

ELECTION MONITOR NO. 41

CANDIDATES CONTESTING WITHIN THE UNION TERRITORY

The list of candidates from parties planning to contest the polls within the Union Territory has been approved by the Nay Pyi Taw District Election Sub-commission on 13 September. Under Article 50 (a) and (b) of the Constitution, Nay Pyi Taw will be recognised as the nation's capital as well as being the seat of government. The townships of Pyinmana, Lewe, Tatkon, Zeyathiri, Pobbathiri, Ottarathiri, Zabuthiri, Dekkhinathiri will be included in the Union Territory. The following is the list of candidates who have registered with the district election sub-commission to run in the elections within the said territory.¹

PYINMANA TOWNSHIP

U Nyan Shwe	-	National Unity Party (NUP)
U Hla Myint Oo	-	Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)
U Thein Lwin	-	National Political Alliances League (NPAL)

LEWE TOWNSHIP

U Htay Win	-	Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)
U Tin Aye	-	Independent
U Myint Oo	-	National Unity Party (NUP)

TATKON TOWNSHIP

U Maung Oo	-	Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)
U Wan Maung	-	Independent
U Than	-	National Unity Party (NUP)

ZYATHIRI TOWNSHIP

Thura Shwe Mann	-	Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)
U Chit Sein	-	National Unity Party (NUP)

POBBATHIRI TOWNSHIP

Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo	-	Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)
U Hla Shwe	-	National Unity Party (NUP)

OTTARATHIRI TOWNSHIP

U Kyaw Swa Khine	-	Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)
U Kyee Myint	-	National Unity Party (NUP)

ZABUTHIRI TOWNSHIP

U Thein Sein	-	Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)
U Kyaw Aye	-	National Unity Party (NUP)

DEKKHINATHIRI TOWNSHIP

U Myint Hlaing	-	Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)
U Mya Han	-	National Unity Party (NUP)

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW CONSTITUENCY NO. 9

U Soe Tint Aung	-	National Unity Party (NUP)
U Hmat Gyee	-	Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)
U Yan Aung Min	-	Union of Myanmar Federation of National Politics (UMFNP)

¹ Candidates contesting within the Union Territory - <http://www.myanmar.mmtimes.com/2010/news/484/news04.html> (Myanmar Times) 13 September 2010

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW CONSTITUENCY NO. 10

U Khin Maung Htay	-	Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)
U Myint Oo	-	National Unity Party (NUP)
U Aung Zaw Oo	-	Union of Myanmar Federation of National Politics (UMFNP)

DEMOCRATIC PARTY WELCOMES INDEPENDENTS

In order to strengthen the party prior to Burma's elections, the Democratic Party (DP) has joined forces with eight independent candidates, according to party chair, U Thu Wei. "[The eight candidates] also like democracy and are willing to work for the country, but they have no experience [in politics] so they are merging with us who have the experience," he said. "Two [groups] is more than one; three will be even better than two. The more, the stronger. By working together, we aim for the good of the nation and only then can we match up to other Southeast Asian nations, otherwise there will be no chance." Yuzar Maw Htun, the granddaughter of Dr. Ba Maw, who led the provisional government during Japan's occupation of Burma from 1942 to 1945, plans to run as a candidate in Hlaing Township, Yangon Division. Others independent candidates include U Tin San, Dr. Phone Win, U San Myint, U Win Htein Oo, U Win Naing, U Kyaw Kyaw Min and U Thein Tan.²

ELECTORAL ROLLS TO BE ISSUED

Lists of eligible voters (electoral rolls) for elections to Hluttaws to be held on 7 November 2010 will be issued on 20 September at Ward/Village-tract sub-commissions across the nation. Those who have not yet registered in the electoral roll call and wish to do so are required to submit their names by filling in the prescribed form to the Ward/Village-tract sub-commissions according to Rules (9) within seven days after the date on which electoral rolls are issued. A voter who is outside his constituency for at least 180 days and wants to cast his vote in the constituency where he is staying may submit an application with Form (3-A) to the Ward/Village-tract sub-commissions concerned with a letter of recommendation of the Peace and Development Council of the ward or village-tract where he is staying not later than 30 days from the date on which elections are held. Those voters wishing to amend or complain about facts in his or her own profile may submit an application to the Sub-ward/Village commission with Form (4) under Rules 11 (a) within seven days after the electoral rolls are issued. If a voter wishes to have his name put on the list of the electoral roll of another constituency, he shall submit a note of application form (4-A) together with a family registration form (10) to the ward/ village-tract sub-commissions concerned, requesting to revoke his name in the present constituency and transfer it to another constituency.³

UEC ANNOUNCES AREAS WHERE ELECTIONS WILL NOT BE HELD

The Union Election Commission (UEC) according to Article 8 (f) of the Union Election Commission Law has issued the (5) separate notifications dated 16 September 2010, announcing that the elections will not be held in some townships and village-tracts situated within 5 states/regions of the country. The notifications are as follows:⁴

1. Notification No. 99/2010 - Issued on 16 September 2010 Kachin State
2. Notification No.100/2010 - Issued on 16 September 2010 Kayah State
3. Notification No.101/2010 - Issued on 16 September 2010 Kayin State
4. Notification No.102/2010 - Issued on 16 September 2010 Mon State
5. Notification No.103/2010 - Issued on 16 September 2010 Shan State

² Democratic party welcomes independents - <http://www.dvb.no/elections/democratic-party-welcomes-independents/11738> (DVB) 13 September 2010

³ Electoral rolls to be issued - <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs09/NLM2010-09-17.pdf> (NLM) 17 September 2010

⁴ Union Election Commission issues Notification No. 99-103/2010- <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs09/NLM2010-09-17.pdf> (NLM) 17 September 2010

According to the notifications, a number of village-tracts situated within the 32 townships from the 5 different states/regions will likely be affected. The list of townships includes the following:

- Kachin State: Waingmaw, Ingyangyang, Hsawlaw, Chipwe, Tanai, Sumprabum, Mansi, Momauk, Shwegu (9 townships)
- Kayah State: Puhso and Pasawng (2 townships)
- Kayin State: Hpa-an, Hlaingbwe, Papun, Thandaunggyi, Myawady, Kawkareik, Kya-in-Seikkyi (7 townships)
- Mon State: Bilin and Kyaikhto (2 townships)
- Shan State: Panghsan, Narphant, Panwaing, Mongmao, Hopang, Mongkhat, Mongyan, Metmung, Mongla, Mongyawng, Mongton, Monghsat (12 townships)

ALL NATIONAL RACES UNITY AND DEVELOPMENT PARTY (KAYAH STATE) DISSOLVED

The Union Election Commission issued Notification No. 104/2010 dated 16 September 2010, in which it announced that the All National Races Unity and Development Party (Kayah State) has its permission to register revoked and has been dissolved as a political party. The party had earlier been approved by the UEC on the 5 August to form as a political party but failed to register itself within the prescribed 30 days from the date of its formation.⁵

ANALYSIS

With 7 November just 47 days away, parties are now gaining momentum in preparing themselves to contest the elections. However, the past week has also seen 10 parties dissolved for failing to meet the prescribed party registration rules and laws. Furthermore, the announcements to postpone elections in some townships in 5 states reflect the on-going tensions arising in these areas where the issue of ethnic armed groups transforming into Border Guard Forces (BGF) has been one of the underlying factors. Thus, the remaining days in the lead up to the elections will no doubt spring more surprises, although early indications are that the junta-backed USDP will no doubt be calculating an already assured election victory barring any catastrophic events.

Full List of 37 Parties Eligible to Compete in the Elections

(as announced By UEC on 14 September - Notification No. 97/2010)⁶

1. Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization (MKNSO)
2. National Unity Party
3. Lahu National Development Party
4. Kokang Democracy and Unity Party
5. Pa-O National Organization (PNO)
6. Democratic Party (Myanmar)
7. Kayan National Party
8. Rakhine State National Force of Myanmar
9. Kayin Peoples Party
10. "Wa" National Unity Party
11. Taaung (Palaung) National Party
12. All Mon Region Democracy Party
13. Democracy and Peace Party
14. Shan Nationalities Democratic Party

⁵ All National Races Unity and Development Party (Kayah State) dissolved - <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs09/NLM2010-09-17.pdf> (NLM) 17 September 2010

⁶ Union Election Commission issues Notification No. 97/2010 - <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs09/NLM2010-09-15.pdf> (NLM) 15 September 2010

15. United Democratic Party (UDP)
16. 88 Generation Student Youths (Union of Myanmar)
17. Union of Myanmar Federation of National Politics
18. National Political Alliances League
19. Chin National Party
20. Wunthanu NLD (Union of Myanmar)
21. New Era People's Party
22. Union Democracy Party
23. Peace and Diversity Party
24. Chin Progressive Party
25. Inn National Development Party
26. Rakhine Nationalities Development Party
27. "Wa" Democratic Party
28. Phalon-Sawaw Democratic Party
29. National Democratic Party for Development
30. Union Solidarity and Development Party
31. Ethnic National Development Party
32. Kaman National Progressive Party
33. Khami National Development Party
34. National Democratic Force Party
35. Unity and Democracy Party (Kachin State)
36. Kayin State Democracy and Development Party
37. National Development and Peace Party

The following 6 parties have been dissolved by the UEC:

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|--|---|---------------------|
| 1. Union Kayin League | - | Registration No. 11 |
| 2. Myanmar New Society Democratic Party | - | Registration No. 20 |
| 3. Myanmar Democracy Congress | - | Registration No. 34 |
| 4. Mro National Party | - | Registration No. 35 |
| 5. Regional Development Party (Pyay) | - | Registration No. 39 |
| 6. All National Races Unity and Development Party (Kayah State) ⁵ | | |