



Chin Human Rights Organization

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ABOUT THE CHIN HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION

The Chin Human Rights Organization (CHRO) is committed to protecting and promoting human rights through monitoring, research, documentation, education and advocacy on behalf of the Chin indigenous people and other oppressed and marginalized communities in Burma/Myanmar. Through our work, we envision meaningful social change and the full enjoyment of human rights in a just, free and democratic society, where the equal dignity of all human beings is respected and upheld. CHRO was founded in 1995, by a group of Chin activists committed to documenting and exposing years of systematic human rights violations by State actors, previously unreported and unknown to the international community.

ABOUT THE CHIN PEOPLE OF BURMA/MYANMAR

- Around 500,000 Chin indigenous people live in the northwestern area of Chin State in Burma/Myanmar. More Chin live in areas outside of Chin State, such as Arakan State, Sagaing, Magwe, Bago, and Rangoon Regions. The Chin self-identify as indigenous people, and are ethnically and dialectally very diverse. Despite such diversity, the Chin are unified through a shared history, cultural heritage, geographical homeland, traditional practices, and ethnic identity. The missions of the American Baptist Church starting in the late 1800s served to further unify the Chin people through religion. In a country that is predominantly Buddhist, the Chin are 90 percent Christian. Many communities continue to practice traditional forms of animism, while a small minority in Chin State follow Buddhism.¹
- Chin State is one of the most underdeveloped and isolated regions in Burma/Myanmar, with inadequate road infrastructure, communication systems, healthcare and education facilities, electricity and running water. Over 70 percent of the Chin people live below the poverty line. Shifting cultivation is the primary subsistence livelihood for the largely rural communities of Chin State, who account for over 90 percent of the population.²
- In spite of a ceasefire agreement in effect in Chin State since 2012, CHRO continues to document serious human rights violations. An estimated 150,000 Chin are still seeking refuge in India and Malaysia.³

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Under Section A, CHRO highlights Burma/Myanmar's obligations under international law and human rights instruments of particular relevance to the Chin.
- Section B presents a human rights analysis of the bilateral ceasefire agreements between ethnic armed group the Chin National Front and the Burma/Myanmar government, in effect since 2012.
- Section C focuses on the human rights situation in the State under Review, in Chin State and other areas of the country where Chin live. This is based on first-hand information; documentation of human rights violations perpetrated by State actors since January 2011, collected by CHRO. These include killings and sexual violence, arbitrary arrest and detention, ill-treatment and torture, forced labour, and violations of freedom of religion or belief, with impunity as a cross-cutting issue.
- Section D puts forward a number of recommendations for action by the Burma/Myanmar government to improve the human rights situation in the country, with a particular focus on the main issues of concern to the Chin indigenous people.

A. NORMATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STATE

1. As well as having ratified CRC, CRC-OP-SC, CEDAW, CRPD and CBD, Burma/Myanmar also has obligations to uphold the UN Charter, the UDHR, the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This includes the obligation to accord these rights and freedoms in national legislation and in practice.⁴
2. Burma/Myanmar has international obligations under 1930 Forced Labour Convention (No.29), and the complaints mechanism contained in the Supplementary Understanding reached with the International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2007. The government has committed to ending forced labour by 2015.⁵ Although progress has been made towards this goal, it has not been achieved, and perpetrators of forced labour continue to enjoy impunity.
3. Impunity - including for serious human rights violations - is enshrined in Article 445 of the 2008 Constitution, which protects past and present government officials from prosecution "in respect of any act done in the execution of their respective duties."⁶ The Burma/Myanmar army continues to commit human rights violations with impunity in Chin State, in violation of the government's obligations under international law.
4. In December 2014, President Thein Sein sent a package of four draft bills, ostensibly designed to "protect race and religion", to the Parliament for consideration.⁷ The Religious Conversion Bill introduces tight State control over the right to choose a religion. Custodial penalties for vague offences like "insulting religion" and compelling someone to convert to another religion through "undue influence or pressure", could all be used to discriminate against religious minorities, and would violate the right to freedom of religion or belief. The Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA) drafted the religious conversion law, based on

proposals by an ultra-nationalist Buddhist organization called the Association for the Protection of Race and Religion.⁸

B. BILATERAL CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS IN EFFECT IN CHIN STATE⁹

5. Negotiations for a Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) and framework for political dialogue between the government and the Ethnic Armed Groups (EAGs) are ongoing. Various bilateral ceasefire agreements, signed from 2011 onwards, remain in effect. The three agreements signed between the Chin National Front (CNF) and the government in January, May, and December 2012 are comprised of 51 points in total, and are the most comprehensive of all the current bilateral agreements.¹⁰
6. In terms of human rights protections, point 13 of the May 2012 agreement between the CNF and the Union government specifies, "The parties agreed to cooperate in ensuring unconditional and due punishment for anyone for violations of basic human rights in accordance with the law, as well as ensuring that no party violates the constitutional basic human rights of the people in the future during the course of the ceasefire agreement."
7. Point 14 of the May agreement provides for the formation of a Ceasefire Monitoring Body, to be comprised of pastors from the Chin Peace and Tranquility Committee (CPTC)¹¹, and "legal experts". The Ceasefire Monitoring Body has to report any failures to observe any points of the agreements by named parties to a Crisis Mediation Body.¹² This is an ad hoc body to be formed in response to specific incidents, made up of relevant point persons from the Burma/Myanmar Army and the CNF. This includes failures to observe point 13, on violations of basic human rights.
8. However, point 12 of the May 2012 agreement provides for immunity from retrospective criminal prosecution for CNF members. No party to the conflicts in Burma/Myanmar should enjoy impunity for past human rights violations.
9. Point 5 of the December 2012 agreement provides for the formation of an independent Chin human rights committee, reporting to the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, the Chin State government, and the CNF.
10. The 28-point December 2012 agreement includes a number of other provisions for the protection of human rights. Point 21 provides for the implementation of the teaching of Chin languages at primary education level, while point 23 provides for the full enjoyment of all tenets of freedom of religion or belief in Chin State.¹³ The human rights provisions outlined above have yet to be implemented.

C. PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE GROUND

Militarization and poor basic infrastructure make it challenging to collect comprehensive information about the human rights situation in Chin State. CHRO is one of the few organizations able to document human rights violations (HRVs) in the area. Due to the difficult operating environment, it is likely that the true figures for HRVs are in fact considerably higher.

Killings and Sexual Violence¹⁴

11. Since 2011, CHRO has documented the death of one Chin man at the hands of two Burma/Myanmar soldiers from Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) 269 and a policeman, in July 2012 in Tedim township. He was beaten to death when he tried to peacefully resolve a dispute.¹⁵
12. Since 2011, at least four Chin women and girls have been raped or sexually assaulted by soldiers serving in the Burma/Myanmar army. Two of the victims were aged 13 and 15. The most recent incident took place in June 2014. No known action has been taken against any of the alleged perpetrators.¹⁶

Arbitrary Arrest and Detention; Unfair Charges

13. Since 2011, CHRO has documented 37 individual cases of arbitrary arrests and detention in Chin State. 18 cases took place in 2011, in connection with alleged support for the CNF; campaigning for recognition of Chin National Day; building Christian infrastructure without official permission; and arbitrary detention until extortion demands were met.¹⁷
14. 19 cases took place in 2014, in connection with alleged support for the CNF; building Christian infrastructure without official permission; protesting against land confiscation; and protesting against sexual violence.¹⁸
15. For example, in June 2014, in accordance with the 2011 Peaceful Assembly and Peaceful Procession Law, women human rights defenders from Rezua and Matupi towns in Chin State applied for permission to protest against sexual violence perpetrated by Burma/Myanmar Army soldiers, following the sexual assault of a Rezua woman earlier that month. Their applications were refused. When they proceeded with their protests, eight organizers were arrested under Article 18 of the law. They were convicted and given a monetary fine.¹⁹

Ill-Treatment and Torture²⁰

16. Since 2011, CHRO has documented more than 21 cases of ill-treatment perpetrated by Burma/Myanmar soldiers and other State actors, in some cases amounting to torture.²¹

17. For example, in August 2014, 8 Khumi Chin farmers were arrested and detained for more than a week by LIB 344 Commander Major Tin Htut Oo in the Paletwa area, after armed members of CNF visited their farms uninvited. While in custody, 7 of the farmers were subjected to ill-treatment amounting to torture by Major Tin Htut Oo. At times they were tied up, kicked and punched, and were denied food for the duration of their detention. Despite writing three complaint letters to the authorities, demanding justice and compensation for property destroyed while in custody, the farmers have had no response.²²
18. As the incident violated the terms of the CNF-government ceasefire agreements, in their capacity as the Ceasefire Monitoring Body, the CPTC conducted an investigation and submitted their findings to both parties to the conflict. To date, the Crisis Mediation Body has not been convened and there has been no justice for the farmers.²³

Forced Labour²⁴

19. Since 2011, 35 incidents of forced labour have been documented by CHRO, some involving orders to multiple villages at a time. Such cases include portering and performing other duties for the Burma/Myanmar army. Since 2013, due to less frequent troop movements within Chin State, demands for forced labour from the military have declined. However, demands for forced labour continue and often intersect with violations of freedom of religion or belief, such as orders for Christian civil servants to perform additional work during Christian worship hours on Sunday, or preparing offerings and other forms of work for Buddhist ceremonies. Civil servants are not compensated for this work, and face retribution including the threat of losing their job or other financial penalties if they refuse to perform the work.²⁵

Freedom of religion or belief²⁶

20. Chin Christians continue to face systematic violations of the right to freedom of religion or belief. These include discriminatory restrictions imposed by MoRA, which make land ownership rights and official permission to construct Christian infrastructure very difficult to obtain; and violations of freedom of religious assembly, worship, and proselytizing.²⁷
21. CHRO has documented the destruction or removal of 13 large Christian crosses in Chin State on the orders of the authorities, four of which have taken place since 2011. Other emblematic cases documented in Chin populated areas since 2011 include assaults of Christian missionaries by State actors; a Chin MP threatened at gunpoint by Burma/Myanmar Army soldiers at a Christian conference; eviction and threats to burn down a village for conversion to Christianity; and unfair charges brought against Chin Christians for the construction of churches or crosses without official permission. At the same time, State spending for the construction of Buddhist infrastructure in predominantly Chin Christian areas continues.²⁸
22. In November 2013, the historic Chin National Conference made 12 recommendations to the government on freedom of religion or belief, including: grant land ownership rights for

religious purposes; guarantee freedom of religious worship, assembly, and proselytizing; and restore all Chin Christian crosses that were destroyed under previous pretexts.²⁹

Poverty, the Right to Food, and Food Insecurity³⁰

23. People in Chin State are by far the poorest in Burma/Myanmar, according to the 2011 UNDP *Poverty Profile*. 73 percent of people live below the poverty line, and 25 percent live in extreme poverty, compared with a national average of 5 percent.³¹ Discrimination and poverty are inextricably linked, as emphasized by the UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism.³² State-sanctioned discrimination has manifested as a pattern of pervasive human rights violations perpetrated against the Chin by State actors. Forced labour, food misappropriation, land confiscation, extortion and arbitrary taxation and have seriously undermined Chin subsistence livelihoods over the past two decades, and exacerbated levels of extreme poverty.³³
24. Food insecurity continues to be a major problem affecting communities in Chin State, due to the lasting impact of the well-documented 2006 – 2010 food crisis, and heavy rains and flooding. The Chin State government has been ineffective at responding to the challenges of food insecurity.³⁴
25. In 2014, the UNODC conducted its first opium poppy cultivation survey in Northern Chin State, estimating that 1,100 hectares are under cultivation, which corroborates local estimates. Poverty is the primary reason for poppy cultivation in the area. Although the Chin State government has reportedly destroyed some opium poppy plantations, it has not provided any alternative sustainable livelihood programs. An increase in opium addiction is having a devastating impact on local villages. Cultivation has been increasing since 2006, with the trade reportedly controlled by Meitei rebel groups from Manipur, Northeast India, in collaboration with the Burma/Myanmar Army.³⁵

Right to Health³⁶

26. Basic health care facilities in Chin State are completely inadequate and understaffed. According to 2013 statistics from the Chin State Health Department, there is only one doctor per 6,494 people in the area. In addition, currently only one out of the total 16 station hospitals across Chin State has a medical doctor, with the rest run by nurses. In early 2015, five young children died from severe diarrhea caused by Rotavirus, with the lack of medical facilities in rural areas contributing to the deaths.³⁷
27. Discrimination, corruption, arbitrary taxation and extortion, and the lack of basic road infrastructure are cross-cutting issues which also negatively affect healthcare provision, and have resulted in preventable deaths. In one example, a mother and her unborn child died when a doctor in a government hospital made repeated demands for money, and delayed surgery until it was too late.³⁸

Right to Education³⁹

28. The lack of adequate school facilities is a major barrier to accessing education for the Chin. In many rural areas, one school is shared by up to four to five villages in the area. The lack of schools has prompted internal migration within Chin State, with families choosing to move closer to towns, or sending their children to live with relatives. Understaffing is also a major impediment to access to quality education in rural areas, and communities face the financial burden of paying for supplementary teachers' salaries.⁴⁰
29. The military-dominated Ministry for Border Affairs runs Border Areas National Races Youth Development Training (also known as Na Ta La) schools under its Education and Training Department, primarily targeted at impoverished ethnic and religious minorities like the Chin. At the schools, Chin are promised a government position after graduation. However, students have been prevented from practising Christianity and have faced coercion to convert to Buddhism. The government has described the schools as a key component of a '30-year master plan for the development of border areas and national races'.⁴¹ These schools are designed to facilitate a forced assimilation policy, and violate the government's obligations under CRC.

Right to Land, Natural Resources, and Development⁴²

30. Land confiscation without compensation by the Burma/Myanmar Army and local authorities for the purposes of 'military use', road construction, and plantation projects continues to have a devastating impact on Chin subsistence livelihoods.⁴³
31. In Chin areas, harmful development and extractive industry projects are characterized by a lack of transparency, the absence of free, prior, and informed consent from local communities, and negative environmental and social impacts. Impact assessments are rarely conducted or made public. In one example, the route of a 130km highway connecting Paletwa in Southern Chin State with the India-Burma/Myanmar border as part of the Kaladan Project, classified as Indian development aid to Burma/Myanmar, has not yet been made public in spite of repeated calls for transparency.⁴⁴

D. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION BY THE STATE UNDER REVIEW

- R1. Ensure that alleged perpetrators of human rights violations are brought to justice in open court proceedings which meet international standards of fairness.
- R2. Remove Article 445 from the 2008 Constitution, and amend bilateral ceasefire agreements and the draft Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement to remove all references to impunity for past human rights violations, for any party to the conflicts.

- R3. To withdraw (or where applicable, immediately repeal) the draft legislation for the “protection of race and religion”.
- R4. Ensure in law, policy, and practice that land ownership rights for religious purposes, freedom of religious worship, assembly, and proselytizing, are guaranteed for all religions.
- R5. Abolish the Border Areas National Races Youth Development Training schools, and institute a single decentralized education system under the Ministry of Education, where all students are treated equally and without discrimination on the basis of religious and ethnic identity.
- R6. Cooperate fully with the Myanmar UN Country Team to ensure that poverty reduction initiatives, sustainable livelihood programs, and development projects are devised and implemented according to the 2009 United Nations Development Group *Guidelines on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues*.
- R7. Substantially increase the national budget allocation for the improvement of health and education provision in the poorest areas of Burma/Myanmar, and decentralize decision-making powers to the State and Region governments.
- R8. Ensure that all ceasefire agreements include human rights protections, and impartial monitoring mechanisms which are independent of the parties to the conflicts, as well as outlining clear and effective recourse in the event that the terms of the agreements are broken, in line with international human rights standards.
- R9. Include provisions for the formation of State/Region-level human rights bodies - which would have understanding of and expertise in the local human rights contexts - to operate in line with the Paris Principles, in bilateral ceasefire agreements and the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement, and enact enabling legislation.
- R10. Cooperate with OHCHR to enable the establishment of a field office in Burma/Myanmar with a full mandate to protect and promote human rights in the country.

END NOTES

¹ See “*Threats to Our Existence*”: *Persecution of Ethnic Chin Christians in Burma*, September 2012, CHRO.

² *Ibid.*

³ Chin refugee community-based organizations in Malaysia estimate there are 50,000 Chin asylum-seekers and refugees in the country, while various NGOs and INGOs estimate there are around 100,000 Chin in Mizoram, Northeast India and New Delhi. See *We Are Like Forgotten People: of Burma: Unsafe in Burma, Unprotected in India*, January 2009, Human Rights Watch.

⁴ Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 1991, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography (CRC-OP-SC) in 2012, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1997, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2011, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1995.

⁵ [Burma to stamp out forced labour 'by 2015'](#), 19 March 2012, Democratic Voice of Burma.

⁶ Article 445 of the 2008 Constitution.

⁷ The four bills are: (1) the religious conversion bill, which introduces State controls over religious conversion; (2) the monogamy bill, which criminalizes polygamy and infidelity; (3) the interfaith marriage bill for Myanmar Buddhist women, which imposes restrictions on marriages between non-Buddhist men and Buddhist women; and (4) the population control bill, which introduces State controls over birth spacing. The bills are highly discriminatory, particularly against women and religious minorities.

⁸ See joint statement signed by 80 civil society organizations worldwide, <http://www.chro.ca/images/Burma-Myanmar-Religious-conversion-law-threatens-religious-freedom.pdf>

⁹ Relevant recommendation: 104.53. Solve long-standing conflicts between the Government and ethnic groups in a peaceful manner (Czech Republic). The SuR has failed to implement this recommendation.

¹⁰ See *Rhododendron News*, Jan-Feb, May-Jun, Nov-Dec 2012 editions for the translated texts of the ceasefire agreements. Although questions remain over whether or not the NCA would supersede the bilateral agreements, it is unlikely that NSAGs would be willing to set aside the terms of those bilateral agreements for the sake of the NCA, given that several of those agreements contain provisions unique to that particular ethnic State context. Any NCA will likely draw on bilateral agreements, rather than replace them.

¹¹ The Chin Peace & Tranquility Committee is a group of Chin pastors who have played a key role in mediating between the CNF and government forces since the mid-1990s.

¹² The named parties are the Union government, Chin State government, Burma/Myanmar Army, police force, and the CNF.

¹³ It specifically includes the right to own land for religious purposes; the right to freely construct churches and other religious buildings; and the right to proselytize.

¹⁴ Relevant recommendations accepted by the SuR during the first cycle of the UPR are: 104.36. Adopt strict legislation which criminalizes rape in every context and which ensures legal punishment of the perpetrators including those from the police, military and other authorities (Hungary); 104.39. Conduct an investigation, bring perpetrators to justice and provide reparation to the victims of sexual violence involving members of the armed forces (Brazil). The SuR has failed to implement these recommendations

¹⁵ See CHRO’s *Rhododendron News*, July-August 2012.

¹⁶ CHRO has also documented four other cases of sexual violence, perpetrated by non-State actors. One was reportedly perpetrated by a member of a Meitei armed group from Manipur, and ordinary civilians were the perpetrators in three other cases. Due to corruption and social stigma, they were never brought to justice. See *Rhododendron News*, May-Jun 2014 (4 cases), Jan-Feb 2013 (1 case), Jul-Aug 2012 (2 cases), Mar-Apr 2011 (1 case).

¹⁷ See *Rhododendron News*, all editions in 2011.

¹⁸ See *Rhododendron News*, all editions in 2014.

¹⁹ See press release from CHRO http://www.chro.ca/images/stories/files/PDF/CHRO_pr_8Chin_on_triL.pdf

Amnesty International issued an Urgent Action on the case:

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ASA16/015/2014/en/a0808251-6590-4264-a8e4-f067dd1a0ae7/asa160152014en.html>

²⁰ Relevant recommendation accepted by the SuR: 104.30. End and prohibit torture (Slovenia). The SuR has failed to implement this recommendation and voluntary commitment.

²¹ *Rhododendron News*, Jul-Aug 2011, Mar-Apr, May-Jun, Jul-Aug 2012, Jan-Feb, Jul-Aug, Nov-Dec 2013, and May-Jun, Jul-Aug, Sep-Oct 2014, CHRO.

²² One man was beaten with a wooden pole, resulting in head and neck injuries. Two other men suffered severe swelling to their faces. See Rhododendron News, Sep-Oct 2014, CHRO.

²³ Unpublished situation update on file with CHRO, March 2015.

²⁴ Relevant recommendations accepted by the SuR during the first cycle of the UPR are: 104.33. End forced labour and child labour (Slovenia); 106.40. Cooperate fully with ILO to end forced and child labour including in the military, in particular through implementation of a Joint Action Plan and awareness-raising activities (United Kingdom); 104.41. Fully cooperate with ILO and implement the recommendations of the ILO Inquiry Commission (France). The SuR has partially implemented these recommendations.

²⁵ See all editions of Rhododendron News, 2011; all editions of Rhododendron News 2012, except Jul-Aug; Jan-Feb, Sep-Oct 2013; and Jan-Feb 2015.

²⁶ Relevant recommendations accepted by the SuR during the first cycle of the UPR are: 104.29. Ensure that ethnic and religious minorities are granted fundamental rights and end discrimination against persons belonging to these minorities (Slovenia); and 104.52. Ensure that ethnic minorities are granted fundamental rights and are enabled to enjoy their culture, religion and their language freely and without any form of discrimination (Poland). The SuR has failed to implement these recommendations.

²⁷ CHRO's 2012 report, *"Threats to Our Existence": Persecution of Ethnic Chin Christians in Burma*, documents how official permission is notoriously hard to obtain for Chin Christian organizations, due to complex bureaucratic procedures and lengthy delays, resulting in requests being denied or simply ignored. Many Chin Christians have sought to circumvent these restrictions by applying for permissions in the name of an individual, rather than a Christian organization. However, if such buildings are suspected of being used for religious assembly, permission is often later withdrawn. Even when official permission is secured – more often than not, verbally – it can be revoked at any time.

²⁸ See *"Threats to Our Existence": Persecution of Ethnic Chin Christians in Burma*, September 2012, CHRO, and *Thematic Briefing: The state of freedom of religion or belief for Chin in Burma/Myanmar 2013*, January 2014, CHRO, and Rhododendron News, May-Jun 2014, Jul-Aug 2014, Jan-Feb 2015.

²⁹ See *Thematic Briefing: The state of freedom of religion or belief for Chin in Burma/Myanmar 2013*, January 2014, CHRO for the full list of recommendations made by the Chin National Conference.

³⁰ Relevant recommendation: 104.42. Take appropriate measures and develop an action plan while continuing the cooperation with the international community to implement the MDGs, in particular poverty reduction, the right to food and food security (Viet Nam). The SuR has not implemented this recommendation.

³¹ *Poverty Profile*, Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey in Myanmar (2009-2010), UNDP, June 2011, pp.12. The next poorest state is Arakan/Rakhine, at 44 percent. There is widening disparity between levels of abject poverty in Chin State and the rest of Burma/Myanmar. Extreme poverty is defined as spending all income on food. The rate of extreme poverty in Chin State is five times higher than the national average, compared with four times higher the last time statistics were compiled, in 2005.

³² UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, report to the UN General Assembly, 19 August 2013, ref. A/68/333.

³³ See *Life Under the Junta: Evidence of Crimes Against Humanity in Burma's Chin State*, Physicians for Human Rights, January 2011, and Rhododendron News, Jan – Feb 2014, CHRO.

³⁴ During the Chin State parliamentary session from September-October 2013, an MP asked the Chin State government if they would provide assistance to address food shortages in Thantlang township. The government responded with statistics they had collected in 2012: only 38 percent of households in Thantlang township, 36% in Tedim, 26% in Falam, 48% in Hakha, 5% in Kanpetlet, and 34% in Mindat had adequate food supplies in 2012. Government representatives went on to say that although households didn't have enough food, they could somehow get by with other crops and that no-one had died of hunger in Chin State. See Rhododendron News, Sep-Oct 2013, as well as Nov-Dec 2013, Mar-Apr 2014, and all editions of Rhododendron News in 2011 and 2012.

³⁵ *Southeast Asia Opium Survey 2014, Lao PDR & Myanmar*, UNODC. See also Rhododendron News, Jul-Aug 2011, Sep-Oct 2011, Nov-Dec 2011, Nov-Dec 2012, Sep-Oct 2013, Nov-Dec 2013, Jan-Feb 2014, and Jan-Feb 2015, CHRO, and [Opium Turns Hillside Town Into 'Widow Village'](#), 10 January 2015, Irrawaddy News.

³⁶ 104.5. Ensure the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), especially the rights to education and health (New Zealand); 104.13. Initiate as possible, with the assistance of the international community, the programmes of investment needed in the health, education and social security sectors (Algeria); 104.17. Continue implementing the programmes and measures to improve the enjoyment of the right to education and the right to health of all its population (Cuba); 104.47. Continue its efforts to further improve the

quality of education and health services (Democratic People's Republic of Korea); 104.44. Pursue its efforts for balanced development that bridges the gap between the rural and urban areas, with special attention to the realization of MDGs on health (Sudan); 104.45. Continue providing health-care services at primary health-care facilities at minimum or no cost (Bhutan). The State Under Review has not yet implemented these recommendations.

³⁷ Some of the reasons cited for understaffing are a lack of applicants from other parts of the country for vacancies in Chin State and very low number of matriculation students within Chin State qualifying to train to be a doctor. See Rhododendron News, Jan – Feb 2015.

³⁸ See Rhododendron News, Nov-Dec 2012 as well as May-Jun 2014, Nov-Dec 2012, Sep-Oct 2012, Mar-Apr 2012, May-Jun 2011 and Jul-Aug 2011.

³⁹ Relevant recommendations: 104.5. Ensure the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), especially the rights to education and health (New Zealand); 104.13. Initiate as possible, with the assistance of the international community, the programmes of investment needed in the health, education and social security sectors (Algeria); 104.17. Continue implementing the programmes and measures to improve the enjoyment of the right to education and the right to health of all its population (Cuba); 104.47. Continue its efforts to further improve the quality of education and health services (Democratic People's Republic of Korea). The State Under Review has not yet implemented these recommendations.

⁴⁰ See Rhododendron News, May-Jun 2011, and Overview of the Right to Education for the Chins in Burma, January 2011, CHRO.

⁴¹ See *CEDAW Combined Second and Third Periodic Report of States Parties – Myanmar*, doc. CEDAW/C/MMR/3, 4 September 2007, para.173.

⁴² Relevant recommendation: 104.20. Strengthen policies and measures to ensure better respect and protection of all human rights, especially in the fields of fundamental economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development (Viet Nam). The SuR has failed to implement this recommendation.

⁴³ For more detailed information and cases, please see the joint UPR submission by the Coalition of Indigenous Peoples in Myanmar/Burma, of which CHRO is a member.

⁴⁴ See the joint UPR submission by the Coalition of Indigenous Peoples in Myanmar/Burma, of which CHRO is a member, and [Four years on, no clear answers on Kaladan Project](#), the Kaladan Movement, 11 June 2014.