

The Work of the House of Representatives of Thailand when it is not in Session

Making laws is the principal obligation of Members of the House of Representatives. It is one of many significant roles they represent people in the House like scrutinizing of administration of the State affairs as well as giving an approval on matters specified in the Constitution. Same as other parliaments, Thai MPs would also have a great deal of duties outside the House when the session is closed.

When the House is not in session, an MP has his/her own duty to follow up the budgetary allocation distributed among ministries whether it has been correctly allocated as it is passed by the House after the deliberation of budget bill. During this time before the House opens, the MPs can thoroughly inquire into such allocation including the budget allotment for the development in each constituency.

Additionally, they can fully use this occasion to meet their constituencies and collect problems occurred in the area at once. Those problems would be brought into the House, i.e. in the form of questions to ministers, to get corrective and remedial actions from the government or related authorities and ministries. Over and above that, they might create some programs or seminars to promote democracy in the community to increase people's participation in political activities as well as build their understanding toward the regime. Not only they will pile up the problems their people have encountered, but MPs will be able to know their constituents' political views which, in some cases, reflect the works of the House or even the working of politicians. However, all above-mentioned activities could be another tool for MPs to look for ways in making people have a better understanding in politics, democracy and what their MPs are doing as well as furnishing them with a good quality of life at some point in the future.

/The role...

The role of MPs in international arena is of the utmost important not less than domestic roles. Throughout the time of closed session, they will have an opportunity to enhance bilaterally parliamentary relationship with other parliaments through an official visit and study visit. This can be done by way of the visit of parliamentary friendship groups or the visit of the parliamentary committees. In terms of the courtesy call, the Speaker or the Deputy Speakers of the House are capable of receiving more courtesy calls from ambassadors or other group of people and organizations.

For the participation in multilateral arena, MPs will be able to fully attend the parliamentary conferences held in other countries without worrying about the assembly sitting as in session time. We all well recognize that the appearance of a parliament or country in any meeting, mainly the meetings that our parliament is a member, will well confirm confidence in achieving the meetings' objectives. Being present at the regular gatherings will not only continue commitments to attaining common goals in the region, but also will remain the interest of the country present.

For the meetings of the House Committees, nonetheless, it can be held even if the House is not in session.
