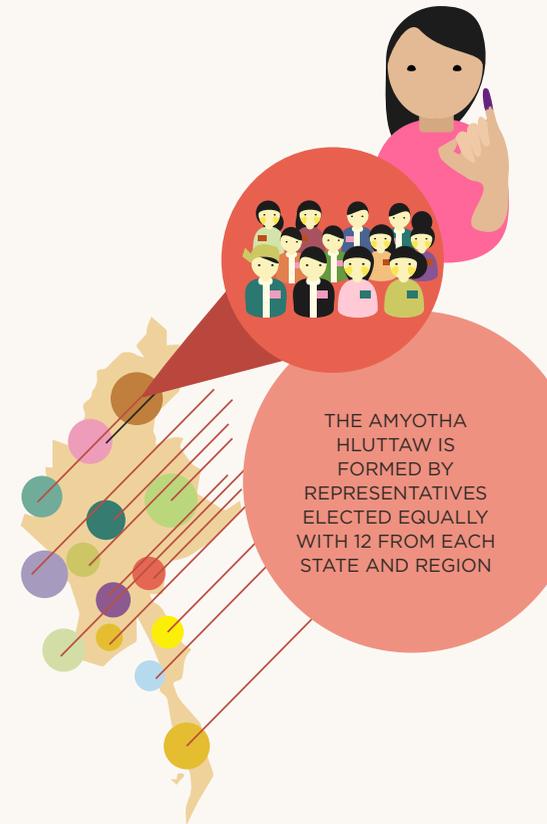


2. Electoral System

The system for electing representatives to the Hluttaw in Myanmar is the First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) system. Members of the Hluttaw represent a different size of population as the States and Regions differ in area and population.

Not more than 330 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, one each from the 330 townships, are elected on the basis of townships or population. For the Amyotha Hluttaw, representatives are elected in an equal number of 12 each from the 14 States and Regions.

The elections for both the Union level Hluttaws and the State and Region Hluttaws are held simultaneously every five years.



THE AMYOTHA HLUTTAW IS FORMED BY REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED EQUALLY WITH 12 FROM EACH STATE AND REGION

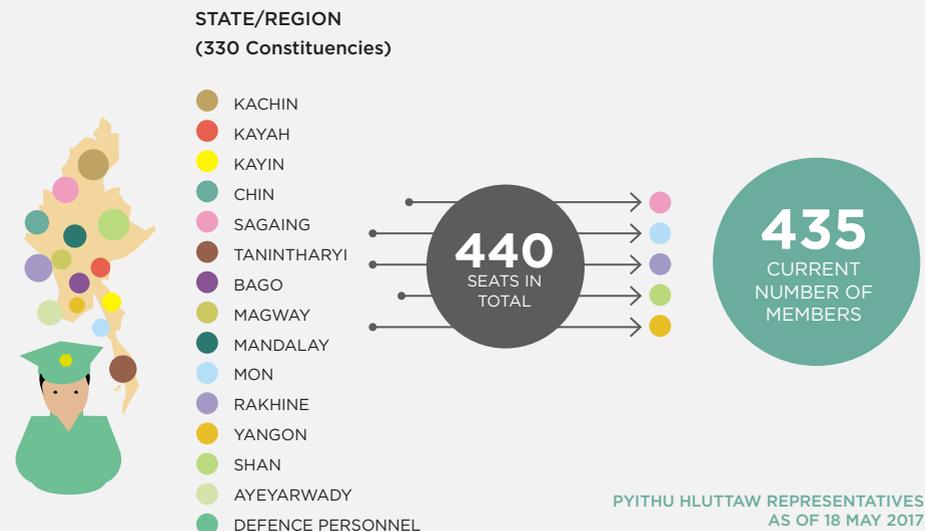


The Pyithu Hluttaw is formed of representatives one of whom is elected from each constituency.

3. Hluttaw Representatives

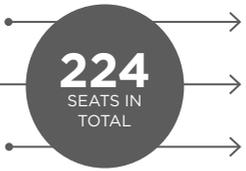
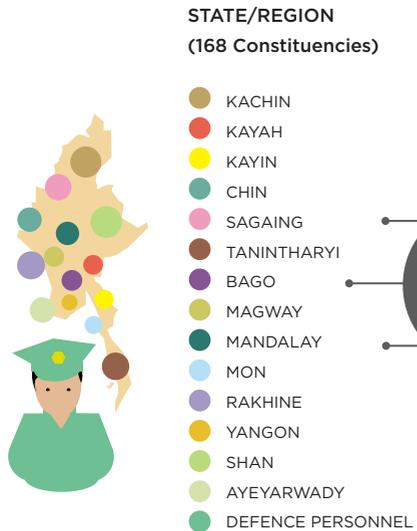


3.1 Composition of the Hluttaw Representatives



National League for Democracy	255
Union Solidarity and Development Party	30
Shan National League for Democracy	14
Arakan National Party	13
Pa-O National Organization	3
Ta'ang National Party	3
Lisu National Development Party	2
Zomi Congress for Democracy	2
Kachin State Democracy Party	1
Kokant Democracy and Unity Party	1
Wa Democratic Party	1
Independent	1
Defence Service Personnel	110
Total	435





AMYOTHA HLUTTAW REPRESENTATIVES AS OF 18 MAY 2017

National League for Democracy	135
Union Solidarity and Development Party	11
Arakan National Party	10
Shan National League for Democracy	3
Ta'ang National Party	2
Zomi Congress for Democracy	2
Mon National Party	1
National Unity Party	1
Pa-O National Organization	1
Independent	2
Defence Service Personnel	56
Total	224

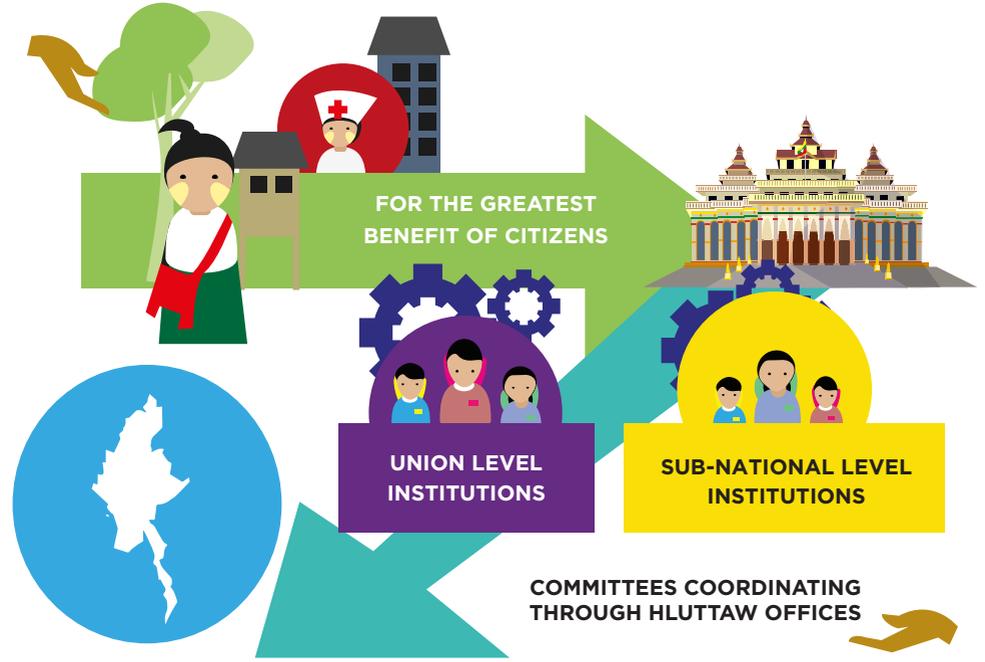


PARTY COMPOSITION OF AMYOTHA HLUTTAW REPRESENTATIVES

The above figures are subject to change after any by-election is held.

3.2 Functions of Representatives in Hluttaw

- Submitting, scrutinising, discussing and approving bills in accordance with the Constitution;
- Putting forward motions and raising questions;
- Coordination with the relevant organs of State and authorities for the development of the State and Constituencies (which does not conflict with the Constitution);
- Relevant Hluttaw committees coordinate with Union level institutions and State/Regional level institutions through Hluttaw offices for the greatest benefit of citizens;
- Inviting constituents to the Hluttaw to observe its functions.

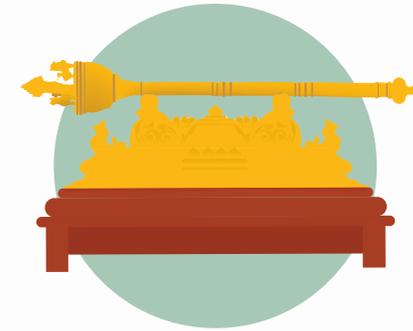


3.3 Representing the Constituents

"Informing and presenting to constituents about the members' actions in the Hluttaw."



SUBMITTING MOTIONS OR RAISING QUESTIONS TO THE HLUTTAW TO REFLECT THE VOICE OF CONSTITUENTS AND THE NEEDS OF CONSTITUENCIES



Functions of the Hluttaw

3.4 A Typical Day of a Representative

- Representing constituents for their greatest benefit;
- Participating in Hluttaw Sessions;
- Implementing committee work after the Hluttaw Session;
- Attending trainings and workshops;
- Engaging in discussions on current affairs with experts from Government, Ministries and Civil Societies.



ATTENDING TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

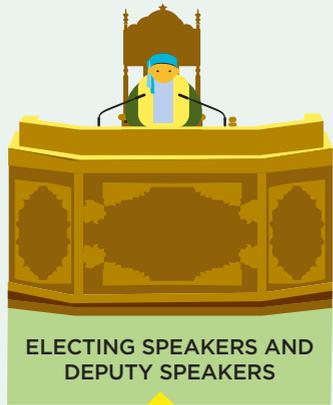
ENGAGING IN DISCUSSIONS AND DEBATES ON CURRENT AFFAIRS WITH EXPERTS FROM GOVERNMENT, MINISTRIES AND CIVIL SOCIETIES



4. Functions of the Hluttaw

Functions of the respective Hluttaws include:

- Electing Speakers and Deputy Speakers;
- Electing President and Vice-Presidents;
- Representing people;
- Law making;
- Checking and balancing the executive and judiciary.



LIST OF CANDIDATES SUBMITTED, VOTED IN SECRET BALLOTS IN CASE OF MORE THAN ONE CANDIDATE IN EACH CANDIDACY.

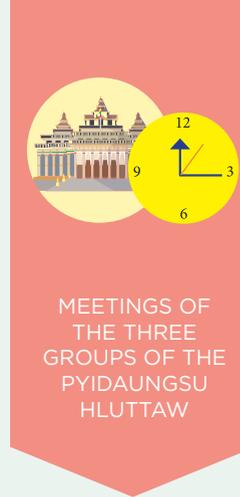


LIST IS COMPOSED OF INDIVIDUALS WITH PRIOR AGREEMENT TO SERVE IF ELECTED.

THE SAME PROCESS IS FOLLOWED IN THE ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKERS.

4.1 Electing the Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Hluttaw; Electing the President and Vice-Presidents

Firstly, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw select one chairperson each. The list of candidates is submitted to the Chairperson. Each of them have to agree to serve if elected. If there are more candidates than one, the Speaker position is decided by secret ballot.



A PROPOSAL IS SUBMITTED WITH THE NAMES OF THE THREE POTENTIAL CANDIDATES



OUT OF THE THREE NOMINATIONS, THE ONE WITH THE MOST VOTES IS ELECTED AS PRESIDENT AND THE OTHER TWO BECOME VICE-PRESIDENTS.



A SCRUTINY BODY IS FORMED



Each of the three groups of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives, (Pyithu, Amyotha, and Defence personnel representative groups) submits a proposal with the name of one Vice-President candidate. The qualifications of the candidates, prescribed by law for the President, are examined by a scrutiny body made

up of the Speakers and the Deputy Speakers of Hluttaws. The Presidential Electoral College, composed of all Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representatives, votes on the three candidates. The candidate with the most votes is elected as President. The other two become Vice-Presidents.

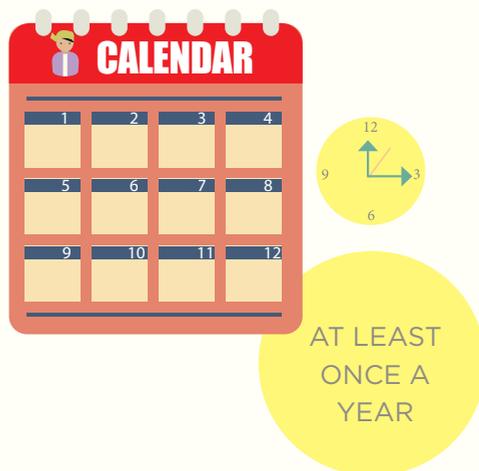
4.2 Representing the People

Hluttaw is an entity that most effectively represents the people. Hluttaw is striving to abide by its motto:

“People’s Voice, Hluttaw’s Voice, People’s Will, Hluttaw’s Will, People’s Expectation, Hluttaw’s Implementation.”

4.3 Law Making

Bills submitted by the President, Union level institutions, Hluttaw committees, the Union Government and the Hluttaw Representatives are discussed, scrutinized and approved. The laws that are no longer relevant to the current situation are also reviewed, amended, repealed or replaced through the discussions in the Hluttaw. The Hluttaw discusses and enacts laws to ensure the safety and development of the people.



4.4 Checking and Balancing the Executive and Judiciary

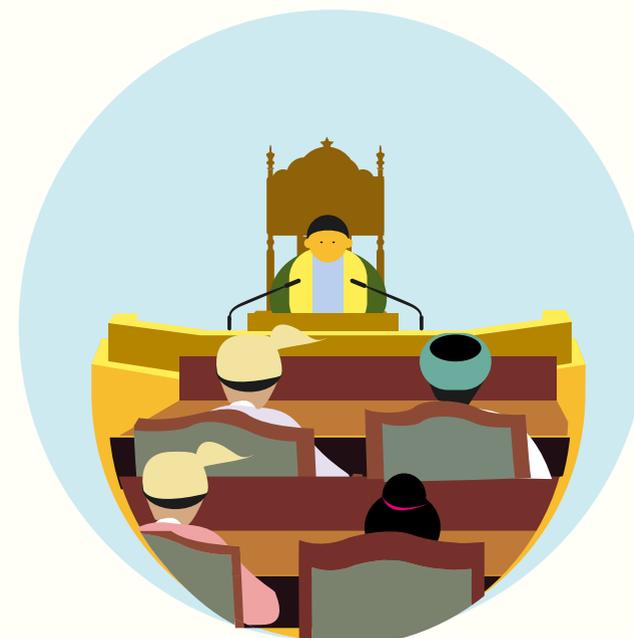
Hluttaw representatives check and balance the executive and judiciary by raising questions, putting motions forward and by submitting reports of the committees. The needs and information requests of the people can be submitted to the Union Government and the Supreme Court of the Union through the Hluttaw offices.

Moreover, the Hluttaw also oversees the activities of the Union ministries in accordance with rules.

4.5 Organising Hluttaw Sessions

The regular session of the Hluttaw is to be held at least once a year. The longest period between two consecutive regular sessions should not exceed 12 months. The first day of the Hluttaw session is official if more than half of the eligible representatives attend. The date of the Hluttaw session may be postponed if the attendance is lower. If one-third of the eligible representatives attend, the adjourned session is official.

The Hluttaw session is held from 10am to 4pm on working days. The Hluttaw may also permit an extension of time limit if necessary.



Functions of the Hluttaw Sessions



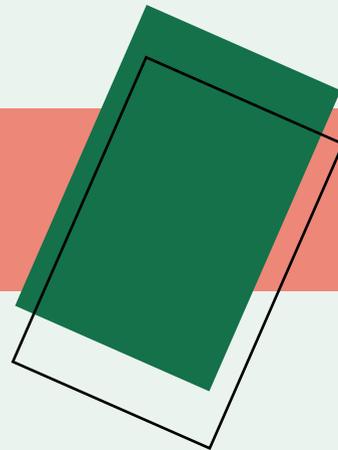
5. Functions of the Hluttaw Sessions

5.1 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Sessions

The following issues shall be discussed exclusively in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

1. THE UNION BUDGET BILL
2. THE NATIONAL PLANNING BILL
3. THE UNION TAXATION BILL

Sessions in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw are also held to resolve disagreements on bills between the Pyithu and the Amyotha Hluttaws and to approve bills.



The following functions are carried out at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sessions:

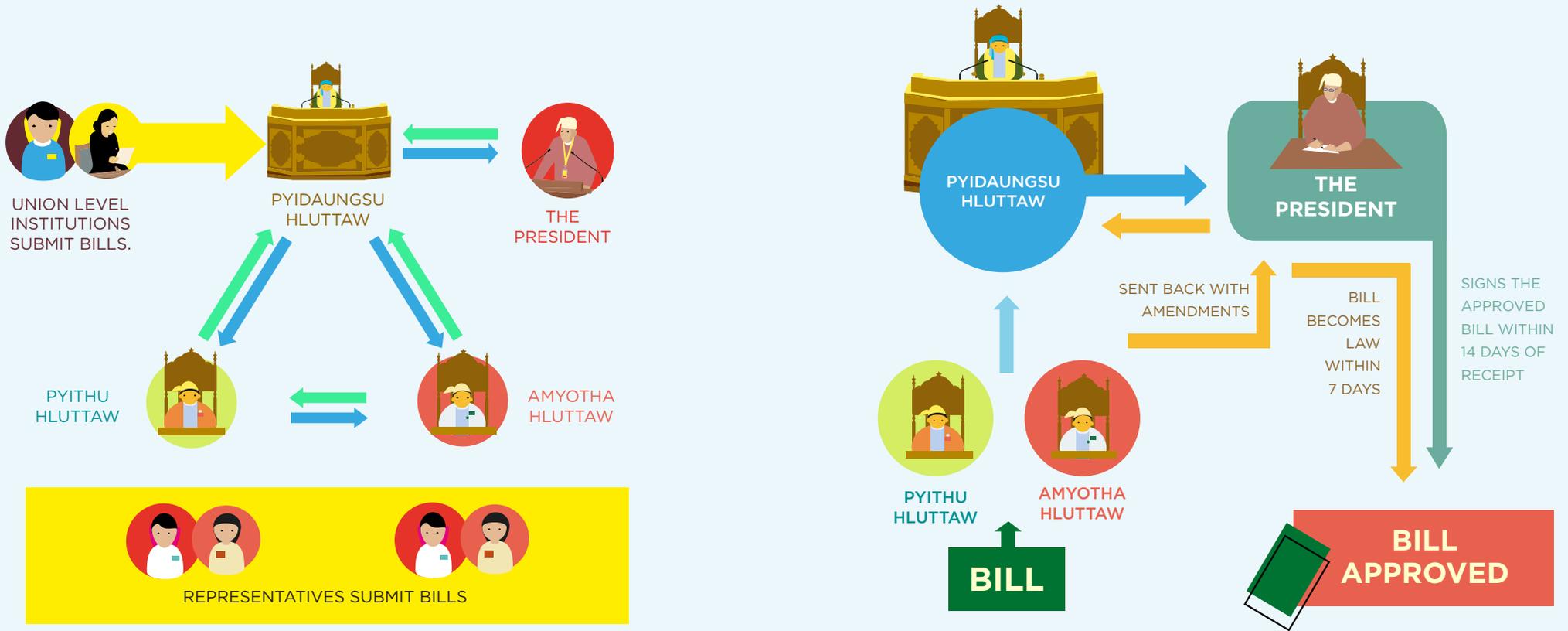
- (a) Recording the address delivered by the President;
- (b) Reading and recording the message sent by the President and other messages permitted by the Speaker;
- (c) Submitting, discussing and approving a Bill;
- (d) Discussing and resolving on the remarks of the President concerning a Bill approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw;
- (e) Discussing and resolving on matters to be undertaken by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in accord with the provisions of the Constitution;
- (f) Discussing, resolving and recording the reports submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw;
- (g) Submitting, discussing and resolving proposals;
- (h) Raising questions and replying;
- (i) Undertaking matters approved by the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

5.2 Pyithu Hluttaw Sessions and Amyotha Hluttaw Sessions

The following functions are carried out at the Pyithu and Amyotha Hluttaw sessions:

- (a) Recording the address delivered by the President;
- (b) Reading and recording the message sent by the President and other messages permitted by the Speaker;
- (c) Submitting, discussing and resolving on a Bill;
- (d) Discussing and resolving on the matters to be undertaken by the respective Hluttaws in accord with the provisions of the Constitution;
- (e) Discussing, resolving and recording the reports submitted to the respective Hluttaws;
- (f) Submitting proposals, discussing and resolving;
- (g) Raising questions and replying;
- (h) Performing matters approved by the Speaker of the respective Hluttaw.

5.3 The Legislative Process



A bill, submitted in accordance with law, will be first introduced to either the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw. After approval or amendment by that Hluttaw it will be sent to the other Hluttaw and will undergo the same process. If there is no

disagreement on the bill between the two Hluttaws, it shall be regarded approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. In case of disagreement between the two houses, the bill will be submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for consideration and approval.

The approved bill can be signed by the President within 14 days of receipt from the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The President can also send the bill back to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with amendments for suggested changes. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw may agree to

amend the bill accordingly or may not agree to amend. In both cases, the bill will be sent back to the President. It will become law within seven days with or without the President's signature.

5.4. Questions and Proposals



Submitting Proposals

Hluttaw representatives may submit proposals for the interest of the State and its citizens; on matters relating to governmental institutions or on other matters permitted by Speaker. The aim of submitting proposals is to urge the responsible departments to undertake actions appropriately for the benefit of the people.



Types of Questions

There are two types of questions used by the Hluttaw Representatives to ask the Ministries about information of public interest, the status of work done for constituents and the effectiveness of the projects of the relevant departments.

- Starred questions (The ministry has to respond verbally in person.)
- Unstarred questions (The ministry may respond in writing.)



Raising Questions

The representatives may, via the Hluttaw, raise questions to the Union Government on matters related to the actions of the government and matters addressing the needs of constituents.

5.5 Scrutiny and Approval of the Union Budget

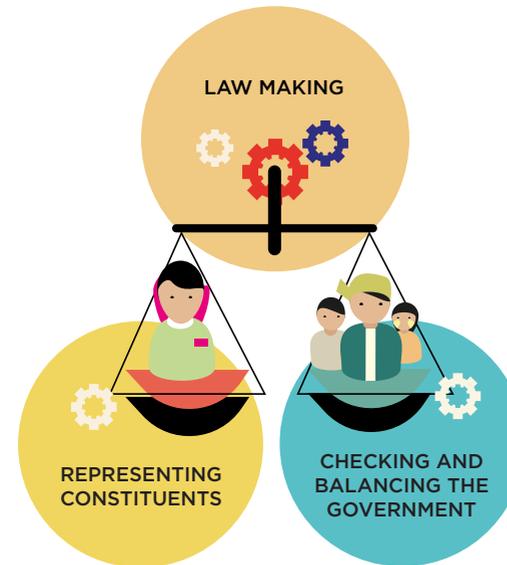
The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw scrutinizes the Union Budget submitted by the Union Government by approving, rejecting or reducing the proposed budget with the consent of the majority of the Hluttaw representatives.



Approving

Rejecting

Reducing



5.6 Public Participation

The Hluttaws are actively engaged in activities to increase public participation. These activities include forming committees to receive public complaints about grievances or losses, organising workshops to elicit suggestions from civil society and collecting feedback from the public on bills, etc.

6. Hluttaw Committees

6.1 The Role of Hluttaw Committees



THE WORK OF THE PLENARY IS

CARRIED OUT BY THE COMMITTEES IN GREATER DETAIL. THE COMMITTEES ARE THUS REFERRED TO AS "SMALL PARLIAMENTS" WITHIN THE PARLIAMENT.

The Hluttaw plenary sessions will never have enough time to discuss thoroughly on the impacts of laws on the lives of the people. Committees are thus formed to closely study the laws for recommendations, to analyze impacts on people and on different issues, and to spare time for discussions with public, experts, civil societies, and academia. The functions of the plenary are carried out in such detail by committees. For that reason, the committees are called 'small parliaments' within the parliament.

Committees from respective Hluttaws are now striving to ensure oversight on the work of the ministries, to check and balance and to protect the rights of the citizens.

The reports of the committees with analytical information on respective issues are submitted to the Hluttaw for discussions.



6.2 Forming Committees

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

There are three joint committees in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw: the Joint Bill Committee; the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Representative Scrutiny Committee; and the Public Accounts Joint Committee. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw shall also form other joint committees necessary to scrutinise and provide recommendations on legislation, governance, ethnic nationality issues, economics, finances, social issues, foreign affairs and other matters, with Hluttaw representatives for a specified duration. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw may form commissions and other bodies with the Hluttaw representatives or by including suitable citizens for a specified duration as well to study remaining matters other than those studied by committees.

Currently the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has formed the Commission for the Assessment of Legal Affairs and Special Issues.

Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw both have standing committees (as per the list on the next page) and shall form ad-hoc committees to examine matters relating to legislation, governance, ethnic nationality issues, economics, finances, social issues, foreign affairs and others for a limited time.

JOINT BILL COMMITTEE,

HLUTTAW REPRESENTATIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE,

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS JOINT COMMITTEE

OTHER JOINT COMMITTEES SHALL BE FORMED WITH HLUTTAW REPRESENTATIVES.



COMMISSIONS AND OTHER BODIES MAY BE FORMED WITH HLUTTAW REPRESENTATIVES OR BY INCLUDING SUITABLE CITIZENS FOR A LIMITED TIME TO STUDY OTHER MATTERS.



PYITHU HLUTTAW

4 STANDING COMMITTEES

- Bill Committee
- Public Accounts Committee
- Hluttaw Rights Committee
- Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee

15 AD-HOC COMMITTEES

1. Justice and Legal Affairs Committee
2. Citizen's Fundamental Rights Committee
3. Public Management Committee
4. Peasantry and Labour Committee
5. International Relations Committee
6. Ethnic Affairs and Internal Peace Making Committee
7. Banks and Monetary Affairs Development Committee
8. Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Rural Development Committee
9. Education Promotion Committee
10. Health and Sports Promotion Committee
11. Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Committee
12. Transport, Communication and Construction Committee
13. Investment and Industrial Development Committee
14. Electricity and Energy Development Committee
15. Economic and Financial Development Committee

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW

4 STANDING COMMITTEES

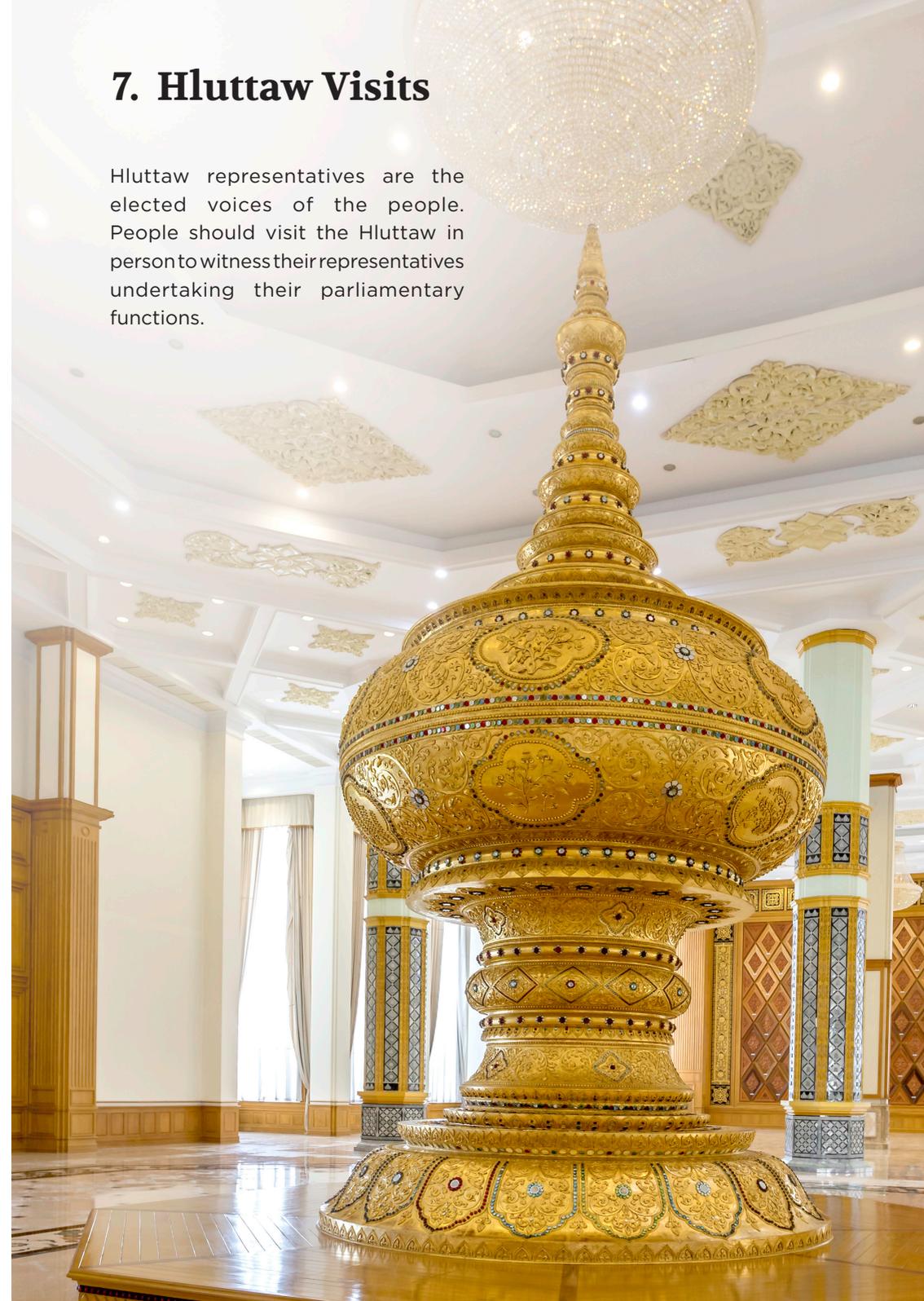
- Bill Committee
- Public Accounts Committee
- Hluttaw Rights Committee
- Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee

12 AD-HOC COMMITTEES

1. International Relations and Interparliamentary Cooperation and Relations Committee
2. Local and International Non-Governmental Organizations Committee
3. Health, Sport, and Culture Committee
4. Ethnic Affairs Committee
5. Peasant Affairs Committee
6. Women and Children Affairs Committee
7. Education Promotion Committee
8. Local and Overseas Labour Affairs Committee
9. Citizens' Fundamental Rights, the Democracy and Human Rights Committee
10. Mineral, Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation Committee
11. Public Complaints Committee
12. Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Rural Development Committee

7. Hluttaw Visits

Hluttaw representatives are the elected voices of the people. People should visit the Hluttaw in person to witness their representatives undertaking their parliamentary functions.



7.1 Requirements for Hluttaw Visits

- A. Members of the public wishing to visit must send a letter addressed to the Director Generals of the respective Hluttaws (Pyidaungsu, Pyithu or Amyotha) at least three days in advance.
- B. The letter should contain following information and shall be sent via postal mail, e-mail or fax.
1. Date and time of visit
 2. List of visitor names and their respective National Registration Card numbers
 3. Passport numbers for foreign visitors
 4. Contact phone number
 5. Vehicle license plate number, name and N.R.C number of the driver - Relevant Hluttaw Representative may be contacted for assistance should there be any difficulty.
- C. Hluttaw visitors must always observe the rules of the Hluttaw.



7.2 Services Offered by Respective Hluttaws

Depending on request and available time, the following services can be arranged by Hluttaw staff;

1. Observing Hluttaw session;
2. Visiting Hluttaw libraries and Archive;
3. Visiting Hluttaw buildings;
4. Meeting with Hluttaw representatives;
5. Observation of Hluttaw's landmarks.

7.3 Contact

PYIDAUNGSU HLUTTAW OFFICE

Fax, Phone: 067 591414, 067 591309
Website: www.pyidaungsu.hluttaw.mm
Email: visitorservices.pds@gmail.com

PYITHU HLUTTAW OFFICE

Fax, Phone: 067 591283
Website: www.pyithuhluttaw.gov.mm
Email: observerpyithu.dpm@gmail.com

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW OFFICE

Fax: 067 591241
Phone: 067 591240
Website: www.amyotha.hluttaw.mm
Email: amyothahluttaw@gmail.com



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