

BURMA BULLETIN

XXXXX A month-in-review of events in Burma XXXXX

ALTERNATIVE ASEAN NETWORK ON BURMA
campaigns, advocacy & capacity-building for human rights & democracy

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- Burma holds its first general election in 20 years. Widespread evidence of electoral fraud, irregularities, threats, harassment, and lack of independent monitoring characterize Election Day and the days leading up to it. Some offenses are in direct violation of the regime's own laws.
- The USDP wins 883 (or 76.5%) of the 1,154 seats at stake. This majority, coupled with the 25% of the seats reserved for the military, means that the USDP/military bloc can unilaterally amend the constitution and elect Burma's next President.
- Political parties inside Burma as well as international leaders roundly reject the elections.
- SPDC issues new laws that gag MPs and restrict civilian access to Parliament.
- After more than seven years of arbitrary detention, the SPDC unconditionally releases Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. World leaders hail her release.
- Clashes between the SPDC Army and the DKBA in Southern Karen State cause over 27,000 people to flee into Thailand.
- UNODC report on amphetamine production and use in Southeast Asia says that Burma remains the region's main amphetamine producer.
- SPDC harasses HIV/AIDS patients at NLD-run clinic in Rangoon.
- An ICBL report says that the SPDC is the world's only state actor that lays landmines and Burma is one of only three countries in the world that still produces anti-personnel mines.
- UNGA Third Committee Resolution condemns SPDC's ongoing human rights abuses.
- Thai companies continue to line-up for investment opportunities linked to the Tavoy deep-sea port. Russian, Chinese, Thai, and SPDC-backed companies sign deals with the junta regarding oil, natural gas, and hydropower projects.

For comprehensive monitoring of the 2010 elections, please visit the "[2010 Election Watch](#)" at www.altsean.org

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KEY STORY

On 7 November, Burma held its first general election in 20 years. The polls were held amid severe restrictions, heavy deployment of military and police personnel, and extremely low popular participation in most areas of the country. SPDC authorities imposed travel restrictions and informal

curfews in Burma's main cities.¹ The junta also obstructed internet and telephone communications across the country.²

Fraud, irregularities, threats, and harassment

"I got many votes at the polling stations but found that I had lost when I arrived at the election commission office in Kyaikmaraw Township because they added 5,000 advance votes that were in a bag. I asked them to investigate and count the 5,000 advance votes in the bag, but they refused to do it." - All Mon Region Democracy Party Chairman Ngwe Thein.³

"A relative of a polling station official even took a ballot box with him to his home." - Democratic Party (Myanmar) Executive Secretary Cho Cho Kyaw Nyein.⁴

"The polling booth officials [...] are sitting near the voters while they are voting [...]. So there is no security for them. I think this is deliberate [...]. This is not a secret ballot." - Difference and Peace Party candidate in Kyimyindine Constituency, Rangoon Division, Aung Myo Oo.⁵

Widespread evidence of electoral fraud, irregularities, threats, harassment, and lack of independent monitoring characterized Election Day and the days leading up to it:

- In the days before the election, local SPDC officials, polling station officials, and Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) members throughout the country solicited advance and proxy votes for the USDP.⁶
- In many races, the number of advance votes for the USDP tipped the balance in favor of its candidates.⁷
- Local SPDC officials, Election Sub-commission and polling station officials, and USDP members detained, harassed, and discriminated against members and supporters of "opposition" parties and prevented them from monitoring the vote.⁸

¹ Kaladan News (04 Nov 10) Curfew imposed in Maungdaw's Ward 4; Irrawaddy (02 Nov 10) Rangoon Under Curfew; Irrawaddy (03 Nov 10) Informal Curfew in Rangoon; Kaladan News (05 Nov 10) Security tightens in Maungdaw as election looms; IMNA (06 Nov 10) Authorities Order Phone Lines to Shut Down; IMNA (06 Nov 10) Tightened Security in anticipation of Election Day; KIC (07 Nov 10) Tight security on way to polling stations; Mizzima News (04 Nov 10) Authorities tighten security across Mandalay; Irrawaddy (04 Nov 10) Road to Border Closed Prior to Election; Irrawaddy (03 Nov 10) Naypyidaw Shut Down; KIC (05 Nov 10) Villagers told not to step out on poll day

² Irrawaddy (02 Nov 10) Authorities to Cut Myawaddy Mobile Phone Service; DVB (06 Nov 10) SIM card sales blocked in Rangoon; Irrawaddy (06 Nov 10) Regime Reacts Indifferently to Cyber Attack; IMNA (06 Nov 10) Authorities Order Phone Lines to Shut Down; SMH (06 Nov 10) Same military, same poll result; Irrawaddy (01 Nov 10) Media Controls Tighten Ahead of Burma Election

³ Irrawaddy (17 Nov 10) Mon Leader Accuses EC of Vote Fixing

⁴ Irrawaddy (09 Nov 10) 'Three Princesses' Lose Bids for Parliament

⁵ Mizzima News (07 Nov 10) Officials look over voters' shoulders at Kyimyindine polling station

⁶ SHAN (02 Nov 10) Forced voting for junta party taking place in Shan State North; IMNA (03 Nov 10) Pre-vote at Three Pagodas Pass; SHAN (03 Nov 10) Advance voting continue on outlying areas of Shan State; Irrawaddy (04 Nov 10) Immigration Workers Ordered to Vote USDP; Irrawaddy (05 Nov 10) Advance Voters Describe Lack of Secrecy; Irrawaddy (03 Nov 10) Advanced Votes for Ma-Hta-Tha; Irrawaddy (04 Nov 10) Gov't Staff Ordered to Report to Township; DVB (06 Nov 10) Insein detainees cast advance vote; Mizzima News (05 Nov 10) Bogale police voters had to hand ballots to commanders; Mizzima News (05 Nov 10) Advance voting fraud emerges in Kachin State capital; Irrawaddy (06 Nov 10) More Gov't Workers Ordered to Vote USDP; Irrawaddy (07 Nov 10) Mandalay Ballot Boxes Stuffed with Advance Votes; Chinland Guardian (05 Nov 10) Government Servants Refuse to Cast Advance Ballot; Chinland Guardian (05 Nov 10) Government Servants Refuse to Cast Advance Ballot; Kachin News Group (05 Nov 10) Ethnic Kachin voters forced to give advance votes for junta proxy party Narinjara News (07 Nov 10) USDA Candidate Buys Victory at the Polls; Narinjara News (07 Nov 10) USDA Candidate Buys Victory at the Polls; Kaladan News (05 Nov 10) Advance voting begins in Maungdaw; Khonumthung News (06 Nov 10) Young voters defy poll officer's diktat to vote USDP; Irrawaddy (05 Nov 10) Advance Votes Rigged in Shan State; Irrawaddy (06 Nov 10) Soldiers Forced to Vote for USDP; Mizzima News (07 Nov 10) USDP uses back of electoral biodata forms in campaign; IMNA (07 Nov 10) USDP collects pre-votes and ticks for itself; SHAN (06 Nov 10) Vote buying, Vote cheating, forced voting of junta party across Burma; Khonumthung News (06 Nov 10) CNP requests election commission to stop advance voting; SHAN (07 Nov 10) Elections update; Narinjara News (08 Nov 10) 500 Arakanese Unable to Vote in Buthidaung; Kantarawaddy Times (08 Nov 10) Few vote in Karenni State because of advance votes; Irrawaddy (08 Nov 10) Favored Shan Candidates Lose in Rigged Vote; KIC (11 Nov 10) KPP victorious in Taung-Oo

⁷ AP (08 Nov 10) 15,000 refugees flee Myanmar post-vote fighting; Irrawaddy (08 Nov 10) NDF Candidates Refuse to Acknowledge Election Results; Kachin News Group (09 Nov 10) USDP wins polls with advance votes in Kachin State; Irrawaddy (07 Nov 10) Electoral Irregularities Rampant; SHAN (08 Nov 10) Junta party candidate blows top in Namkham; Kachin News Group (09 Nov 10) USDP wins polls with advance votes in Kachin State; Irrawaddy (08 Nov 10) NDF Candidates Refuse to Acknowledge Election Results; Irrawaddy (17 Nov 10) Mon Leader Accuses EC of Vote Fixing; DVB (10 Nov 10) Anger at 'fraudulent' vote rages on; Kaowao News (19 Nov 10) AMDP Wins Opposition Party in Mon State

- SPDC officials and local Election Sub-commission members actively campaigned for USDP candidates. USDP members campaigned in the vicinity of - and sometimes inside - polling stations, in direct violation of the SPDC election laws.⁹
- Polling station officials failed to act in a professional, transparent, and impartial manner. In many cases, polling station officials cast proxy votes, denied voters the right to vote, and invalidated votes for “opposition” parties.¹⁰
- Booths at polling stations did not allow voters sufficient privacy to cast their votes. Ballot boxes at polling stations were not adequately secured.¹¹
- Large numbers of eligible voters in ethnic nationality areas were excluded from voter lists.¹²
- SPDC officials and USDP supporters threatened and harassed journalists trying to cover the vote.¹³ Police in Myawaddy, Karen State, detained a Japanese journalist.¹⁴
- The SPDC refused to allow international and domestic observers free access to monitor polling activities.¹⁵
- At least six political parties filed complaints with the SPDC Election Commission. Various party leaders said that they would not recognize the election results due to alleged vote fraud and other irregularities.¹⁶

Political parties slam polls

The election process was met by widespread condemnation. Even politicians who had genuinely believed that the polls would create more political space in Burma expressed their outrage at the blatant violations and vote rigging that took place on 7 November.

⁸ Irrawaddy (03 Nov 10) Nasaka targets NDPD supporters for arrest; Irrawaddy (03 Nov 10) Independent Candidates Harassed; Irrawaddy (03 Nov 10) Thugs Return to Rangoon; Irrawaddy (03 Nov 10) Kachin NDF Candidate Embarrass USDP; Irrawaddy (03 Nov 10) Military Officers Threaten Villagers; Mizzima News (03 Nov 10) NLD poll-boycott activist held, junta ‘thugs’ seize camera, pamphlets; Irrawaddy (03 Nov 10) NLD Activist Arrested over ‘Boycott’ Flyers; Irrawaddy (02 Nov 10) Suu Kyi Pamphlets Confiscated; Irrawaddy (04 Nov 10) USDP Threatens NLD Members; Kaladan News (06 Nov 10) Nasaka arrest seven NDPD supporters in south Maungdaw; Irrawaddy (06 Nov 10) Pro-Democracy Party Set to Win Big?; Irrawaddy (06 Nov 10) Pro-Junta Group Urges Insein Residents to Vote; Kaladan News (06 Nov 10) USDP uses religious leaders to ensure election victory; SHAN (06 Nov 10) Vote buying, Vote cheating, forced voting of junta party across Burma; DVB (07 Nov 10) Mandalay authorities remove NUP posters; Irrawaddy (06 Nov 10) Distributing Boycott Pamphlets Illegal; Irrawaddy (07 Nov 10) USDP Blocks NUP Supporters from Voting; Kaladan News (07 Nov 10) Violations of election law reported in Arakan State; Chinland Guardian (07 Nov 10) Electoral Violence and Intimidation in Tedim Township, Chin State; Irrawaddy (07 Nov 10) Poll Irregularities May Thwart SNPD; IMNA (07 Nov 10) Polling stations empty over election disillusion, authorities scramble; Kachin News Group (08 Nov 10) Junta’s USDP steals votes in Kachin State; Kaladan News (08 Nov 10) NDPD wins unofficial landslide in Maungdaw; CHRO (08 Nov 10) Electoral violence and intimidation in Tedim Township, Chin State; Chinland Guardian (08 Nov 10) USDP Leading in Tedim Township Amidst Accusations of Intimidation and Fraud; SHAN (10 Nov 10) Junta official: If Shan party wins, Shan State will be subjugated by China; Kaladan News (10 Nov 10) Rohingya fear reprisals for NDPD victory

⁹ Irrawaddy (07 Nov 10) Calm Prevades as Voting Begins in Burma; Irrawaddy (07 Nov 10) EC Officials Urge Voters to Turn Out; Irrawaddy (06 Nov 10) Pro-Junta Group Urges Insein Residents to Vote; Irrawaddy (06 Nov 10) Vote for the USDP and Get an ID Card; KIC (08 Nov 10) USDP likely to win in Karen state by unfair means; DVB (07 Nov 10) Rangoon voters allege harassment

¹⁰ Irrawaddy (07 Nov 10) Electoral Irregularities Rampant; Kaladan News (07 Nov 10) Violations of election law reported in Arakan State; DVB (07 Nov 10) Rangoon voters allege harassment; Mizzima News (07 Nov 10) Booth staff are failing to check voters’ ID in Mayangone, official says; Irrawaddy (07 Nov 10) Low Turnout in Mon State; IMNA (07 Nov 10) Mistakes at polling stations invalidate voters in Thanphuzayart and Moulmein Townships; Khonumthung News (07 Nov 10) Voting trend in Chin state and Kalemmyo; Kachin News Group (08 Nov 10) Junta’s USDP steals votes in Kachin State; Narinjara News (08 Nov 10) 500 Arakanese Unable to Vote in Buthidaung; IMNA (08 Nov 10) USDP interferences in the election throughout Mon state; IMNA (08 Nov 10) Counting Ballots in Mudon; Kaladan News (08 Nov 10) NDPD wins unofficial landslide in Maungdaw; Chinland Guardian (08 Nov 10) USDP Leading in Tedim Township Amidst Accusations of Intimidation and Fraud; Kaladan News (10 Nov 10) Rohingya fear reprisals for NDPD victory; SHAN (16 Nov 10) Taang party demands Union Election Commission to act on polls frauds

¹¹ Irrawaddy (06 Nov 10) Voters Cast Ballots under Eye of Election Commission; Irrawaddy (07 Nov 10) Electoral Irregularities Rampant; DVB (07 Nov 10) Rangoon voters allege harassment; Kachin News Group (08 Nov 10) Junta’s USDP steals votes in Kachin State

¹² Kachin News Group (02 Nov 10) Ethnic Voters Left Out in Jade Mining Area; Mizzima News (03 Nov 10) Third of Thandway’s eligible voters missing from roll: Kaman candidate; Mizzima News (05 Nov 10) NDF scores in Kachin State mock vote, USDP trounced; IMNA (07 Nov 10) USDP collects pre – votes and ticks for itself; Irrawaddy (04 Nov 10) Mon Candidate’s name, Ballot Box Withheld; Kachin News Group (05 Nov 10) Voter list irregularities in Myitkyina; Narinjara News (07 Nov 10) Demonstrators Dismissed from Voter Lists; SHAN (07 Nov 10) Elections update; Narinjara News (08 Nov 10) 500 Arakanese Unable to Vote in Buthidaung

¹³ RSF (08 Nov 10) Burma: Poll without witnesses – Japanese journalist, two Burmese reporters arrested

¹⁴ CNA (07 Nov 10) Japanese journalist arrested in Myanmar; RSF (08 Nov 10) Burma: Poll without witnesses – Japanese journalist, two Burmese reporters arrested; Irrawaddy (08 Nov 10) Japanese Journalist Charged with Illegal Entry; Japan Times (08 Nov 10) Police detain Japanese journalist; AP (09 Nov 10) Japanese reporter detained in Myanmar freed

¹⁵ NYT (04 Nov 10) A guarded optimism in Myanmar as vote nears

¹⁶ Reuters (07 Nov 10) Myanmar votes in first election in 20 years; Al Jazeera (09 Nov 10) Myanmar parties concede poll defeat; VOA (09 Nov 10) Pro-Military Party Claims Almost 80 Percent of Votes in Burma Election; Irrawaddy (10 Nov 10) One-Horse Race to One-Party Rule?

- National Democratic Force (NDF) Chairman Than Nyein said: “We never expected that this election would be free and fair. We all accepted lots of restrictions from the election laws to campaign rules. But what we have faced is far more than we anticipated.”¹⁷
- Democratic Party (Myanmar) Executive Secretary Cho Cho Kyaw Nyein said that “the ugliest and most extreme level of vote-stealing” had taken place.¹⁸
- Independent candidate in Rangoon’s South Okkalapa Township Saw Naing said that nowhere else in the world do the authorities “change the election results so much.”¹⁹
- National Unity Party (NUP) official Aye San said that the election process was “absolutely unfair.”²⁰
- All Mon Region Democracy Party Chairman Nai Ngwe Thein said his party did not “recognize this election result.”²¹

Election results [See table for party-specific results]

- In total, the USDP won 883 (or 76.5%) of the 1,154 seats at stake in the election.
- In the **People’s Assembly** (Lower House), the USDP won 259 (79.7%) of the 325 seats. The USDP dominated in the ethnic Burman-dominated Divisions. It won all seats in Mandalay and Tenasserim Divisions, and over 90% of the seats in Irrawaddy, Magwe, Pegu, and Sagaing Divisions. In ethnic States, the USDP won about 63% of the seats, with performances ranging from a low 46% in Shan State to 100% in Karenni State.
- In the **National Assembly** (Upper House), the USDP won 129 (76.8%) of the 168 seats. The USDP dominated in the ethnic Burman-dominated Divisions. It won all seats in Irrawaddy, Magwe, Mandalay, Pegu, and Tenasserim Division and over 90% of the seats in Sagaing Division. In ethnic States, the USDP won about 60% of the seats, with performances ranging from a low 41.6% in Arakan State to 100% in Karenni State.
- In the **Division and State Parliaments**, the USDP won 495 (74.9%) of the 661 seats. Again, the USDP dominated in the ethnic Burman-dominated Divisions. It won over 90% of the seats in Magwe, Mandalay, Pegu, and Tenasserim Divisions, and over 80% of the seats in Irrawaddy, Rangoon, and Sagaing Divisions. In ethnic areas, the USDP won about 55% of the seats, with performances ranging from a low 40% in Arakan State to 100% in Karenni State.
- The USDP’s overwhelming majority in both houses of Parliament, coupled with the 25% of the seats reserved for the military, means that the USDP/military bloc can unilaterally amend the 2008 constitution (which, for ordinary matters, requires the approval of over 75% of the representatives of both houses of Parliament). In addition, the USDP/military bloc can unilaterally select Burma’s next President.²²
- Fifteen of the 37 political parties that contested the polls did not win any seats. Of the 22 parties that won at least one seat, 15 of them won less than 1% of the seats.
- Seventeen of the 24 ethnic-based parties that participated in the polls won at least one seat. In total, they accounted for 15.7% of the seats.
- The second largest vote winner, the pro-junta NUP, won only 63 seats (5.5%) although it fielded 975 candidates.
- The largest “opposition” party, the NDF, won 16 seats (or 1.4%).
- The SPDC Election Commission claimed the overall turnout was 73.8% and even reached over 102% [*sic*] in some areas.²³ As of 30 November, the Election Commission had failed to publish any official statistics on voter turnout. In some areas independent sources reported turnout as low as 35%.²⁴

¹⁷ Irrawaddy (09 Nov 10) ‘Three Princesses’ Lose Bids for Parliament

¹⁸ Irrawaddy (09 Nov 10) ‘Three Princesses’ Lose Bids for Parliament

¹⁹ Irrawaddy (11 Nov 10) Recounts Favor USDP

²⁰ AP (10 Nov 10) Colleague: Suu Kyi set to probe Myanmar vote fraud

²¹ Irrawaddy (15 Nov 10) Ethnic Leaders Back Suu Kyi’s Call for Panglong 2

²² The Presidency consists of one President and two Vice-Presidents, elected by the Presidential Electoral College. The Presidential Electoral College is composed of three groups from the National Parliament: a) The 330 elected representatives from the People’s Assembly; b) The 168 elected representatives from the National Assembly; and c) The 166 appointed Defense Services personnel from both Assemblies. Each group elects a Vice-President. Then the entire National Parliament elects the President from among the three Vice-Presidents.

²³ DPA (09 Nov 10) Pro-junta party heads for victory in Burma’s election; Irrawaddy (19 Nov 10) Election Results a Joke

²⁴ WSJ (08 Nov 10) Burma’s hollow election; IPS (10 Nov 10) Few Surprises in First Poll in 20 Years

	Party	Total seats	%	People's Assembly	National Assembly	Local Parliaments	Uncontested seats
1.	Union Solidarity and Development Party	883	76.52	259	129	495	38
2.	National Unity Party	63	5.46	12	5	46	1
3.	Shan Nationals Democratic Party	57	4.94	18	3	36	-
4.	Rakhine Nationals Progressive Party	35	3.03	9	7	19	-
5.	All Mon Region Democracy Party	16	1.39	3	4	9	-
6.	National Democratic Force	16	1.39	8	4	4	-
7.	Chin Progressive Party	12	1.04	2	4	6	-
8.	PaO National Organization	10	0.87	3	1	6	6
9.	Chin National Party	9	0.78	2	2	5	-
10.	Phalon-Sawaw Democratic Party	9	0.78	2	3	4	-
11.	Kayin People's Party	6	0.52	1	1	4	-
12.	Taaung (Palaung) National Party	6	0.52	1	1	4	6
13.	Wa Democratic Party	6	0.52	2	1	3	3
14.	Unity and Democracy Party of Kachin State	4	0.35	1	1	2	-
15.	Inn National Development Party	4	0.35	1	-	3	-
16.	Democratic Party (Myanmar)	3	0.26	-	-	3	-
17.	Kayan National Party	2	0.17	-	-	2	-
18.	Kayin State Democracy and Development Party	2	0.17	-	1	1	1
19.	National Democratic Party for Development	2	0.17	-	-	2	-
20.	88 Generation Student Youths (Union of Myanmar)	1	0.09	-	-	1	-
21.	Ethnic National Development Party	1	0.09	-	-	1	-
22.	Lahu National Development Party	1	0.09	-	-	1	-
23.	Independent candidates	6	0.52	1	1	4	-
	Total	1,154	100%	325	168	661	55

More details, including color-coded maps of election results are available in the briefer *Burma 2010 Election Recap* <http://www.altsean.org/Reports/2010Electionsrecap.php>

International community roundly rebukes elections

The international community broadly condemned the election with the exception of ASEAN and China.

UN Sec-Gen Ban Ki-moon said the voting was held in conditions that were “insufficiently inclusive, participatory and transparent.”²⁵

Four UN Special Rapporteurs, including UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burma Tomás Ojea Quintana, said that the elections “did not meet international standards.”²⁶

US President Barack Obama said that the elections were “anything but free and fair.”²⁷

²⁵ UN News Center (08 Nov 10) UN chief calls for credible transition to democracy after Myanmar polls

²⁶ OHCHR (12 Nov 10) UN experts urge Myanmar to release Aung San Suu Kyi and other prisoners of conscience

²⁷ AP (07 Nov 10) Obama: Myanmar elections ‘neither free nor fair’

EU	High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton said that the EU regretted that the SPDC did not take the necessary steps to ensure a free, fair and inclusive election process. ²⁸
UK	UK FM William Hague condemned the “flawed elections” and said that the result was a “foregone conclusion” and that the ballot was not “free, fair or inclusive.” ²⁹
Australia	FM Kevin Rudd said the election had been “far from free and fair.” ³⁰
Canada	FM Lawrence Cannon said that Canada was deeply disappointed that the SPDC did not live up to its own commitment to hold a free and fair election. ³¹
Japan	FM Seiji Maehara said that the elections “cannot be said to be complete and fair.” ³²
China	Foreign Ministry Spokesman Hong Lei said that China welcomed Burma’s “steady and smooth” general election. ³³
ASEAN	ASEAN Chair Vietnam welcomed Burma’s election as a “significant step forward.” ³⁴
Philippines	FM Alberto Romulo called the elections “non-inclusive.” ³⁵
Indonesia	Foreign Ministry Director-General for ASEAN Cooperation Djauhari Oratmangun said that Indonesia welcomes the results of Burma’s elections. ³⁶

Parliamentary restrictions

On 26 November, the SPDC issued restrictive laws that will apply to the newly elected Parliament. The laws limit the freedom of expression of parliamentarians if their speeches endanger national security, the unity of the country or violate the constitution. In addition, they punish with a one-year jail term anyone other than lawmakers who enters the Parliament when the body is in session.³⁷

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi released

On 13 November, after more than seven years of arbitrary detention under house arrest and a short stint in Rangoon’s Insein prison, the SPDC unconditionally released Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.³⁸ The junta also released Daw Suu’s two housekeepers, Khin Khin Win and Win Ma Ma.³⁹ In a stark contrast to Election Day a week before, thousands of ecstatic supporters from all walks of life, including civil servants and rank and file military personnel, gathered outside the gates of Daw Suu’s lakeside home in Rangoon to welcome her.⁴⁰ Politicians across Burma’s political spectrum welcomed the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and expressed their desire to cooperate with her in the interest of the country.⁴¹

Following her release, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended a series of meetings and activities:

- **14 November:** She met with at least 30 foreign diplomats at the NLD headquarters.⁴² She then gave a speech before a crowd of about 5,000 cheering supporters.⁴³

²⁸ European Union Press Release (08 Nov 10) Declaration by the High Representative Catherine Ashton on behalf of the European Union on the elections in Burma/Myanmar

²⁹ Mirror (07 Nov 10) Hague slams ‘unfair’ Burma election

³⁰ Irrawaddy (09 Nov 10) Obama Accuses India of ‘Shying Away’ Over Burma

³¹ Canada Ministry of Foreign Affairs (08 Nov 10) Minister Cannon Expresses Concern over Burmese Elections

³² AFP (08 Nov 10) Japan ‘deeply disappointed’ by Burma vote

³³ AFP (09 Nov 10) China praises Myanmar polls

³⁴ AFP (09 Nov 10) Asean welcomes Myanmar vote

³⁵ AFP (08 Nov 10) Philippines says Myanmar vote ‘non-inclusive’

³⁶ Jakarta Post (16 Nov 10) Indonesia ‘welcomes’ Myanmar election results

³⁷ AP (27 Nov 10) Myanmar restricts speech of new parliament members

³⁸ AFP (13 Nov 10) Suu Kyi released; AP (13 Nov 10) Myanmar junta releases democracy leader Suu Kyi; Reuters (13 Nov 10) Myanmar pro-democracy leader Suu Kyi freed; AFP (13 Nov 10) Suu Kyi ‘completely free’; AFP (14 Nov 10) Release was ‘unconditional’; AFP (14 Nov 10) Suu Kyi ‘happy’ with unconditional release, says lawyer

³⁹ NLM (14 Nov 10) Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (father U Aung San) granted pardon

⁴⁰ DPA (13 Nov 10) Myanmar junta releases Aung San Suu Kyi (3rd Lead); WSJ (13 Nov 10) Myanmar Frees Democracy Leader Suu Kyi; Reuters (13 Nov 10) Myanmar pro-democracy leader Suu Kyi free

BBC (17 Nov 10) Burma’s Aung San Suu Kyi ‘has foot soldiers’ support’; Irrawaddy (18 Nov 10) Soldiers, Civil Servants Also Welcome Suu Kyi’s Release

⁴¹ Mizzima News (13 Nov 10) ‘88 students’ leader embraces Suu Kyi’s liberty, but ‘struggle not over’

⁴² Irrawaddy (14 Nov 10) Suu Kyi Meets with Diplomats

⁴³ AP (14 Nov 10) Myanmar’s Suu Kyi, newly free, calls for talks; NYT (14 Nov 10) Burmese Dissident Tells Crowd Not to Give Up Hope; Telegraph (14 Nov 10) Aung San Suu Kyi: I believe in human rights; WSJ (15 Nov 10) Suu Kyi Calls for Talks With Ruler

- **15 November:** She met with NLD CEC members and the party's legal team to explore legal avenues to overturn the party's dissolution.⁴⁴ She then met with various foreign diplomats and urged the international community to press the SPDC to release all of Burma's political prisoners.⁴⁵
- **16 November:** She appeared before Burma's Supreme Court in Rangoon to initiate legal proceedings to seek the reinstatement of the NLD as a political party.⁴⁶ She also held talks with representatives of the ethnic umbrella group United Nationalities Alliance on the possibility of convening a Second Panglong Conference.⁴⁷
- **17 November:** She logged onto the internet for the first time and briefly communicated with several people outside Burma.⁴⁸ She then visited a group of HIV/AIDS patients in Rangoon's South Dagon Township.⁴⁹ [See below *SPDC harasses HIV/AIDS patients at NLD-run shelter*]
- **18 November:** She held a phone conversation with UN Sec-Gen Ban Ki-moon, in which they both stressed the need for the release of all remaining political prisoners "as a matter of priority."⁵⁰ She also suggested an early meeting with the UN Resident Coordinator in Burma.⁵¹
- **19 November:** She met with 12 independent candidates in the 7 November polls to discuss cooperation on social projects.⁵²
- **22 November:** She was reunited with her younger son Kim Aris after about 10 years apart.⁵³
- **24 November:** She and her son visited Rangoon's Shwedagon Pagoda.⁵⁴ She subsequently met with 200 NLD women's wing members.⁵⁵
- **25 November:** She met with Democratic Party (Myanmar) members to discuss cooperation with the NLD in the implementation of health and education projects in Tenasserim Division.⁵⁶
- **26 November:** She met with members of the Committee Representing the People's Parliament to discuss the existence of the NLD as well as steps towards national reconciliation and unity between the ethnic nationality groups.⁵⁷
- **27 November:** She met with UN Sec-Gen's Chief of Staff Vijay Nambiar at her lakeside home.⁵⁸
- **29 November:** Accompanied by her son, she met with more than 70 family members of political prisoners at an alms offering ceremony at Pannitayama monastery in Rangoon's Bahan Township.⁵⁹

International leaders hail Daw Suu's release

International leaders greeted the news of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's release from house arrest with jubilation and well-wishes.

UN	Sec-Gen Ban Ki-moon expressed his deep admiration and heartfelt best wishes to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. ⁶⁰
	High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay welcomed the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and urged the SPDC to release all political prisoners in Burma. ⁶¹
US	President Barack Obama called Daw Suu's release "long overdue." ⁶²
EU	European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said he was "delighted" by the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. ⁶³

⁴⁴ AFP (15 Nov 10) Suu Kyi gets down to work; AP (15 Nov 10) Myanmar's Suu Kyi seeks to revive political party; Mizzima News (15 Nov 10) Suu Kyi leads NLD intra-party meetings; Irrawaddy (15 Nov 10) Suu Kyi Meets with NLD Legal Team; Irrawaddy (16 Nov 10) NLD Lawyers to Demand Party's Official Recognition

⁴⁵ AFP (16 Nov 10) Suu Kyi to focus on political detainees; Telegraph (16 Nov 10) Aung San Suu Kyi to fight for political prisoners

⁴⁶ AFP (16 Nov 10) Myanmar's Suu Kyi 'ready to fight' for disbanded party; AP (16 Nov 10) Suu Kyi goes to court to help party regain legal status; VOA (16 Nov 10) Aung San Suu Kyi Seeks Re-instatement of Opposition Party

⁴⁷ DVB (17 Nov 10) Suu Kyi reignites push for ethnic autonomy; SHAN (17 Nov 10) The Lady: Release of imprisoned ethnic leaders my priority

⁴⁸ Irrawaddy (18 Nov 10) Suu Kyi Becomes Internet User

⁴⁹ AFP (17 Nov 10) Myanmar's Suu Kyi gives flowers and support to HIV patients; Irrawaddy (18 Nov 10) 'We Must Help the Most Needy

⁵⁰ DPA (18 Nov 10) UN chief and Suu Kyi hold first phone call

⁵¹ DPA (18 Nov 10) Myanmar's Suu Kyi wants talks with United Nations (Roundup)

⁵² Mizzima News (25 Nov 10) Party joins NLD in health, education project alliance

⁵³ AFP (23 Nov 10) Suu Kyi, younger son reunite; AP (22 Nov 10) Suu Kyi, Son Reunited After 10 Years

⁵⁴ CNN (24 Nov 10) Suu Kyi, son get early start after decade apart; Irrawaddy (24 Nov 10) Suu Kyi and her Son Visit Shwedagon Pagoda

⁵⁵ Mizzima News (25 Nov 10) Fight human trafficking, Suu Kyi urges

⁵⁶ Mizzima News (25 Nov 10) Party joins NLD in health, education project alliance

⁵⁷ Irrawaddy (27 Nov 10) Suu Kyi Meets with CRPP

⁵⁸ AFP (27 Nov 10) Suu Kyi, top UN official meet

⁵⁹ Irrawaddy (29 Nov 10) Suu Kyi Encourages Families of Political Prisoners

⁶⁰ Irrawaddy (14 Nov 10) Ban Ki-moon Calls Suu Kyi an 'Inspiration'

⁶¹ DPA (13 Nov 10) UN rights chief welcomes release of Aung San Suu Kyi

⁶² Reuters (13 Nov 10) Obama says Suu Kyi release long overdue

UK	PM David Cameron said the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was “long overdue.” ⁶⁴
Canada	PM Stephen Harper said that he was “pleased” that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi had finally been released. ⁶⁵
India	FM SM Krishna said that India welcomed the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and hoped that her release would be the beginning of the process of reconciliation in Burma. ⁶⁶
Japan	FM Seiji Maehara welcomed the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and urged the SPDC to take further steps to realize democracy and improve the human rights. ⁶⁷
Australia	PM Julia Gillard personally wrote to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi expressing Australia’s delight in her release. ⁶⁸
ASEAN	Sec-Gen Surin Pitsuwan said he was “very, very relieved” at the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and that he hoped she would not be detained again. ⁶⁹
Thailand	Thai PM Abhisit Vejjajiva said the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was a “positive sign.” ⁷⁰
Philippines	President Benigno Aquino welcomed the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. ⁷¹
Singapore	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs welcomed the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and that it was a positive step for Burma. ⁷²
Malaysia	Deputy PM Muhyiddin Yassin said that Malaysia was “delighted” that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi had been freed. ⁷³

INSIDE BURMA

SPDC harasses HIV/AIDS patients at NLD-run shelter

On 17 November, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi visited an NLD-run community shelter and clinic in Rangoon’s South Dagon Township for 82 patients living with HIV/AIDS.⁷⁴ The next day, local SPDC officials informed the clinic’s staff that they would not renew permits for patients to stay at the center and those who remained would be prosecuted.⁷⁵ As a result of eleventh-hour discussions between NLD youth members and local SPDC officials on 25 November, the eviction order was rescinded. However, the patients continued stay at the clinic was conditioned on the weekly renewal of their guest permits.⁷⁶

UNODC report on ATS use and production

On 25 November, the UN Organization for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) released its report “Patterns and Trends of Amphetamine-Type Stimulants and Other Drugs - Asia and the Pacific 2010” The report noted disturbing trends regarding amphetamine production, use, and treatment in ASEAN countries.⁷⁷

- Burma remained the major manufacturer of methamphetamine pills in the region.
- Amphetamine type stimulants (ATS) and other synthetic drugs were now the primary drug threat in the region.
- The large-scale spillover of methamphetamines from Burma to neighboring countries was due to the political instability in Burma.

⁶³ DPA (13 Nov 10) EU’s Barroso hails release of Aung San Suu Kyi

⁶⁴ DPA (13 Nov 10) British premier calls Suu Kyi’s release “long overdue”

⁶⁵ Canada (13 Nov 10) Statement by the Prime Minister of Canada on the release of Aung San Suu Kyi

⁶⁶ PTI (13 Nov 10) India welcomes Suu Kyi’s release

⁶⁷ Japan Today (14 Nov 10) Maehara welcomes release of Suu Kyi

⁶⁸ AAP (14 Nov 10) Gillard writes to Aung San Suu Kyi

⁶⁹ AFP (13 Nov 10) ASEAN chief ‘very relieved’ at Suu Kyi release

⁷⁰ Irrawaddy (14 Nov 10) Thai PM: Suu Kyi Release Positive, Future Unclear

⁷¹ DPA (14 Nov 10) Philippines welcomes Suu Kyi release, urges reforms

⁷² CNA (14 Nov 10) S’pore welcomes Myanmar’s Aung San Suu Kyi’s release

⁷³ Malaysian Star (14 Nov 10) DPM: Malaysia hopes Suu Kyi’s release ‘final’

⁷⁴; Mizzima News (17 Nov 10) Suu Kyi visits NLD home for people living with HIV; DVB (24 Nov 10) HIV patients evicted ‘for health reasons’; AP (20 Nov 10) Patients face eviction after Suu Kyi visit; Mizzima News (20 Nov 10) Junta evicts Aids patients after visit by Aung San Suu Kyi; Irrawaddy (24 Nov 10) HIV/AIDS Activist Says Closure of Shelter Unjustified

⁷⁵ Irrawaddy (24 Nov 10) HIV/AIDS Activist Says Closure of Shelter Unjustified; DVB (24 Nov 10) HIV patients evicted ‘for health reasons’

⁷⁶ Mizzima News (26 Nov 10) Official U-turn on Aids patient evictions

⁷⁷ UNODC (25 Nov 10) Patterns and Trends of Amphetamine-Type Stimulants and Other Drugs: Asia and the Pacific 2010

- The 93.3 million pills seized in 2009 in Burma, China, Lao PDR, and Thailand represented a three-fold increase in comparison with the 2008 figures.
- The injecting use of methamphetamines increased, thus heightening the risk of the transmission of blood-borne diseases, including HIV.
- During 2009, the percentage of drug users in drug treatment for amphetamine use in the region increased, ranging from a low of 50% in Cambodia to a high of 82% in Thailand.

Aid urgently needed in cyclone-hit areas of Arakan State

Survivors of cyclone Giri in Arakan State [See *October 2010 Burma Bulletin*] continued to struggle with the aftermath. After the elections, local SPDC authorities withheld aid to villages in Kyaukpyu, Myebon, Pauktaw, Minbya, Manaung, Rambree, Ponnagyun, and Akyab Townships, where the majority of people voted in favor of the Rakhine Nationals Progressive Party and rejected the Union Solidarity and Development Party.⁷⁸

On 16 November, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that more than 100,000 people remained homeless and around 200,000 people were in need of food assistance.⁷⁹ Humanitarian agencies in Burma estimated that US\$53 million would be needed to address these problems.⁸⁰ Japan, the UK, US, Denmark, and Australia have pledged over US\$10 million in aid to cyclone Giri victims.⁸¹

SPDC is world's only active landmine user

On 24 November, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines released its "Landmine Monitor Report 2010."⁸² The report's key findings concerning Burma for the past year included:⁸³

- The SPDC was the world's only state actor that laid landmines.
- Burma was one of only three countries in the world that still produced anti-personnel mines.
- SPDC Army troops continued to carry out "atrocious demining" - the practice of forcing civilians to clear suspected mined areas or to serve as porters for the military in areas where there is a mine hazard.
- Use of antipersonnel mines by ethnic armed groups increased.
- Burma had the world's fourth largest number of landmine casualties. Out of the 263 casualties, 259 were civilians (a 21% increase over the previous year).

SPDC urged to allow IAEA visit

On 12 November, the UN Security Council released a long-delayed report that that indicated that North Korea had been involved in the "surreptitious transfer of nuclear-related and ballistic missile-related equipment, know-how and technology" to Iran, Syria, and Burma.⁸⁴ [See *May 2010 Burma Bulletin*]

On 19 November, former International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) senior official Olli Heinonen urged the SPDC to allow the IAEA to visit Burma "to clarify whatever is taking place." Heinonen also suggested that the SPDC's uranium refining activities may have military purposes.⁸⁵

⁷⁸ Irrawaddy (16 Nov 10) Cyclone Aid Reportedly Withheld from Opposition Voters

⁷⁹ UN News Center (16 Nov 10) Ten of thousands of cyclone survivors in Myanmar remain homeless – UN; Mizzima News (17 Nov 10) 70pc of Giri victims still lack the basics

⁸⁰ UN News Center (30 Nov 10) Humanitarian agencies seek funds for cyclone emergency in Myanmar – UN

⁸¹ UK Press Association (14 Nov 10) Government gives £3M for Burma help; Xinhua (16 Nov 10) Japan provides emergency aid to cyclone-hit area in Myanmar; DVB (16 Nov 10) UK govt warns against 'forgetting' Giri; AAP (20 Nov 10) \$3 million aid package for Burma; Mizzima News (24 Nov 10) US donates further US\$3m for Cyclone Giri victims

⁸² AFP (25 Nov 10) Myanmar now 'only landmine user'

⁸³ ICBL (24 Nov 10) Landmine Monitor 2010; ICBL (24 Nov 10) Landmine & Cluster Munition Monitor - Myanmar/Burma

⁸⁴ AFP (13 Nov 10) UN says North Korea giving nuclear equipment to Iran, Syria, Myanmar; Bangkok Post (15 Nov 10) Nuclear rogue at the border

⁸⁵ Reuters (20 Nov 10) No evidence of Myanmar atom bomb aim: ex-IAEA aide

Freedom of information obstructed

- **Early November:** SPDC authorities increased surveillance at internet cafes in Naypyidaw to monitor the activities of internet users. In addition, SPDC authorities in many parts of the country ordered the closure of internet cafes during the election weekend.⁸⁶
- **Early November:** Internet service across Burma repeatedly grounded to a halt.⁸⁷ The SPDC Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications (MPT) Department attributed the service disruption to a massive cyber attack.⁸⁸ However, observers pointed out that the disruption was likely to be an attempt by the SPDC to deliberately hinder the flow of information ahead of the elections.⁸⁹
- **11 November:** SPDC authorities deported two Australian film-makers who were working on a documentary about independent media in Burma.⁹⁰
- **Mid-November:** The SPDC Censorship Board imposed restrictions on local media over the coverage of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's release and her subsequent speeches and activities.⁹¹
- **19 November:** It was reported that SPDC authorities ordered internet cafe owners in Rangoon to install CCTV cameras to monitor internet users.⁹²
- **21 November:** The SPDC Censorship Board suspended the publication of nine local news journals for up to two weeks because they reported and published photos of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's activities.⁹³ One of the suspended journals, First Eleven, published a front page title on the English Premier League that cryptically welcomed the release of Daw Suu.⁹⁴
- **28 November:** SPDC authorities barred about 20 Burmese journalists from attending the press conference of UN Sec-Gen's Chief of Staff Vijay Nambiar at Rangoon international airport.⁹⁵

Religious freedom

On 17 November, the US State Department released its "Annual Report on International Religious Freedom." The report identified Burma as one of the world's eight "countries of particular concern" with regard to religious freedom.⁹⁶ The report said:⁹⁷

- There was no change in the SPDC's "limited degree of respect for religious freedom."
- The junta continued to subject religious activities and organizations to restrictions on freedom of expression, association, and assembly.
- The SPDC continued to monitor meetings and activities of religious organizations.
- Many of the Buddhist monks detained following the "Saffron Revolution" remained in prison serving long sentences.
- Christian and Muslim groups continued to struggle to obtain permission to repair places of worship or build new ones.
- The SPDC continued to refuse to recognize the Muslim Rohingya ethnic minority as citizens and imposed restrictions on their movement and marriage.

⁸⁶ Irrawaddy (04 Nov 10) Intelligence Agents Monitoring Internet Cafes

⁸⁷ DVB (01 Nov 10) Internet service slowed across Burma; Xinhua (01 Nov 10) Myanmar's internet service link fails for week; Xinhua (03 Nov 10) Roundup: Myanmar Internet link continues to meet with interruption

⁸⁸ Irrawaddy (06 Nov 10) Regime Reacts Indifferently to Cyber Attack

⁸⁹ AFP (04 Nov 10) Myanmar's Internet 'under attack' ahead of election; BBC (04 Nov 10) Burma hit by massive net attack ahead of election; Irrawaddy (05 Nov 10) Cyber Attack Work of Junta?; DVB (02 Nov 10) 'External attack' crippled Burma's internet; Irrawaddy (01 Nov 10) Burma's Internet Service Sealed Off

⁹⁰ AFP (12 Nov 10) Myanmar deports 2 journalists; AAP (12 Nov 10) Australian film crew deported from Burma

⁹¹ Irrawaddy (15 Nov 10) Junta Censors Suu Kyi News; DVB (15 Nov 10) Domestic media restricted on Suu Kyi coverage

⁹² Irrawaddy (19 Nov 10) Internet Cafes Ordered to Install CCTV

⁹³ AP (22 Nov 10) Myanmar halts 9 magazines that sold Suu Kyi covers; DVB (22 Nov 10) Journals suspended for Suu Kyi coverage; Irrawaddy (22 Nov 10) No Change in the Censors' Restrictive Practises; Mizzima News (23 Nov 10) Journals suspended for Suu Kyi reports

⁹⁴ Irrawaddy (19 Nov 10) Sports Journal Suspended for Suu Kyi Coverage

⁹⁵ Irrawaddy (29 Nov 10) Local Journalists Barred from UN Envoy's Press Conference

⁹⁶ Reuters (17 Nov 10) FACTBOX-U.S. cites repression of religious freedom; Kyodo News (18 Nov 10) U.S. accuses China, N Korea, Myanmar of repressing religious freedom; Irrawaddy (18 Nov 10) Junta Putting Pressure on Buddhist Clergy; Clinton

⁹⁷ US State Department (17 Nov 10) Annual Report on International Religious Freedom - Burma

In November, fresh reports surfaced of harassment of Christian and Muslim communities at the hands of regime authorities:

- **9 November:** The SPDC Election Sub-commission in Gangaw Township, Magwe Division, barred a local church from holding mass.⁹⁸
- **Mid-November:** Na Sa Ka personnel in Maungdaw Township, Arakan State, subjected local Muslim Rohingya to arrest, extortion, and harassment during the celebration of the annual Eid-u-Azah festival.⁹⁹
- **22 November:** Na Sa Ka personnel from Area 6 in Maungdaw Township, Arakan State, arrested four mosque trustees for repairing a mosque in Nanda Khali Village without the authorities' permission.¹⁰⁰

DISPLACEMENT

Clashes in Karen State push 27,000 villagers into Thailand

On Election Day and the days that followed, violence between the SPDC Army and a breakaway faction of the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA) spread throughout Southern Karen State. SPDC Army and DKBA Brigade 5 forces clashed in Karen State's Kawkaik, Kyainnseikyi, and Myawaddy Townships.¹⁰¹ The clashes caused more than 27,000 people to seek shelter in Thailand. Thousands more sought refuge in the jungles of Southern Karen and Mon States.¹⁰² At least 10 civilians, including three children, died as a result of the fighting and more than 30 more were injured.¹⁰³

- **7-8 November:**
 - Clashes between the SPDC Army and the DKBA Brigade 5 in Myawaddy caused around 20,000 people to seek shelter across the border in Thailand's Tak Province.¹⁰⁴
 - Around 5,000 refugees fled to Thailand's Kanchanaburi Province to escape fighting between the DKBA Battalion 907 and the SPDC Army in Three Pagoda's Pass, Kyainnseikyi Township.¹⁰⁵
- **14-17 November:** More than 2,000 villagers fled into Phop Phra District in Thailand's Tak Province to escape fighting between the SPDC Army and the DKBA near Wah Lay Village, Myawaddy Township.¹⁰⁶
- **27-28 November:** Renewed fighting near Myawaddy between the SPDC Army and DKBA caused around 1,200 villagers to flee into Thailand's Tak Province.¹⁰⁷

In late November, the SPDC Army deployed near Three Pagoda's Pass 1,000 soldiers from seven battalions under the Moulmein-based Southeast Regional Command in preparation for an all out assault on the DKBA Brigade 5 and its allies, the Karen National Liberation Army.¹⁰⁸ The junta forced villagers from Kyainnseikyi Township to porter supplies as part of the buildup.¹⁰⁹ On 22 November, the

⁹⁸ Chinland Guardian (17 Nov 10) Church Closed, Pastor Interrogated by EC Officials

⁹⁹ Kaladan News (18 Nov 10) Arakan Rohingyas struggle for a peaceful Eid-ul-Azah

¹⁰⁰ Kaladan News (30 Nov 10) Trustees arrested for unauthorized mosque repairs

¹⁰¹ Nation (09 Nov 10) Panithan: Nearly 20,000 Karen refugees flee into Thailand; AP (08 Nov 10) 15,000 refugees flee Myanmar post-vote fighting

¹⁰² AAP (09 Nov 10) 20,000 flee fighting on Burma border; Irrawaddy (10 Nov 10) Junta Troops Retake Myawaddy as Residents Return; DVB (11 Nov 10) Burmese army takes DKBA stronghold

¹⁰³ Irrawaddy (10 Nov 10) Junta Troops Retake Myawaddy as Residents Return; Free Burma Rangers (20 Nov 10) School girl killed, villagers wounded and hundreds displaced as the Burma Army continues attacks in Central Karen State; KHRG (17 Nov 10) Protection concerns expressed by civilians amidst conflict in Dooplaya and Pa'an districts

¹⁰⁴ AP (08 Nov 10) 15,000 refugees flee Myanmar post-vote fighting; CNN (08 Nov 10) Thousands flee Myanmar into Thailand; NYT (08 Nov 10) Myanmar Refugees Spilling into Thailand

¹⁰⁵ AAP (09 Nov 10) 20,000 flee fighting on Burma border; DVB (08 Nov 10) Up to 5000 refugees flee into Thailand; Mizzima News (08 Nov 10) DKBA seizes Three Pagodas Pass

¹⁰⁶ NMG (18 Nov 10) Over 2000 refugees arrive on Thai border again; Irrawaddy (17 Nov 10) Thailand Sends Burmese Villagers Back Home; DVB (16 Nov 10) Karen refugees flee further clashes

¹⁰⁷ Reuters (28 Nov 10) Hundreds pour into Thailand after Myanmar clashes; ABC (29 Nov 10) More than 1,000 Burmese villagers escape into Thailand; Bangkok Post (28 Nov 10) Burmese refugees flee fighting

¹⁰⁸ Irrawaddy (24 Nov 10) Curfew at Three Pagodas Pass

¹⁰⁹ Irrawaddy (16 Nov 10) 40 Burmese Troops Wounded by Karen Rebels; IMNA (17 Nov 10) Burmese battalion takes porters after battle; Free Burma Rangers (20 Nov 10) School girl killed, villagers wounded and hundreds displaced as the Burma Army continues attacks in Central Karen State

junta ordered the DKBA Brigade 5 to surrender by 31 December or face annihilation.¹¹⁰ On 23 November, the junta imposed an 8 pm curfew in Three Pagoda's Pass and threatened to shoot violators on sight.¹¹¹

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

UNGA resolution condemns human rights abuses in Burma

On 18 November, the UN General Assembly's Third Committee adopted a resolution on Burma by a vote of 96 to 28 with 60 abstentions. The resolution:¹¹²

- Strongly condemned the SPDC's ongoing systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms and urged the SPDC to conduct a transparent and independent investigation into these abuses.
- Welcomed Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's release and called on the SPDC to ensure that no restrictions are placed on the exercise of all her human rights and fundamental freedoms in the future.
- Urged the SPDC to release all other political prisoners.
- Stated that the SPDC "did not take the necessary steps to ensure a free, fair, transparent and inclusive electoral process" in the 7 November election.

Countries that voted 'no' included Russia, Bangladesh, India, Cambodia, Brunei, China, Laos, Malaysia, and Vietnam. Countries that abstained included Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.¹¹³

Nambiar meets Daw Suu

On 27 November, UN Sec-Gen's Ban Ki-Moon's Chief of Staff Vijay Nambiar arrived in Rangoon for a two-day visit.¹¹⁴ During his stay, Nambiar met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and NLD Central Executive Committee members, leaders of other political parties, SPDC FM Nyan Win, and SPDC Election Commission officials.¹¹⁵ Nambiar urged the SPDC to investigate election irregularities in a transparent manner.¹¹⁶ Before departing Burma, Nambiar called for the release of all political prisoners and said that the UN wanted to see the SPDC hold a "national dialogue" with all the concerned parties in the post-election period.¹¹⁷

ECONOMY

New deals

Thai companies continued to line-up for investment opportunities linked to the Tavoy deep-sea port. Russian, Chinese, Thai, and SPDC-backed companies signed deals with the junta regarding oil, natural gas, and hydropower projects.

- **2 November:** Thai construction company Italian-Thai Development signed a US\$8.6 billion contract with the SPDC to build a deep-sea port and industrial estate in Tavoy, Tenasserim Division.¹¹⁸

¹¹⁰ Irrawaddy (22 Nov 10) DKBA Brigade 5 Told 'Join BGF or Disarm'

¹¹¹ Irrawaddy (24 Nov 10) Curfew at Three Pagodas Pass

¹¹² UNGA 65th session, Situation of human rights in Myanmar - Third Committee Resolution, 15 November 2010, UN Doc A/C.3/65/L.48/Rev.1

¹¹³ UNGA (18 Nov 10) 47th Meeting - Third Committee - Situation of human rights in Myanmar - A/C.3/65/L.48/Rev.1

¹¹⁴ NLM (28 Nov 10) Special Adviser to UNSG and party arrive in Yangon

¹¹⁵ NLM (28 Nov 10) Special Adviser to UNSG and party arrive in Yangon; AP (28 Nov 10) UN envoy: Myanmar must address criticism of polls

¹¹⁶ AP (28 Nov 10) UN envoy: Myanmar must address criticism of polls

¹¹⁷ DPA (28 Nov 10) UN chief of staff calls on Myanmar to free all political prisoners

¹¹⁸ Reuters (04 Nov 10) Italian-Thai inks deals for huge Myanmar port project; DPA (03 Nov 10) Thai company commits to large infrastructure project in Myanmar; Bloomberg (03 Nov 10) Italian-Thai Signs \$8.6 Billion Myanmar Deep-Sea Port Contract

- **9 November:** Local Weekly Eleven News reported that junta crony Tay Za's Htoo Trading Group and Russia's Closed Joint Stock Oil Company would jointly explore oil and natural gas at Shwe U-ru field in Homalin Township, Sagaing Division.¹¹⁹
- **10 November:** China's Three Gorges, Sinohydro, and China Southern Power Grid Companies signed an agreement with the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand and Burma's International Group of Entrepreneur to conduct a feasibility study of a proposed US\$10 billion hydropower project on the Salween River.¹²⁰
- **24 November:** The SPDC Ministry of Electric Power-1 signed MoUs with China's Huaneng Lancang River Hydropower and SPDC-favorite Asia World to jointly develop the Shweli hydropower project in Shan State and with Asia World to develop the Bilin hydropower project in Mon State.¹²¹

Fuel rationing returns

In November, re-imposed quotas on gas sales led to a resurgence in the black-market sale of gasoline. Unable to meet the demand for fuel at the junta-imposed subsidized price of 2,500 kyat (US\$2.80), the recently privatized gas stations limited daily sales to around four gallons per car. As a result, on the black-market the price of gasoline rose to around 3,500 kyat (US\$3.90) per gallon.¹²²

OTHER BURMA NEWS IN NOVEMBER

2	A fire in Minyak Ward of Myitkyina Township, Kachin State, leaves 17 people homeless.
2	KNU, KNPP, CNF, KIO, NMSP, and SSA-N agree to join forces against the SPDC Army at a meeting in Mae Hong Son, Thailand.
3	UN Sec-Gen Ban Ki-moon asks China to use its influence with the SPDC to ensure that Burma moves in a positive direction following the elections.
4	Bangladeshi officials detain 12 Rohingya refugees from the Leda makeshift camp.
4	Two people in cyclone Giri affected areas of Kyaukpyu Township, Arakan State, die from diarrhea related conditions.
7	Na Sa Ka personnel in Shwe Zarr Village, Maungdaw Township, Arakan State, force villagers to build a fence along the bank of the Naff River.
7	Four SPDC Army soldiers from LIB 304 based in Matupi, Chin State, assault and attempt to rape the wife of a National Democratic Force committee member.
7	US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton says that Australia and the US will continue to work together to establish an UN Commission of Inquiry to hold the SPDC accountable for human rights violations.
8	US President Barack Obama criticizes India over their reluctance to condemn the SPDC's human rights abuses.
8	US State Department spokesman PJ Crowley says that the US is still prepared to have discussions with the SPDC.
9	WHO Medical Officer in Burma Leonard Ortega says that Burma's border towns with Thailand are at high risk of deadly malaria.
10	The SPDC Army captures and kills a local man thought to be close to the DKBA in Way Lay, Kyainnseiki Township, Karen State.
11	Burma's Supreme Court rejects Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's final appeal against her house arrest sentence.
11	SPDC Army troops from LID 33 attack SSA-N Battalion 24 in Mongshu Township, Shan State.
11	AIPMC Vice-President Lim Kit Siang said calls on ASEAN to support a UN Commission of Inquiry to investigate possible war crimes and crimes against humanity in Burma.
13	Yuzana Company employees beat and rape two women in the Hukawng Valley in Tanai Township, Kachin State
14	NLD issues a statement that calls on the SPDC to release all political prisoners and guarantee Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's safety and full freedom of movement, expression, and assembly.
14	SSA-N troops abandon a number of outposts in central Shan State and take positions in the jungle in anticipation of a renewed SPDC Army offensive.
14	SPDC Army LIB 284 soldiers forcibly conscript 11 villagers from Tadein Village, Kyainnseiki Township, Karen State, to serve as porters.

¹¹⁹ Xinhua (09 Nov 10) Myanmar, Russian companies to jointly explore oil, gas

¹²⁰ Bloomberg (16 Nov 10) China, Myanmar, Thailand Study \$10 Billion Hydro Dam

¹²¹ NLM (26 Nov 10) MoA, MoU signed for Shweli (2), Bilin hydropower projects

¹²² Mizzima News (23 Nov 10) Fuel price rises as much as 250pc on junta rationing; Irrawaddy (24 Nov 10) Black Market in Fuel Making Strong Comeback

15	Vietnam Airlines unveils a new route from Ho Chi Minh City to Rangoon.
15	East Timor's President Jose Ramos-Horta urges the US and EU to lift sanctions.
15	Vietnam voices its support for national reconciliation and peace in Burma.
16	Union Democracy Party Chairman Thein Htay resigns because of his frustration over the election results.
16	US State Department spokesman PJ Crowley says that the Obama administration will continue its policy of simultaneous engagement and sanctions with the SPDC.
17	SPDC soldiers from LIB 564 order at least 50 villagers in North Buthidaung Township, Arakan State, to work at their military camp to clear brush, dig trenches, and other tasks.
17	SPDC authorities defuse four time bombs planted at an internet café in Rangoon's Kyauktada Township.
17	An explosion in Mandalay's Mahar Aung Myay Township injures two people.
18	The Global Fund and the SPDC Ministry of Health sign an MoU for the allocation of US\$105.2 million over two years to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.
18	US House of Representatives adopt a resolution that condemns Burma's elections and says that no government in Burma can be legitimate without the participation of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.
20	The KIO announces the closure of nine liaison offices in Kachin State and two offices in Shan State after the SPDC orders them shut.
20	An SPDC Army soldier from LIB 578 rapes a 16-year -old girl and murders her parents in Hwe Hsim Village in Southern Shan State's Langkho Township.
20	A bomb blast at a pagoda in Mandalay's Chan Aye Thazan Township injures two people.
22	Burma's Supreme Court rejects Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's lawsuit against the SPDC over the dissolution of the NLD.
22	The SPDC closes an NDAA checkpoint between Mongla and Kengtung in Eastern Shan State, preventing the transport of goods in the region.
22	A KIA landmine kills one SPDC Army soldier from LIB 321 and injures two more in Waingmaw Township, Kachin State.
22	SPDC Army soldiers from MOC 2 in Kyethi Township, Shan State, shoot and kill a 43-year-old local villager.
23	Vietnam and the SPDC sign an agreement on cooperation in trade, investment, animal husbandry, forestry, rubber, oil and gas, mining, fisheries, and tourism at the 7th session of the Vietnam-Myanmar Joint Commission in Hanoi.
23	SSA-S troops kill two SPDC Army soldiers in a clash near Namhu Khun Village in Mongton Township, Shan State.
24	Indian human rights organization Manav Ekta Parishad awards Daw Aung San Suu Kyi the "Queen of Burma's Democracy and Human Rights" award.
25	Denmark's ruling Liberal Party advises Danes to avoid traveling to Burma and calls on travel agents to abandon the country as a tourist destination.
25	Police in Kyaukpyu, Arakan State, arrest and subsequently torture local resident Tun Nu, 32, for demonstrating for the release of political prisoners.
26	DKBA forces kill two SPDC Army soldiers from LIB 401 in a clash near Three Pagodas Pass, Karen State.
26	Na Sa Ka personnel in Southern Maungdaw, Arakan State, force residents to work on a border fence project.
27	Na Sa Ka personnel coerce villagers in Maungdaw Township, Arakan State, to work on a road project along the Burma-Bangladesh border fence area.
28	BDR personnel arrest a Burmese woman in Teknaf, Bangladesh, and seize about 800 amphetamine tablets she is smuggling into Bangladesh from Burma.
28	KNLA Regiment 18 forces kill 30 soldiers from BGF 1016 in an ambush south of Kawkareik, Karen State.

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