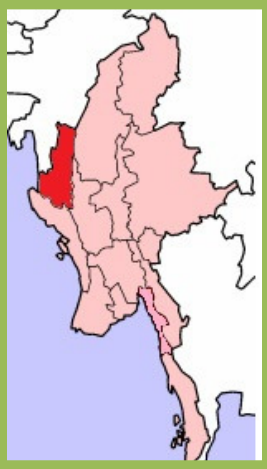
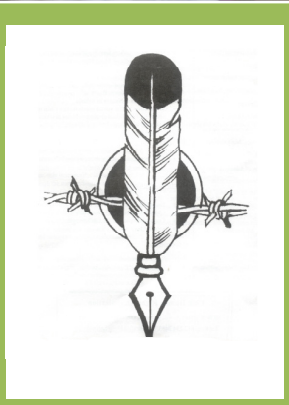


A Vote to Dissent

Burma's 2010 Elections in Chin State



Chin Human Rights Organization

A Vote to Dissent: 2010 Elections in Burma's Chin State

Acronyms

CHRO	Chin Human Rights Organization
CNP	Chin National Party
CPP	Chin Progressive Party
ENDP	Ethnic National Development Party
NDPD	National Democratic Party for Development
NDF	National Democratic Force
NLD	National League for Democracy
NUP	National Unity Party
SPDC	State Peace and Development Council
UEC	Union Election Commission
UMFNP	United Myanmar Federation of National Politics
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
USDP	Union Solidarity and Development Party
WFP	World Food Program
ZNC	Zomi National Congress

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About the Chin Human Rights Organization

The Chin Human Rights Organization (CHRO) is a non-governmental, non-profit advocacy organization legally registered in Canada. It was formed in 1995 on the India-Burma border by a group of Chin activists committed to promoting democracy in Burma, and documenting previously unreported human rights abuses being perpetrated against the Chin people by the Burma army and local authorities of the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC). CHRO is the primary rights-based advocacy organization for the Chin.

1. Introduction

On March 8, 2010 Burma's military regime State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) announced that elections would be held on November 7. But it was immediately obvious that the ruling military junta would not allow independent observers to monitor the country's first polls in 20 years. In response, the Chin Human Rights Organization (CHRO) developed a project in order to provide an alternative electoral monitoring mechanism, as well as to document the election situation in Chin State, one of the most isolated and difficult-to-access regions of Burma.

This report aims to document the situation around the 2010 elections, as well as the post-election conditions in Chin State and Chin populated areas of adjacent Sagaing Division.

2. Methodology

In September 2010, CHRO trained 30 local activists from diverse backgrounds from across Chin State, as well as parts of Sagaing Division. The purpose of the training was to equip activists with the knowledge and skills in order to effectively monitor and document the election environments in Chin State and other Chin-populated areas in northwestern Burma.

CHRO's election-monitoring project also benefited from further technical training workshops provided by the Bangkok-based Asian Network for Free Elections (ANFREL) and US-based National Democratic Institute (NDI).

This report is based on documentation provided by 12 CHRO election monitors in eight of the nine major townships in Chin State, as well as Kalay and Tamu Townships of adjoining Sagaing Division, who worked on the ground to gather, and send out information at great personal security risks. The report also draws from qualitative personal and telephone interviews with Chin voters, political party workers, poll officials and candidates contesting in the elections. CHRO also interviewed people coming out of Chin State after the November elections - including refugees coming to Malaysia in search of protection, as well as, travelers going back and forth across India-Burma border – in Mizoram State.

The lack of proper road and communication infrastructure in Chin State made monitoring and documentation particularly challenging and difficult. There is no reliable road system that connects the major townships in Chin State, while internet and telephone connections are virtually non-existent in the southern Townships of Mindat, Kanpetlet and Paletwa. As a result, information was extremely slow in getting out. Constant disruption to telephone and internet connections before and during the election period posed a major obstacle in obtaining timely information. Nevertheless, information did slowly trickled out and CHRO was able to register firsthand information and eyewitness accounts about the election conditions in most parts of Chin State, except Paletwa Township due to the lack of personnel working on the ground.

The information was published in CHRO's official human rights newsletter Rhododendron News, Chinland Guardian News at www.chinlandguardian.com, as well as incorporated in CHRO's briefings and press statements.

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3. Background:

3.1. Economic and Social Conditions

Chin State is one of the most underdeveloped and isolated regions in Burma, with little in the way of road infrastructure, communication systems, healthcare facilities, electricity or running water. 70 percent of the Chin people live below the poverty line; 40 percent are without adequate food sources; and malnutrition and child mortality rates in Chin State are among the highest in the country[1]. Shifting cultivation or slash-and-burn farming remains the primary method of cultivation for the largely rural communities of Chin State, who account for over 90 percent of the population.[2]

Both the 2008 constitutional referendum and 2010 elections took place at a time when the Chin people were struggling with the worst food crisis in living memory. Already the poorest and least developed region in all of Burma, extreme poverty was further exacerbated by a massive infestation of crops-destroying rats brought about by a rare natural phenomenon of cyclical flowering and death of indigenous bamboo species *Melocanna baccifera*, which occur every 50 years in the region. First reported in Tonzang Township of the northern tip of Chin State in late 2006, famine-like food crisis swept through the State moving southward, and by 2010 serious food crisis were reported in Mindat, Kanpetlet, Matupi and Paletwa Townships.[3]

According to the October 2010 report by the United Nations World Food Program (WFP), which assessed the food security situation in Chin State, the food security situation in the area remained 'critical' in the period leading up to Burma's elections.[4] For the largely rural communities who rely on local food produce through subsistence slash-and-burn agricultural system, the onset of the food crisis was debilitating, as hordes of rodents attacked farms and granaries. Meanwhile, rising inflation and skyrocketing commodity prices in Chin State had the urban-dwelling communities, mostly public servants, struggling with daily survival. In 2010, the average cost of a 50-kilogram sack of rice cost about 30,000 Kyats in Hakha, the capital of Chin State. By comparison, entry-level government servant only earns about 40,000 Kyats. And according to the WFP, residents in Chin State spend as much as 80 percent of their income on food alone.[5]

3.2 The Human Rights Context

Militarization is a source of widespread and systematic violations of human rights in Chin State. The number of Burma Army battalions stationed in Chin State has significantly increased since 1988. By 2010, 12 battalions are permanently based in Chin State at 54 different stationary camps and outposts all across the nine major townships. Increased troop presence in Chin State necessarily

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[1] "Humanitarian Situation UPDATE April 2007", Office of the UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Myanmar, 2007

[2] See CHRO Individual Submission to thIe Universal Periodic Review on Burma, July 2010 http://www.chro.ca/images/stories/files/CHRO_UPR_submission_Myanmar.pdf; *On the Edge of Survival: the Continuing Rat Infestation and Food Crisis in Chin State, Burma,* CHRO, September 2009 and *Critical Point: Food Scarcity and Hunger in Burma's Chin State,* CHRO, July 2008.

[3] Ibid..

[4] Chinland Guardian, WFP: Food Security Situation in Chin State Remains Critical, 2 December 2010. http://chinlandguardian.com/news-2009/1133-wfp-food-security-situation-in-chin-state-remains-critical.html

[5] The full report of the World Food Program, An analysis of food security situation in Chin State, can be viewed at http://www.cadmm.org/pdf/chinFSMreport2010.pdf

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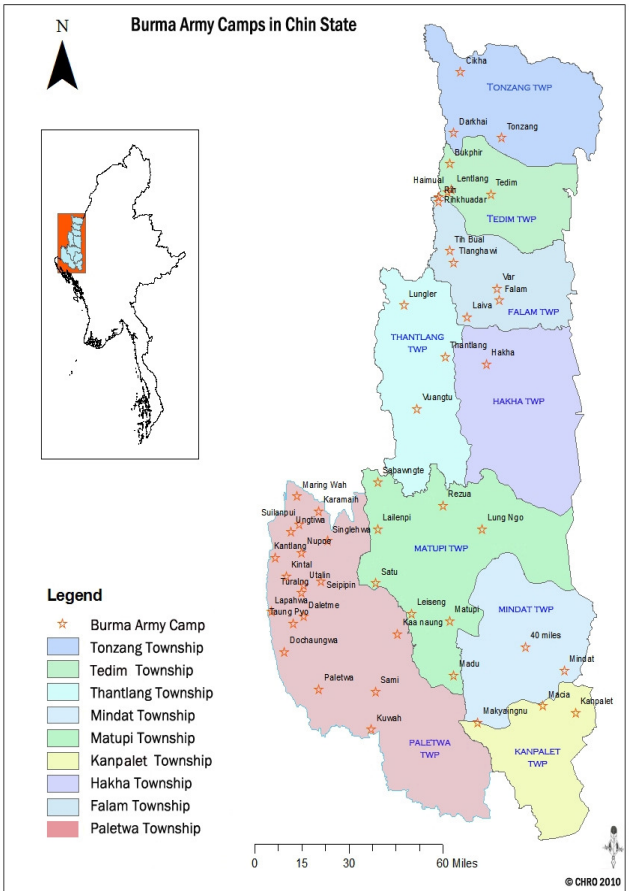
means a parallel surge in the number of human rights violations perpetrated against the Chin civilians by the Burma Army soldiers.



Over the last fifteen years, CHRO has documented a range of human rights violations by both the military and civilian authorities on a systematic and widespread scale. These abuses include arbitrary killing, torture, forced labor, religious discrimination and persecution, arbitrary arrest and detention, arbitrary taxation or extortion, forcible conscription into militia and military service, including the forced recruitment of child soldiers.

According to a report by Noble Peace Prize-winning Physicians for Human Rights, between 2009 and 2010, nearly 92 percent of all Chin households were subject to forced labor by the military regime, with Burma Army being responsible for the vast majority of the abuses.[6]

Between 2006 and 2010, the period during which Burma's human rights record was assessed by the UN Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review, CHRO documented over 70 separate incidents of forced labor, some involving over 40 villages at time; 30 cases of arbitrary arrests; 18 cases of torture.[7] Over the same period, CHRO documented persistent, widespread and systematic discrimination against Chin Christians, including the deliberate destruction of crosses and churches, forced closure of churches, arrest and physical abuses of Christian preachers, restriction on freedom of religious assembly, denial of permission to build or renovate churches and Christian religious buildings etc.[8]

4. The 2010 Elections

The 2010 elections were the fifth step in the regime's "seven-step road map to disciplined democracy," which was announced exactly three months after the May 30 deadly incident at

[6] Life Under the Junta: Evidence of crime against humanity in Burma's Chin State, January 2011. http://burma.phrblog.org/report/

[7] See *CHRO Individual Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review, July 2010* at http://www.chro.ca/action-alerts/advocacy-a-campaign/366-chro-individual-submission-to-the-un-universal-periodic-review-july-2010.html.

[8] CHRO is currently preparing a comprehensive report on the discrimination, restrictions and persecution of Chin Christians by the Burmese authorities

Depayin,[9] in which regime-backed thugs believed to be members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (Later transformed as a political party) ambushed and violently attacked the convoy of Aung San Suu Kyi and her National League for Democracy (NLD) entourage.

The elections followed a national referendum on the new constitution drafted by the military regime held on May 10, 2008 during the height of Cyclone Nargis devastation that left more than 150,000 dead.

On the fifth anniversary of the Depayin massacre on May 30, 2008, the regime announced the final results of the national referendum, declaring that the new constitution was approved by more than 93 percent of Burmese voters.[10] However, the results had been widely disputed, as allegations abound of fraud, intimidations and manipulations, as well as targeted crackdown and arrests of activists who campaigned for a 'No' vote.[11] The results of independent monitoring indicated that an overwhelming majority of Chin voters had rejected the constitution.[12]

5. Political Parties in Chin State

Despite the unfair election law, a total of nine political parties (146 individual candidates) contested in the 2010 elections in Chin State, including the regime-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP). Although the Chin voters had already voted to reject the new constitution during the 2008 constitutional referendum, Chin people largely chose to participate rather than boycott the elections, not because they believed that the elections represented true democratic transition,[13] but because boycotting would have simply meant giving the junta proxy the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) a free hand in their area. The Chin parties offered a viable alternative to the USDP. The table below shows political parties and their respective candidate designations for contest for each parliamentary seat.

Party	Candidates for the Pyithu Hluttaw	Candidates for the Amyotha Hluttaw	Candidates for the Pyine Hluttaw	Total No. of candidates
Union Solidarity and Development Party	9	12	18	39
National Unity Party	8	9	17	34

[9] See witness account of the Depayin incident published by the Democratic Voice of Burma at http://www.dvb.no/analysis/depayin-and-the-driver/12828

[10] Xinhua, Myanmar formally announces ratification of new constitution draft, 30 May 2008 http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90777/90851/6421254.html

[11] CHRO, Threat, intimidation and manipulation shroud Burma's referendum, 15 May 2008 http://www.chro.ca/media/press-releases/51-2008/166-threat-intimidation-and-manipulation-shroud-burmas-referendum.html

[12] CHRO, More Chin people voted no amidst threat and intimidation, 11 May 2008, http://www.chro.ca/media/press-releases/51-2008/167-more-chin-people-voted-qnoq-amidst-threats-and-intimidation-.html

[13] Monitoring of the May 2008 Constitutional Referendum in Chin State by CHRO showed that the vast majority of Chin people rejected the constitution, contrary to official reports by the State Peace and Development Council. See http://www.chro.ca/media/press-releases/51-2008/166-threat-intimidation-and-manipulation-shroud-burmas-referendum.html

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Chin Progressive Party	6	11	14	31
Chin National Party	6	7	14	27
Union Democratic Party	2	3	1	6
National Democratic Force	1	2	0	3
United Myanmar Federation of National Politics	1	1	1	3
Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization	1	0	1	2
National Democratic Party for Development	0	1	1	2
Totals	**34**	**46**	**67**	**147**

6. Pre-Election Conditions

6.1 Economic Barriers to Participation

Chin State is one of the most underdeveloped and isolated regions in Burma, with little in the way of road infrastructure, communication systems, healthcare facilities, electricity or running water. 70 percent of the Chin people live below the poverty line; and 40 percent are without adequate food sources[14]. Each candidate had to pay a registration fee of 500,000 kyats ($500) in order to be able to contest in the elections, a significant sum given that the Gross National Income per capita in Burma is around $220.[15] Given the economic situation in Chin State, this fee posed a particular barrier to participation. In addition, parties were given just two weeks to register their candidates.

As a result, only the USDP, which enjoyed the backing of the regime, was able to field candidates for all contestable seats across the three legislative chambers – 39 in total in Chin State. By contrast, as the previous table shows, the main ethnic Chin parties, the Chin National Party (CNP) and the Chin Progressive Party (CPP), had fielded a total of only 27 and 31 candidates respectively. The parties said the main reason for not having enough candidates was because of the lack of funds and the limited time available to register their candidates.[16]

6.2 Election-Related Human Rights Violations

The pre-election environment was rife with human rights abuse against the Chins. Mass forced conscription of civilians for militia and military service were reported throughout Chin State. Local military battalions based in Matupi, Thantlang, Paletwa, Falam townships ordered mass recruitment of hundreds of civilians from multiple village tracts. The mobilization of militias was apparently a

[14] "Humanitarian Situation UPDATE April 2007", Office of the UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Myanmar, 2007.
[15] UNICEF, 2008.
[16] CHRO, 28 May 2011.

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security measure ahead of the election: The militias are expected to support the local army units in providing security.[17]

a. Portering

During a trip to assess polling station locations and collect information to compile voter registration lists in the village tracts of Zahnak, Vanzang and Khualhring, a remote area of Thantlang township, a police chief and his subordinates from Thantlang town's police station ordered local villagers to carry their belongings. The villagers, from Ral Pel, Dawn, Lungding, Fung Kah and Zangtlang, were also forced to provide food during the trip. Two persons from each village were forced to porter for a day to the next village en route, starting from Dawn village on 7 October. The police chief also ordered local people to provide a horse for him to ride from Zangtlang village.[18]

b. Forced Relocation

On 13 September, the Township Peace and Development Council in Hakha, the capital of Chin State, issued an order to 57 local government staff and their families to move out of state-owned houses in Chin Oo Si block. No new accommodation was provided and the families were given just one week to comply, or face a fine of 10,000 kyats ($10) for every day that they overstayed past the deadline. The relocation order was apparently to make way for 40 newly-recruited staff, tasked with working on the elections.[19]

c. Property commandeered

On 26 September, the Director of Education, the head of the Land Registry department and the Chairman of Thantlang Peace and Development Council commandeered a jeep owned by U Pa Luai from Thantlang, without offering him any compensation. Using the jeep, they transported three ballot boxes and other election materials to Tlangpi village, where they gave training on the election.[20]

6.3 Freedom of opinion

a. Forced to join the Union Solidarity and Development Party

In June, A local resident reported that he was summoned to a meeting by the Secretary of his local ward council, Lawngvan. His photograph was taken, and he was issued a Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) membership card without his consultation or consent. In total, local authorities from Matupi township selected 60 residents from each ward of Matupi town, and forced them to join the USDP.[21]

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[17] CHRO, Rhododendron, Vol XII. No. V,
[18] *Rhododendron News,* Sep – Oct 2010, CHRO.
[19] *Families Forced to Move Out in Election Preparations,* Chinland Guardian, 29 September 2010 http://chinlandguardian.com/news-2009/1047-families-forced-to-move-out-in-election-preparations.html
[20] *Rhododendron News,* Sep – Oct 2010, CHRO.
[21] *Rhododendron News,* Sep – Oct 2010, CHRO.

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Also in June, the Chairman of Falam Township Peace and Development Council issued an order that one person from every household in Falam town must join the USDP. When local people tried to defy the order, they were threatened with punishment.[22]

b. Army checkpoint designated polling station in Falam town

An army checkpoint in Cinmual ward, Falam town has been designated as a polling station, raising fears that voters will face intimidation from soldiers as they try and cast their votes on 7 November.[23]

6.4 Election Preparations

a. Inadequate number of polling stations

According to the Polling Officials' Manual issued by the Union Election Commission, one polling station should be established per 300 registered voters. In Kalay township, Sagaing Division there are 60 Chin villages, which are home to 76,000 ethnic Chin registered voters. There are another 110,000 Burmese voters, making a total of 186,000 registered voters in the area. However, there were only 151 designated polling stations, making an average of more than 1,200 voters per polling station, four times as many as issued in the UEC guidelines. In Tat Oo Thida and Buda wards in Kalay town, there are 2 polling stations to accommodate 4,079 registered voters, and in Tahan ward three polling stations for 5,604 registered voters.[24]

b. Arbitrary designation and punishment of polling officials

In Thantlang township local government employees, including school teachers, have been arbitrarily designated as polling officials and required to attend training without financial compensation or travel allowance. In Tlangpi village, Thantlang township, eight middle school teachers who are designated polling officials did not receive their salary in September. This was apparently as punishment because the headmaster of their school, a designated chief polling officer, failed to attend the training conducted by the township election commission.[25]

c. Advance voting

In Tedim Township, polling officials visited the homes of elderly residents who will be unable to go to polling stations on 7 November, in order to carry out advance voting. In violation of the secret ballot, the elderly were required to inform polling officials of the party of their choice, who then marked their ballot papers accordingly on their behalf, and sealed them in an envelope.[26]

7. Election Day

[22] *Rhododendron News,* Sep – Oct 2010, CHRO.
[23] CHRO, 1 November 2010.
[24] CHRO, 4 November 2010.
[25] *Rhododendron News,* Sep – Oct 2010, CHRO.
[26] CHRO, 5 November 2010.

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7.1 Electoral Violence and Intimidation

Chin Human Rights Organization received several reports of electoral violence and intimidation in Tedim Township, northern Chin State, on Election Day.

In the afternoon of November 7, in Buan village, close to Tedim town, Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) agents in campaign uniforms stood at the gate of the polling station, checking people's voter registration documents. They asked villagers waiting to cast their votes if they intended to vote for the USDP. Those who said yes were allowed into the polling station, but those who said no were turned away by the USDP party agents. Villagers who were refused entry to the polling station reported the incident to agents from the Chin National Party and Chin Progressive Party. The agents went to the polling station to complain, and a fight broke out.[27]

At 5pm on November 6, USDP organizer Go Lun Mang went to the house of a local resident and told him and his family that there was no need to go to the polls, as he had already voted in favour of the USDP on their behalf. When the family objected, and said they would still vote for the party of their choice, Go Lun Mang told them that soldiers from a nearby army camp (LIB 269) would come and arrest them. On arrival at Sakollam polling station in Tedim town this morning, the local resident and his family members found that their ballot papers had already been used. The resident reported that theirs was not an isolated incident.

On 5 November, the USDP branch in Tedim town summoned all village tract clerks in the township locality and ordered them to tell villagers in their respective areas to vote for the USDP. In Chin State, village tract clerks are government appointees who oversee all local government staff in the area.[28]

7.2 Manipulation of Advance Votes

Irregularities with regards to advance voting were reported throughout Burma during the elections. In Chin State, advance voting was conducted for government servants, especially those who were assigned duty on polling day, as well as the elderly and those who intended to travel on the day of the elections. Civil servants from several townships reported that they were told to vote in favor of the USDP. However, so in some parts of Chin State, civil servants defied the order and refused to cast their votes in advance.[29]

Manipulation of advance votes was blamed for USDP victory in Tamu Township of nearby Sagaing Division, where the majority of the residents are ethnic Chins. One polling officer who administered the advance voting in the area reported;

[27] CHRO, Electoral violence and intimidations in Tedim Township, Chin State, 7 November 2010 http://www.chro.ca/media/press-releases/52-2009/379-electoral-violence-and-intimidation-in-tedim-township.html
[28] Ibid.
[29] Chinland Guardian, Government servants refused to cast advance ballots, 5 November 2010 http://chinlandguardian.com/news-2009/recent-news.html?start=360

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> *"The polling officers are almost entirely from the USDP. They marked the ballot papers for illiterate, disabled and elderly voters in favor of the USDP and put them in the ballot box on their behalf."*[30]

The officer reported that the manipulation of advance vote resulted in the defeat by USDP of Chin Progressive Party candidate by a mere margin of 300 votes.

7.3 Tedim Township (Case Study)

Tedim Township was one of the most hotly contested areas in Chin State during the 2010 elections. A total of five parliamentary seats were contestable in the Township: two seats for the National Upper House (Amyotha Hluttaw), two seats for the State Legislature (Pyine Hluttaw) and one seat for the Lower House of the National Parliament (Pyithu Hulttaw). Four political parties, Union Solidarity and Development Party, National Unity Party, Chin National Party and Chin Progressive Party, contested the five constituencies up for grabs in the Township.

There were reports of widespread irregularities, fraud and intimidation in the township before and during the elections on November 7.[31] Issues with proxy voting were also reported in Tedim Town, where at least five families were confirmed to have been disenfranchised as their votes were found to have been cast without their knowledge.[32]

According to the Election Commission's data obtained by CHRO, the Township has a total of 43,822 eligible voters of which 30,786 or about 70 percent had turned out to vote on the November 7 polls. The Election Commission's official tabulation of the votes shows that 14,120 votes were cast across the five constituencies as advance votes. On average, the advance votes constituted 13 percent of the total votes cast for each of the five constituencies. Significant is the fact that in all of the constituencies where USDP candidates were declared winners by the Election Commission, the advance votes were the primary factors in propelling USDP candidates to victory. The USDP candidates 'magically' swept the majority of all advance votes, obtaining double or triple the number of advance votes obtained by other parties. In total it won four out of the five constituencies in the township, with the exception of the State constituency No. 2, which was won by Zam Cin Pau or Zozam, the Chairman of the Chin National Party.

8. Results and Analysis

Setting aside the advance votes, the results in Tedim would have been radically different, with the USDP possibly winning only one seat in the entire township and CNP wining three seats, including both of the State Assembly seats, and the NUP securing one of the two Upper House seats. This would have meant a significant shift in the power balance in the Chin State Legislature. As Chin State has a total of 24 seats in the State Legislature, including six default Army appointees, an additional one seat won by the CNP would have put the number of the three Chin parties in the

[30] Chinland Guardian, Fraud propels USD to victory in Tamu Township, Sagaing Div, 9 November 2010 http://chinlandguardian.com/news-2009/1111-fraud-propels-usdp-to-victory-in-tamu-township-sagaing-div.html
[31] Chinland Guardian, USDP Leading in Tedim Township Amidst Accusations of Intimidation and Fraud, 8 November 2010 http://chinlandguardian.com/news-2009/1108-usdp-leading-in-tedim-township-amidst-accusations-of-intimidation-and-fraud.html
[32] CHRO election observer's report

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Legislature at 12. The scenario would have been only six USDP members and six army appointees represented in the State Legislature.

The following tables show the final tabulation of voting results from two constituencies in Tedim Township. In each case, the USDP candidate won only with votes obtained from advance voting.

Tedim Township State Legislature Constituency No (1). Votes obtained by Candidates											
Sr.	Constituency	Candidates' Name	Party	No. of Registered Voters	No. of Actual Voters	No. of non-voters	Votes Obtained			Discarded votes	Votes Missing (Lost)
							Advance Vote	Votes on Election Day	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	State Legislature No (1)	U Kam Lian Thang	Chin National Party				516	5201	5717		
2		U Thang Go Khai	National Unity Party				336	4426	4762		
3		U Thuam Go Thang	Chin Progressive Party				76	675	751		
4		U Nang Za Mung	USDP				1362	4762	6124		
				22356	17818	4538	2290	15064	17354	461	3

Tedim Township Upper House Constituency No (6). Votes obtained by Candidates											
Sr.	Constituency	Candidates' Name	Party	No. of Registered Voters	No. of Actual Voters	No. of non-voters	Votes Obtained			Discarded votes	Votes Missing (Lost)
							Advance Vote	Votes on Election Day	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Upper House No (6)	U Suan Doh Cin	USDP				1280	4824	6104		
2		U Thawng Sawm Pau	National Unity Party				411	3269	3680		
3		U Langh Za Mang	Chin National Party				547	5199	5646		
4		U SB Kham Khan Vung	USDP				200	1561	1761		
				21466	17697	3769	2438	14753	17191	505	1

Despite tactics of intimidation,[33] and vote rigging through advance voting,[34] the Chin denied the USDP a clear victory in Chin State. 21 out of 39 contestable seats across the *Amyotha Hluttaw* (Upper House/National Parliament), *Pyithu Hluttaw* (Lower House/People's Parliament), and *Pyine Hluttaw* (State Legislature) were won by Chin parties. Had it been a free and fair election with a level playing field for all political parties, it is likely the Chin parties would have won most, if not all, contested seats. At almost 46%, Chin State has the highest percentage of ethnic party representation in any of the State Parliaments.[35]

8.1 Thantlang Township (Case Study)

Thangtlang Township is one of the three townships (out of the nine major townships in Chin State), where the USDP did not win a single contested seat. The Chin National Party won all contested seats in both Thantlang and Hakha, the capital, while the Chin Progressive Party swept all contested seats in the adjacent Falam Township. Thantlang Township is particularly interesting in that it is where the only woman candidate was elected in the 2010 elections (of the three women out the 147 candidates in the entire State). As with the rest of the townships in Chin State, civil servants in Thantlang faced pressure to cast advance votes in favor of the USDP. However, many civil servants

[33] See *Electoral Process Marred by Human Rights Violations in Chin State,* CHRO, 6 November 2010 available at http://www.chro.ca/action-alerts/advocacy-a-campaign.html

[34] Official tabulations of results in Constituency No. 1 of the Chin State Legislature and Constituency No. 6 of the *Amyotha Hluttaw* / Upper House in Tedim township obtained by CHRO clearly show that in both cases the advance vote won the seat for the USDP candidate, over the Chin National Party candidate who polled more votes on election day.

[35] For comparative analysis of other State legislatures, please see *Burma At Crossroads*, by Dr. Lian H. Sakhong, published by Chinland Guardian on 4 March 2011 http://www.chinlandguardian.com/articles/1224-burma-at-crossroads.html

refused to cast advance votes.[36] A civil servant who was tasked to administer the polls said that more civil servants had defied the order to vote for USDP in the township.[37] This led to a resounding victory for the Chin National Party, which won all the contested seats in the Township.

USDP candidates contesting in Thantlang Township were mostly highly respected figures in the community, who were handpicked by the regime. Dr. Hmuh Thang, for example, is a respected physician, who was able to get himself elected as a Member of Parliament as an independent candidate during the 1990 elections. But he suffered an embarrassing defeat by Robin, a less-known rival candidate from the CNP. The election in the Thantlang Township saw the first ever woman candidate being elected to public office in Chin State. Daw Za Tlem, a high school teacher standing as a CNP candidate for People's Parliament (Lower House) enjoyed a comfortable victory over her two male opponents from the USDP and NUP.[38]

Similarly, the CNP won all contested seats in the capital Hakha, while the CPP swept all seats in nearby Falam Township. While the exact numbers of voter's turnouts in the three townships are unknown, it is believed more registered voters had voted in the elections. The decisive victory by the Chin parties in these townships suggest that despite pressure to vote for regime-backed USDP more civil servants chose to defy the order, and the advance votes were not enough to propel the USDP to victory. It can be inferred from the example in the three townships that the Chin electorate had expressed their political dissent by effectively using their votes.

The following figure shows the breakdown of votes among the candidates in Thantlang Township.

Candidate Name	Party	Constituency	Seat Contested	Total Votes Earned	Status
Pi Za Tlem	CNP		People's Parl.	11826	**Winner**
Pu Lian Tial	NUP		People's Parl.	1549	
Pu Ngu Hram	USDP		People's Parl.	8344	
Pu Thang Thai	CNP	1	National Parl.	12249	**Winner**
Pu Hmung Kio	USDP	1	National Parl.	7997	
Pu Bawi Thang (C)	UDP	1	National Parl.	1351	
Pu Lalmawngcung	CNP	1	State Parl.	6086	**Winner**
Pu Robin	CNP	2	State Parl.	5480	**Winner**
Pu Sui Thio	USDP	1	State Parl.	3897	
Dr. Hmuh Thang	USDP	2	State Parl.	4637	
Pu Thang Ding	NUP	1	State Parl.	1030	
Pu Van Za Rung	**NUP**	**2**	**State Parl.**	**538**	

9. Post-Election Situations

9.1 Post-election reprisals

[36] Chinland Guardian, Government servants refused to cast advance ballots, 5 November 2010 http://chinlandguardian.com/news-2009/recent-news.html?start=360
[37] CHRO, 8 November 2010
[38] Chinland Guardian, Sweeping Victory for Chin Parties in Three Townships, 9 November 2010 http://chinlandguardian.com/news-2009/1110-sweeping-victory-for-chin-parties-in-three-townships.html

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On November 9, 47 year-old Pastor Mang Tling, from Dawdin Village of Gangaw Township, Mergui Division was summoned by the Election Commission in Gangaw Town. He was detained for a week to answer questions by the Election Commission officials. During the election campaigning period, Pastor Mang Tling was given a USDP campaign T-Shirt by the Dawdin village headman U Than Chaung, who was a strong supporter of the USDP. Pastor Mang Tling refused to take the T-Shirt. When the USDP was defeated by the National Unity Party (NUP) in the election, the village headman filed a report with the local authorities accusing Pastor Mang Tling of convincing Christian voters in the village to vote in favor of the NUP.[39] The local police took pictures of the compound of his church and ordered him to stop holding worship services at the church, as well as to discontinue a nursery program run by his church.[40]

On November 12, then Chairman of the Chin State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) ex-Brigadier-General Hung Ngai (now Chief Minister of Chin State Legislature)[41] ordered an investigation into how each member of the civil servants voted during the elections after the junta-backed USDP lost all contested seats in Falam, Hakha and Thantlang townships. Summoning a meeting of all department heads in Chin State's capital Hakha, Hung Ngai ordered each government department in Chin State to look into how each staff member of the civil servants had voted during the general elections. Speaking to the Chinland Guardian, the head of a government department in Hakha said, "In the case of advance votes, the ward election commission official will be responsible to look into the civil servants vote, but the heads of each department have also been tasked to investigate whether or not their staff members had voted for the USDP on election day." [42] The results of the investigation are unknown.

In the wake of the elections, the USDP warned Chin people that development work in the state will not be implemented in areas where the opposition garnered votes and villagers ignored the USDP. A Falam local claimed it was the fall-out of the victory of Chin political parties in five constituencies in Falam Township. "Although the USDP lost in Falam Township, it emerged victorious in most of the country. Now it has power. Chin parties cannot do a thing as they have no power, whereas the USDP can do whatever it wants," he added. During his campaign USDP candidate U Kawl Luai had ordered people in Falam to vote for the USDP, failing which it would not undertake any development work in their areas, post polls.[43]

Since November 12, the number of Burmese troops stationed at army camps along the Chin State-India border has nearly tripled. Five different army camps located along the India-Burma border have seen the troop increase. They include Tio, Rih Khawdar, Tibual (Falam Township), Darkhai and Bukphir camps (Tonzang Township). Around 30 soldiers are normally stationed at each camp.[44] Since the troop increase, CHRO has documented numerous abuses such as portering and extortion

[39] According to Burma's election laws, religious leaders are liable to be penalized for engaging in politics in general and electoral campaigns in particular. Members of the religious orders are excluded from suffrage rights.
[40] See *Church Closed, Pastor Interrogated by EC officials*, Chinland Guardian, 17 November 2010.
[41] As Brigadier General, Hung Ngai served as Deputy Commander of the Coastal Region Command and was part of some key large-scale military offensives against ethnic Karens, and earned several combat medals, including the Maing Yan-Maetharaw medal. He is still on the EU sanctions list. See *Chin State Chief Minister Remains on EU Travel Sanctions List*, Chinland Guardian, 15 April 2011.
[42] See *Rhododendron News*, Nov-Dec 2010.
[43] See *No Development Work in Chin Opposition Areas: USDP*, Khonumthung News, 26 November 2010.
[44] See *Troops Reinforced on the Western Front as Tensions Flare in Eastern Burma*, Chinland Guardian, 3 December 2010.

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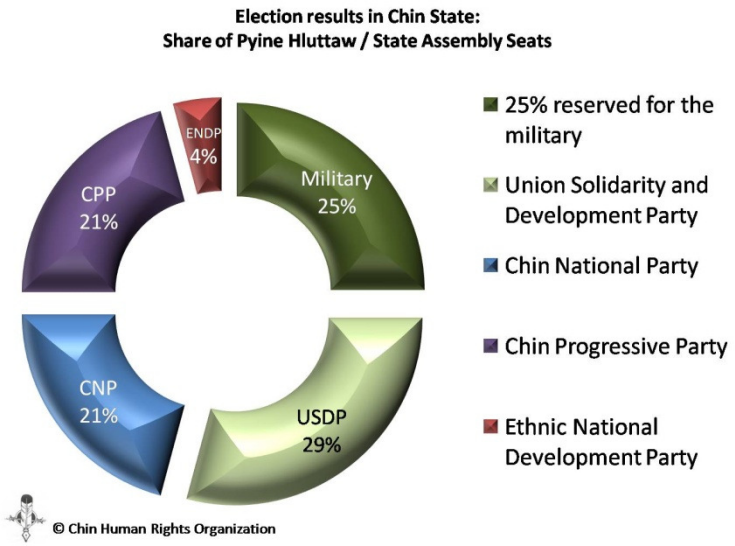
in those areas.[45] The reinforcement was apparently in anticipation of possible fresh hostilities on the western front as part of a larger armed conflict with other ethnic resistance groups on the eastern border. Sporadic running battles have been reported in eastern Burma since Burma's elections. In anticipation of an all-out assault from the Burmese army in the post election period, several ethnic armed resistance groups, including those maintaining a cease-fire agreement, have recently come together and agreed to assist each other in the event of new attacks from the Burmese army. The Chin National Front (CNF), active on the western border, is part of the newly established multi-ethnic military alliance Committee for the Emergence of a Federal Union (CEFU), now known as the United Nationalities Federal Council (UNFC).[46]

10. Formation of State Government and Legislature

According to a 31 March report in the *New Light of Myanmar,* eight ministers were appointed to the following ministries in Chin State: Security and Border Affairs; Ministry of Finance and Planning; Ministry of Economic [sic]; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Energy, Electric Power, Mines and Forestry; Ministry of Transport, Communications, and Construction; Ministry of Social Affairs, and Ministry of Management and Industry, one less than in other States. Crucially, there is no Ministry of Health, Education or Cultural Affairs, arguably the most essential ministries to meet the needs of the Chin people. The only comparable area is Kayah/Karenni State, the only other State without a Ministry of Health or Education. It does, however, have a Ministry of Information and Culture.

According to the 31 March report in *The New Light of Myanmar*, all of the other State Legislatures apart from Chin and Kayah have either separate ministries for education and health, or a combined ministry of education and health. These differences reflect the ambiguity of provisions in the 2008 Constitution, and underline the power of the Chief Ministers in appointing ministers without appropriate checks and balances.[47]



In addition, the six military appointees (Colonel Zaw Min Oo, Major Thet Lwin, Major Nyi Nyi Oo, Captain Kyaw Zin Maung, Captain Maung Maung Thwin and Captain Aung Zaw Htet) to the Chin State Legislature were all army officers of Burman ethnicity. The announcement came as a disappointment to the Chin political parties, which had hoped that the SPDC would at least

[45] See *Rhododendron News,* Jan-Feb 2011 and Mar-Apr 2011.
[46] See *Ethnic Groups Determined to Strengthen Unity towards Federal Union of Burma*, Chinland Guardian, 19 February 2011.
[47] See Article 188 (and Schedule Two) "The Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right to enact laws for the entire or any part of the Region or State related to matters prescribed in Schedule Two of the Region or State Hluttaw Legislative List." See also Article 262, which sets out the powers of the Chief Ministers of the Region or State Hluttaws.

appoint ethnic Chins from within the ranks of the Burma Army, whom they could work within the Parliament on issues of common interest to the Chins.[48]

Colonel Zaw Min Oo, one of the six ethnic Burman military appointees to the Chin State Legislature, was made Minister of Security and Border Affairs, despite being implicated in a range of human rights violations perpetrated against Chin people while serving as Tactical Command II Commander prior to his appointment. He ordered the conscription of underage high school students into the Burma Army in Matupi Township[49]; imposed arbitrary tax on struggling farmers amid the food crisis in 2008[50]; and ordered the arbitrary arrest, detention and torture of four Chin villagers, including two women in July 2008[51]. Most recently, in March this year, he was alleged to have ordered forced labor on a road between Matupi town and Leisen village. He has been decorated with various military medals - including the Maing Yan-Maetharaw medal - for his role in the offensives against Karens and Shans in the mid 1990s.[52] Under the 2008 Constitution, Defence Services personnel who are appointed as Ministers of the Region or State for Ministries of Security and Border Affairs are not required to retire or resign from the Defence Services.[53] The Constitution sets out provisions for impeachment of any State Minister. Although the Chin parties would have the necessary 25% of representatives to bring a charge against a State Minister, they would not have the requisite two-thirds of representatives required to move forward with impeachment proceedings.[54] In addition, article 445 effectively grants Colonel Zaw Min Oo complete impunity for past, present and future human rights violations.[55]

COLONEL ZAW MIN OO

Portfolio: Chin State Minister for Security and Border Affairs

Rank: (Colonel) Tactical Operations Commander, Southern Chin State (*Appointed as Army Representative to Chin State Parliament*)

Ethnicity/Religion: Burman/Buddhist

Burma Army Personal ID No: Infantry 17616

Implicated in Rights Abuses: Extortion, Arbitrary Arrest & Detention, Forcible Recruitment of Child Soldiers

The formation of the Chin State government has been the subject of some political wrangling. During the special session of the State Parliament held on September 22, a ninth minister was

[48] See *Ethnic Burman Army Officers Appointed to Chin State Parliament*, Chinland Guardian, 24 January 2011.
[49] See *Rhododendron News*, Nov-Dec 2007.
[50] See *Rhododendron News,* Jan-Feb 2008.
[51] See *Rhododendron News,* Jul-Aug 2008.
[52] See *Chin State Minister Implicated in Past Rights Abuse*, Chinland Guardian, 17 April 2011.
[53] See Article 262n (ii) of the 2008 Constitution.
[54] See Article 263 of the 2008 Constitution.
[55] Article 445 of the 2008 Constitution, *"No proceeding shall be instituted against the said Councils or any member hereof or any member of the Government, in respect of any act done in the execution of their respective duties."*

appointed; but the portfolios, roles and responsibilities of the ministers are far from clear.[56] There remains widespread disappointment that there is no Ministry of Health, Education or Cultural Affairs, arguably the most essential ministries to meet the needs of the Chin people. Chin State is the only state without any kind of ministry specifically covering these issues.[57] These differences reflect the ambiguity of provisions in the 2008 Constitution, and underline the power of the Chief Ministers in appointing ministers without appropriate checks and balances.[58]

11. Concluding Observations and Analysis

The Chin participation in the November 2010 elections reflected a strong desire on the part of the Chin people to seize what little opportunity, if any, was presented by the military-led political process in the face of decades of political marginalization, discrimination and persecution by the successive military regimes. Despite having voted down the military-backed constitution in the 2008 referendum in Chin State, the Chin decided to participate, not because they believed that the elections represented true democratic transition, but because boycotting would have simply meant giving the junta proxy the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) a free hand in their area.

As was widely anticipated from the outset, the electoral process in Chin State was far from free or fair. As documented in this report, the entire electoral process was fraught with irregularities, fraud, coercion and intimidations – all designed to favor the junta-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party. But active citizen engagement, as opposed to being passive participants in the political process, had led to the denial of clear USDP victory in the State. Despite enjoying the full backing of the military junta, the USDP suffered embarrassing defeats in Falam, Hakha and Thantlang Townships. In the southern township of Paletwa, the USDP managed to win only one seat out of a total of five parliamentary seats were up for grabs.

Of the 39 parliamentary seats electable in Chin State, including the State Legislature and the two Houses of national parliaments, the three Chin Parties (CNP, CPP & ENDP) together won 21 seats or 53.84 percent.

At the State level, the Chin parties together won 11 out of 18 electable seats. Setting aside the 25 percent default army appointment (Altogether six members in Chin State), the Chin parties together won 61 percent of all the State legislative seats electable. (See figure below)

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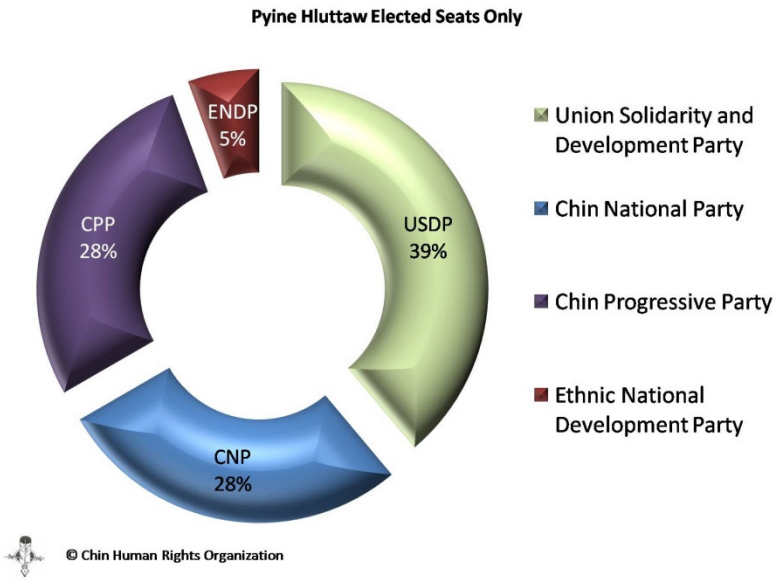
[56] The Ministries are: Security and Border Affairs; Finance and Planning; Economics; Agriculture; Mining and Forestry; Transport, Communication and Construction; Social Affairs; Management and Industry, and Electric and Energy. Source: *The New Light of Myanmar*, 31 March 2011 and 23 September 2011.

[57] According to *The New Light of Myanmar*, 31 March 2011, Kayah/Karenni State does not have a Ministry of Health or Education, but it does have a Ministry of Information and Culture.

[58] See Article 188 (and Schedule Two) "The Region or State Hluttaw shall have the right to enact laws for the entire or any part of the Region or State related to matters prescribed in Schedule Two of the Region or State Hluttaw Legislative List." See also Article 262, which sets out the powers of the Chief Ministers of the Region or State Hluttaws.



This can be interpreted as a clear verdict of the Chin people against continued military rule through its proxy USDP. In other words, the Chin people chose to participate in the 2010 elections – the military transition process that they already rejected in the 2008 constitutional referendum – and voted to dissent.

By retrospective, if it had not been for the 2008 constitution that provided for a 25 percent default military appointment, the Chin parties would have constituted a decisive majority in the State Parliament. Similarly, had the 2010 elections been conducted in internationally accepted standards of freeness and fairness, the Chin parties would have been able to comfortably secure most of the constituencies in Chin State, including many of those that were won by the USDP in the November 7 polls.

For their part, the two main Chin parties are trying to focus on issues of paramount importance to the Chin, both in the State parliament and in the *Hluttaws*. The Chin National Party is part of the "Ethnic Brotherhood", an alliance of five ethnic parties,[59] which has been outspoken on controversial issues such as the right to teach ethnic languages in schools; a peace committee to resolve Burma's ethnic conflicts; and political prisoners.[60] The Chin Progressive Party has focused on poverty alleviation and development measures.[61] Both parties are committed to improving the dire economic and social conditions in Chin State.

[59] The five ethnic parties include the Chin National Party (CNP), the Shan Nationalities Democratic Party (SNDP), the All Mon Region Democratic Party (AMRDP), the Rakhine Nationalities Development Party (RNDP), and the Phalon-Sawaw Democratic Party (PSDP).

[60] See *Ethnic Parties in Push for Mother* Tongue, Democratic Voice of Burma, 17 May 2011; *Establish 'Peace Committee': Ethnic* Parties, Chinland Guardian, 4 August 2011; and *Political Parties Called for Release of Ethnic Leaders*, Chinland Guardian, 16 October 2011.

[61] See *CPP Proposes Poverty Alleviation Measures in Chin State*, Mizzima, 1 September 2011.

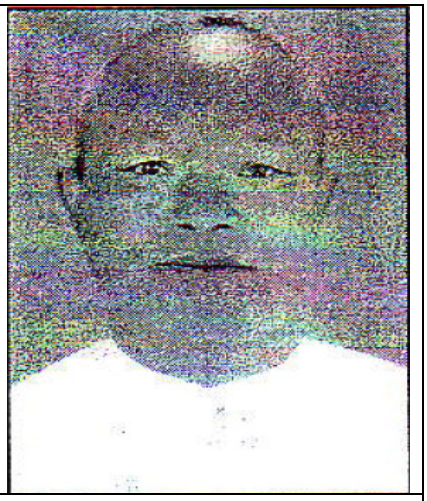
Appendix 1: Biographies of members of the Chin State Legislative Assembly/Parliament

(Elected and Appointed)

No. 01

Rank/Name	Captain Aung Zaw Hteik	
Other names	-	
Personal number	Infantry 39673	
Ethnicity/Religion	Burman/Buddhist	
Date of Birth/Age	24-2-1985 / 26 years	
Place of Birth	Inn Ta Yaw Village, Bago Division	
Education	B.A (Mathematics), Military Academy M.A (Mathematics), Military Academy	
Occupation	Section Commander, No (140) Light Infantry Battalion, Matupi	
Party Affiliation	Military Representative State Parliament	
Background Info	• Basic Education High School, Bago • Platoon Commander, Section Commander of Light Infantry Battalion No. 140 from 2004 to present • National Military Service Medal, Combat Medal, Service Award, Light Infantry Section Commander Training Certificate, and Light Infantry Platoon Commander Training Certificate	

No. 02

Rank/Name	U Chan Pum	
Other names	-	
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/Christian	
Date of Birth/Age	15-3-1952 / 58 Years	
Place of Birth	Phaizawng Village, Hakha Township, Chin State	
Education	B.A (Law) L.L.B, B.R.E	
Occupation	Lawyer (Supreme Court Advocate)	
Party Affiliation	Chin National Party	
Constituency	State Legislative Rep, Constituency No. 2, Hakha	
Background Info	• Basic Education Primary School, Phaizawng; Middle School, Surkhua; High School, Hakha, Falam and South Okkalapa, Rangoon	

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	• B.A (Law), Rangoon University • B.R.E (Chin Christian College), Hakha • Upper class advocate 1981-1988 • Lawyer (Supreme Court Advocate) from 1988 to 2011

No. 03

Rank/Name	U Cin Lian Pau
Other names	-
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/Christian
Date of Birth/Age	25-10-1951/ 59 Years
Place of Birth	Luan Zang Village, Sazang, Tonzang
Education	10th Grade (B)
Occupation	Trader
Party Affiliation	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Constituency	State Legislative Rep, Constituency No. 1, Tonzang Township
Background Info	• Basic Education Primary School, Fai Ding; Middle School, Tonzang; High School, Maw La Myaing • Upper Division Clerk, General Administration Department • Assistant Secretary, High School Teacher-Parent Association, Tonzang • Attended Basic Political, Social and Management Training

No. 04

Rank/Name	U Hau Khen Kham
Other names	-
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/Christian
Date of Birth/Age	12-2-1948/62 Years
Place of Birth	Hai Cin Village, Tonzang Township, Chin State
Education	B.A; B.Ed
Occupation	Township Education Officer (retired)
Party Affiliation	Union Solidarity and Development Party
Constituency	State Legislative Rep, Constituency No. 2, Tonzang
Brief Biography	• Basic Education Primary School, Haicin; Middle School, Tuai Muai; High School, Tedim • Degree from Mandalay and Rangoon colleges/universities • Primary teacher, and Township education officer, Education

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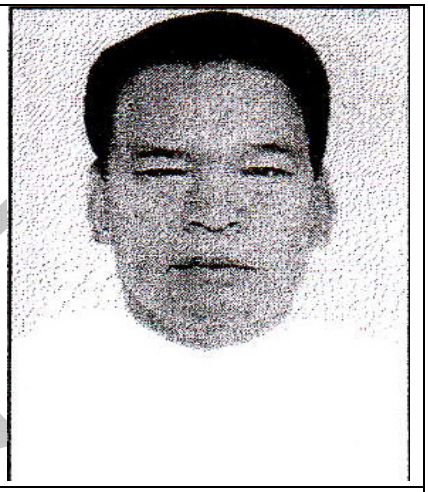
	Department • Worked at People Council, Tonzang and Member of Township Supervisory Board

No. 05

Rank/Name	U Hung Ngai	
Portfolio	**Chief Minister**	
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/ Buddhist	
Date of Birth/Age	30-3-1956/54 Years	
Place of Birth	Tui Pan Village, Mindat Township, Chin State	
Education	B.A (History), M.A (Defense)	
Occupation	Military Service (retired), Chairman (Chin State Development Council)	
Party Affiliation	Union Solidarity and Development Party	
Constituency	State Legislative Rep, Constituency No. 2, Mindat Town, Chin State	
Background Info	• Basic Education Primary School, Myaing Ywa • Registered Monastery Education, Tiu Pan Village • Middle School, Ma Na Ta Village, Pau Township • B.A (History), Mandalay University, Magway and Rangoon University • M.A (Military Defense), Military Academy • Second Lieutenant, Brigadier (Deputy Regional Commander) at Battalion /Division in Myeit • National Military Service Medal, Militia Service Medal, State Peace Council Medal, Maiyan-Mae Ta Woe Battle Medal, Military Service Medal, State Medal , Platoon Training Medal, Peace Medal, Battle Medal, Military Academy Certificate, National Defense Service Training Certificate, Military Service Certificate, Excellent Citizen Award	

No. 06

Name	U Ki Thang Lun	
Other names	-	
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/Christian	
Date of Birth/Age	3-6-1978/ 32 years	
Place of Birth	Kha Naan Village, Kanpetlet Township	
Education	B.A (Geo)	
Occupation	Trader	
Party Affiliation	Chin Progressive Party	

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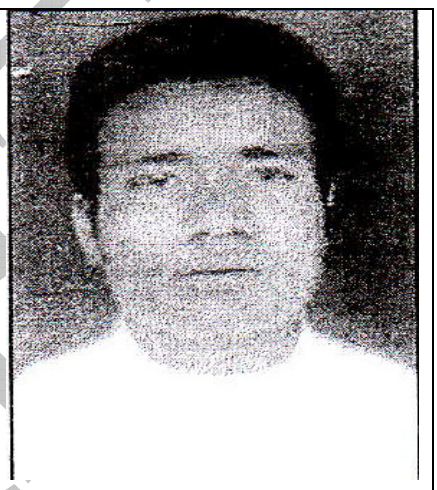
Constituency	State Legislative Rep, Constituency No. 2, Kanpetlet Township	
Brief Biography (Until now)	Primary Education • Primary School, Kha Naan; Middle School, Hmu Ching Ding; High School, Kanpetlet • B.A (Geography)	

No. 07

Name	U Kui Thang	
Other names	-	
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/Christian	
Date of Birth/Age	5-3-1976/ 34 years	
Place of Birth	Chaung Taw Village, Kanpetlet Township	
Education	B.A (Myanmar)	
Occupation	Trader	
Party Affiliation	Union Solidarity and Development Party	
Constituency	State Representative, Constituency No (1), Kanpetlet Township	
Background Info	• Basic Education at Government School • B.A (Myanmar) (Distance) • Worked at Health Ministry • Worked as health education trainer of UNDP in 2007, 2008	

No. 08

Name	U Kyaw Nyein	
Other names	-	
Ethnicity/Religion	Khumi Chin/Buddhist	
Date of Birth/Age	26-12-1952/ 58 years	
Place of Birth	Chin Daut Village, Paletwa Township	
Education	School of Science for Development of the National Races	
Occupation	Junior Assistant Teacher (retired)	
Party Affiliation	Chin Progressive Party	
Constituency	State Legislative Rep, Constituency No. 1, Kanpetlet Township	

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Brief Biography (Until now)	• Basic Education, Science for Development of the National Races • Worked for School of Science for Development of the National Races in Ywathitgyi, Sagaing Division • Retired from Education Department in 2005

No. 09

Rank/Name	Captain Kyaw Zin Maung	
Other names	Kyaw Soe Lin	
Ethnicity/Religion	Burman/Buddhist	
Date of Birth/Age	30-4-1984/ 27 years	
Place of Birth	Kalaw Township	
Education	B.Sc (Department of Nuclear Chemistry, Defense Services Academy)	
Occupation	Military Service	
Party Affiliation	Military representative State Parliament	
Constituency	Army Representative	
Background Info	• Primary School and High School, Myaihthila • B.A (Nuclear Chemistry), Defense Services Academy, Pyin Oo Lwin, May Myo • Second Lieutenant, Light Infantry Battalion No. 414 • Platoon Commander, Light Infantry Battalion No. 414 • Lieutenant, Light Infantry Battalion No. 247 • Company Commander and Captain, Matupi Township, Chin State	

No. 10

Rank/Name	Pu Lal Maung Cung	
Other names	-	
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/Christian	
Date of Birth/Age	29-09-1968/ 42 years	
Place of Birth	Lungding Village, Thantlang Township, Chin State	
Education	Master of Arts (Thesis) (History)	
Occupation	Trader	
Party Affiliation	Chin National Party	
Constituency	State Legislative Rep, Constituency No. 1, Thantlang Township	
Background Info	• Primary School, Vanzang; Middle School, Farrawn; High School, Hakha • M.A (History), Mandalay University	

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	• In Charge of Social Development, UNDP • Chairman, Hakha Student Association • Chairman, Thantlang Johnson Church Youth Association

No. 11

Rank/Name	Captain Myo Maung Maung Thwin	
Other names	-	
Ethnicity/Religion	Burman/Buddhist	
Date of Birth/Age	26-1-1984/ 27 years	
Place of Birth	Meikthila, Mandalay Division	
Education	Physics, Yangon University	
Occupation	Company Captain, Light Infantry Battalion No. 266, Hakha	
Party Affiliation	Army Representative	
Background Info	• Basic Education High School, Meikthila • Military Academy, Pyin Oo Lwin, Maymyo • B.Sc (Physics), Yangon University • Company Captain, LIB No. 266, Hakha Town, Chin State	

No. 12

Rank/Name	U Nang Seih	
Other names	-	
Ethnicity/Religion	Khumi Chin/Christian	
Date of Birth/Age	4-11-1980/ 30 years	
Place of Birth	Myot Ma Block, Paletwa Township	
Education	Bachelor of Public Administration (BPA)	
Occupation	Farmer	
Representative Party/ Independent	Chin Progressive Party	
Constituency	State Representative, Constituency (2), Paletwa Township	
Brief Biography (Until now)	• Pass Matriculation Exam in 2003 • BPA, Yangon Institute of Economics (B.P.A)	

No. 13

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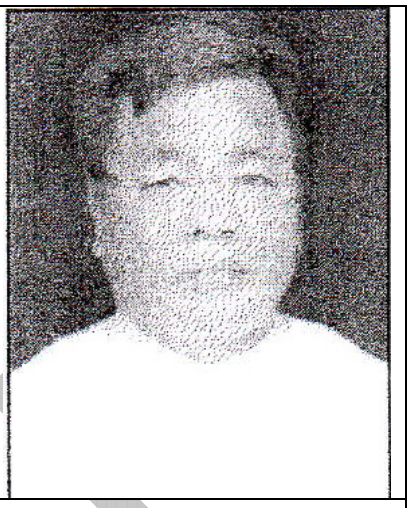
Rank/Name	U Nang Za Hmung	
Other names	-	
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/ Lai Pian	
Date of Birth/Age	17-1-1960/ 50 years	
Place of Birth	Tualzang village, Tedim Township	
Education	LL.B (Law)	
Occupation	High School Teacher (Retired)	
Party Affiliation	Union Solidarity and Development Party	
Constituency	State Representative, Constituency (1), Tedim Township	
Background Info	• Middle School, Tiallang; High School, Tedim • Mandalay University (L.L.B) • Primary School Teacher: Tialpi, Kanlai and Myomah, Tedim Township • Secondary and High School Teacher, Tedim • Assistant Secretary: USDP, Tedim • Secretary and Vice Chairman, High School No. 1, High School Teacher-Parent Association • Passed Matriculation Exam in 1979 with distinctions	

No. 14

Rank/Name	Major/Captain Nyi Nyi Oo	
Other names	No	
Personnel number	Infantry 33163	
Ethnicity/Religion	Burman/Buddhist	
Date of Birth/Age	4-1-1979/ 32 years	
Place of Birth	Si Thu Village, Yin Ma Pin Township, Mong Ywa District, Sagaing Division	
Education	M.A (Computer), Russia	
Occupation	Section Commander, Light Infantry No. 269, Tedim Township	
Party Affiliation	Army Representative	
Background Info	• Basic Education High School Mong Ywa; Middle School, Sung Chaung; High School, Chout Hmaw Village • B.Sc (computer), Defense Services Academy, Pyin Oo Lwin, May Myo • M. A in Computer (Russia) • Second Lieutenant and Platoon Commander, Light Infantry Battalion No. 280 • Major, Light Infantry Battalion No. 269	

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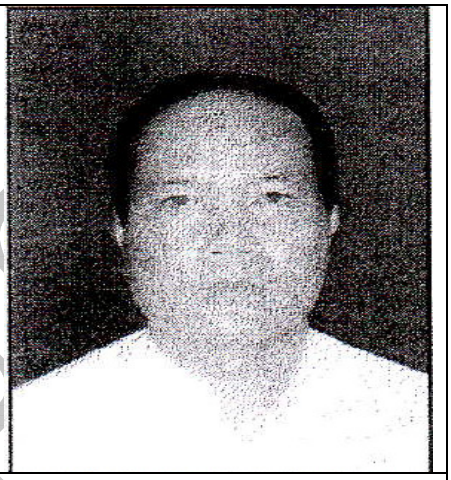
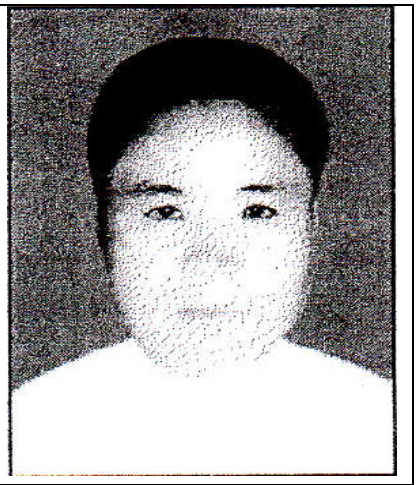
	• National Military Service Medal; National Military Service Life Medal; Militia Service Medal; Medals for LIB Platoon Commander and Company Commander

No. 15

Rank/Name	U Ning Naing	
Other names	No	
Personal number	-	
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/Christian	
Date of Birth/Age	5-10-1966/ 44 years	
Place of Birth	Mindat, Chin State	
Education	B.A (English), B.Ed (E.L.T) Credit	
Occupation	Education Officer (Retired)	
Party Affiliation	Union Solidarity and Development Party	
Background Info	• High School No. 1, Mindat and High School No. 3, Pyin Oo Lwin • B.A (English), B.Ed (E.L.T) (Credit), Mandalay University • Primary Teacher, Primary School, Tedim Township, Chin State • Secondary Teacher, Mindat High School, Mindat Township and Rikhuadar, Falam Township • High School Teacher, Thantlang and Mindat • Studied "Week (8): International Relation training", held by USDP (4 months training) in Nge Na Pin, Yangon	

No. 16

Rank/Name	U Ung Lwin	
Other names	U Aung Law	
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/Christian	
Date of Birth/Age	2-08-1950/ 60 years	
Place of Birth	Out La Village, Matupi Township	
Education	B.A	
Occupation	Head of Auditor (Retired)	
Party Affiliation	Union Solidarity and Development Party	
Constituency	State Representative, Constituency No. 2, Matupi Township	
Background Info	• Middle School, Leiring; High School, Pyin Oo Lwin; High School, Mindat; High School, Taung Gyi	

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	• Graduated from Mandalay Univeristy (B.A) • Auditor, Matupi Township Auditing Office, District Auditing Office and Mindat Township Auditing Office • Secretary, USDP, (2003-2010)

No. 17

Rank/Name	U Van Cin	
Other names	U Lian Lin	
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/Christian	
Date of Birth/Age	15-7-1958/ 52 years	
Place of Birth	Ngaphaipi, Thantlang Township, Chin State	
Education	B.A (Eco)	
Occupation	Farmer	
Party Affiliation	Ethnic National Development Party	
Constituency	State Representative, Constituency No. 2, Matupi Township	
Background Info	• Middle School, Ngaiphai pi Village; High School, Thantlang • B.A (Economics), No. 2 College, and Yangon Institute of Economics • Teacher Training in 1996, Mandalay, • Secondary School Teacher, Middle School, Hnaring • Head Master of Private School, High School, Ngaiphaipi • Chairman, Township Peace and Development Council, Ngaiphaipi • Executive Member, Mara People's Party • Vice Chairman, ENDP	

No. 18

Rank/Name	U Zam Cin Pau	
Other names	U Zo Zam	
Ethnicity/Religion	Chin/Christian	
Date of Birth/Age	24-6-1956/ 54 years	
Place of Birth	Thoh Lai Village, Tedim Township	
Education	B.Sc, AGTISF Meister (W), Germany, M.Dev S (M.A in Development Studies)	

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Occupation	Freelance Development Consultant, Freelance Cartoonist	
Party Affiliation	Chin National Party (President)	
Constituency	State Representative, Constituency No. 2, Tedim Township	
Background Info	• Mandalay University (Eco Science) , 1971-1974 • Choh City 1975-1979 • Ka Sa La (3) Training 1979-1981 • SLV Mannherim, FRG, (W) Germany 1982-1983 • Sin Tae, Ka Sa La (3) Training 1984-1991 • Cartoonist and Editor Yangon, 1992-1998 • Commission Officer, Procurement Manager, SPI (Myanmar-Yangon) 1998-2009 • Advisor of Development (2009-ongoing) • Trainer at Ka Sa La (3), Sin Tae Training School, 1979-1991 • Chairman, Chin National Party (CNP)	

No. 19

Rank/Name	Colonel Zaw Min Oo	
Portfolio	**Minister for Border & Security**	
Personal number	Infantry 17616	
Ethnicity/Religion	Burman/Buddhist	
Date of Birth/Age	23-9-1959/52 years	
Place of Birth	La Myat Na Township, Ayeyarwaddy Special Division	
Education	M.A (Physics)	
Occupation	Colonel (Tactical Commander), Tactical Command II (Based in Matupi)	
Representative Party/ Independent	Military representative State Parliament	
Background Info	Primary Education • Middle and High Schools, Tungpinkwin, Hinthada Township • B.A in Zoology (Distance), Pathein University • Served at Office of Myanmar Police Force in charge of Irrawaddy Division in Hinthada • Platoon & Company Commander of Light Infantry Battalion No. 4 • Captain, LIB 55, LIB 103, LIB 348, LIB 76, LIB 2 • Vice Chairman, State Peace and Development Council (Chin) Awards	

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	• Military Service Award • Civil Combat Award • State Peace Award • National Military Service Medal • Combat Medal • Military Service (20 years) Medal • War Peace Medal • Light Infantry Section Commander Training Certificate • Military Academy Training Certificate

Biography unavailable

Name	Party
20. Ram Mang	**Chin National Party**
21. Robin	**Chin National Party**
22. Na Htan	**Chin Progressive Party**
23. No Sum	**Chin Progressive Party**
24. Maj Thet Lwin	**Army Representative/Tatmadaw**

List of candidates for the 2010 elections in Chin State

Names of Candidates							
No.	**Township**	**Party**	**Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House)**	**Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House)**		**Pyine Hluttaw (State Assembly)**	
				Constituency -1	Constituency -2	Constituency -1	Constituency -2
1	Falam	USDP	U Sai Lian Ceu	U Rul Zam	Daw Sui Thluai	U Ngun Lal	U Kawl Luai
		NUP	U San Thang	U Ca Mang	U Van Lung	U Than Kim	U Lalthianghlim (UPP)
		CPP	U Khuang Ling	U Con Kheng	U Zung Hlei Thang	U Nah Thang	U No Sun
		CNP	Nge Nge Thian Uk Thang	Daw Len Vel	-	-	U Khuang Lian
2	Hakha	USDP	U Tial Hnin	U Johan	-	U Thang He	U Hram Ceu
		NUP	U Nah Luai	U Biak Kham	-	U Hme Ci	U Lian Chum
		CPP	-	-	-	-	U Hlah Mar
		CNP	U Ngun Mawng	U Steven Tha Bik	-	U Ram Mang	U Chan Pum
3	Kanpetlet	USDP	Thura U Aung Ko	U Mana Naing	-	U Kee Thang	U Dai Saw Mana
		CPP	U Khin Maung Yin	U Mana Shin	-	U Hung Thang	U Kee Thang Lwin
		CNP	U Ling Kee	U Ling Paing	-	U Mang That	-
		NUP	U Mana Thang @ Kyaw Win	U Hla Maung	-	U Ling Ha	U Pwe Mana
4	Matupi	USDP	Dr. Ro UK	U Aa Mi	-	U Ung Lwin	U Nay Lin
		NUP	-	-	-	U Hum Khan	-
		United DP	-	-	-	-	-
		CPP	U Lian Ce	U Paul Lian Lun	-	U Dai Thung	U Van Bawm
		CNP	-	-	-	-	-
		NDPD	-	U Sang Hlei Mang	-	-	U Van Cin
		UDP	U Sui Thang	Dr. Htay Win	-	-	U Ra Su
5	Mindat	USDP	U Thang Ling	U Ha Shing Bawi	-	U Ning Naing	U Hung Ngai

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		NUP	U Ling Hung	U Phe Ling Maung	-	U Ha Ling Hung	U Ke Hung
		CPP	U Shin Tun	U Ling Om	-	U Tam Aung Mang	-
		88GSY	-	-	-	-	-
		UMFNP	Salai Thang Ma	U Aung Ling Phe	-	-	U Choi Yang
		CNP	U Phuai Aa	U Kee Thang	-	U Tam Law Ki	U Hung Naing
6	Paletwa	USDP	U Pyi Yu	U Thein Tun	Salai Khuai Yan	U Sa Ne Aung	U Tun Myint
		NUP	U Thawng Sui	-	U San Aye	U Sing Ta Oo	U Van Thang
		CPP	U Paih Lin	U Huaih Ying	U Bu Lwin	U Kyaw Nyein	U Naing Htaik
		CNP	-	-	-	-	-
		NDF	U Kyaw Tun	U Kyaw Kyaw Phyu	U Than Kyaw Aung	-	-
		UDP	U Van Ne	U Kyaw Myint	U Myint Maung	-	-
		MKNSO	U Sing Ta Aung	-	-	U Joseph Am Be Maw	
7	Thantlang	USDP	U Ngun Hram	U Hmung Kio	-	U Sui Kio	Dr. Hmuh Thang
		NUP	U Lian Tial	-	-	U Thang Ding	U Van Za Rung
		CPP	-	U Bawi Thang Cinzah	-	-	-
		CNP	Daw Za Tlem	U Paul Thang Thai	-	U Lal Maung Cung	U Robin
8	Tiddim	USDP	U Pum Khan En	U Kham Suan Mung	U Suan Do Cin	U Nang Za Mung	U Hang Khan Khai
		NUP	U Vum Lian Thang	U Khup Cin Pau	U Thawng Sawm Pau	U Thang Go Khai	U Hau Za Dal
		CPP	U PS Kham Do Nang	U Gin Heh Lian	U SB Khan Zam Vungh	U Thuam Go Thang	U Gin Thang
		CNP	Dr. Kam Cin Dal	U Khup Lian	U Lang Za Mang	U Kam Lian Thang	U Zam Cin Pau @ U Zo Zam
9	Tonzang	USDP	U Hau Khan Mang	U Neng Khen Pau	-	U Cin Lian Pau	U Hau Khen Kham
		NUP	U Mang Cin Pau	U Lun Khua Hang	-	U Dai Lian Pau	U Tual Do Pau
		CPP	-	U Kham Hau Lian	-	U Thang Khen Kap	U Khai Do Kham
		CNP	-	-	-	-	-

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