

THAILAND

18 November – 2 December 2015

MEDIA MONITORING REPORT #138

PEACE AND RECONCILIATION

[Ethnic ceasefire signatories eye all-inclusive political dialogue](#)

The Global New Light of Myanmar, 25 November 2015

Ethnic ceasefire signatories hope to see the upcoming political dialogue include non-signatory groups, according to an ethnic armed Organisation representative of the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee (UPDJC).



As a compromise, the government and ethnic organisations reached a tentative agreement to invite non-signatories of the National Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) to meetings during the framework-drafting process as well as political dialogue, granting them the status of special invitees, said UPDJC ethnic minority

representative Khun Myint Tun.

Link: <http://globalnewlightofmyanmar.com/ethnic-ceasefire-signatories-eye-all-inclusive-political-dialogue/>

[Myanmar opposition leader, parliament speaker agree on national reconciliation](#)

China Daily, 19 November 2015

Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and current Parliament Speaker U Shwe Mann on Thursday agreed to place emphasis on national reconciliation and national consolidation in Forming the new parliament, said a joint statement following talks between the two figures in Nay Pyi Taw.

Suu Kyi met U Shwe Mann in the capital for the first ever dialogue requested by Suu Kyi after her National League for Democracy (NLD) won a landslide victory in the Nov. 8 general election.

The two sides concurred to coordinate and cooperate in forming parliament of the second term under law.



Link: http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-11/19/content_22485978.htm

Myanmar drafts dialogue framework under 10 points

Business Standard, 29 November 2015

Myanmar was drafting a framework for political dialogue between the government and ethnic armed groups under 10 points at the Myanmar Peace Centre here, an official report said on Sunday.



Credit : The Global New Light of Myanmar

The 10 points were being discussed at a four-day meeting of a special dialogue framework drafting committee of the tripartite Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee (UPDJC) Which began on Friday, Xinhua reported.

The points include the framework's basic principles, representation and participation of stakeholders in political Dialogue, a decision making method, management of political dialogue, signing of union agreement and the implementation process, said the Myanmar Peace Centre.

Link: http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/myanmar-drafts-dialogue-framework-under-10-points-115112900060_1.html

Suu Kyi meets president, military chief

Democratic Voice of Burma, 2 December 2015

Burma's president and military commander-in-chief met Aung San Suu Kyi today for talks billed as the first steps towards the transfer of power. The two separate Naypyidaw meetings followed a request by the National League for Democracy (NLD) leader after her party's landslide poll victory.

After first meeting with the president on Wednesday morning, Suu Kyi then sat down with Snr-Gen. Min Aung Hlaing in the defence office. The NLD's ability to work cooperatively with the military is touted as one of the major obstacles facing the incoming government. Despite this, Ming Aung Hlaing told journalists that the meeting yielded a "good outcome".



Credit: The Global New Light of Myanmar

He added: "The two of us agreed to cooperate on undertakings that will be beneficial for the country." No details have emerged as to the talking points between Suu Kyi and Thein Sein.

Link: <http://www.dvb.no/news/suu-kyi-meets-president-military-chief/59755>

LAW AND GOVERNANCE**Myanmar cabinet to include ethnic groups, other parties: Aung San Suu Kyi**

Channel News Asia, 26 November 2015

Myanmar's new cabinet will include members of other political parties and representatives of ethnic minorities, the leader of the National League for Democracy (NLD) Aung San Suu Kyi said on Thursday, stressing the need for national reconciliation.



The NLD captured enough seats in the national-level legislature to have its choice of president, who is elected by members of parliament. The president then selects the cabinet. Suu Kyi has said that regardless of who is appointed president, she will call the shots as leader of the winning party.

The new parliament will sit and elect a president in February, and the new administration will begin its five-year term on April 1.

Link: <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/myanmar-cabinet-to/2296288.html>

Ethnic Politicians Welcome Diversity in New Govt

The Irrawaddy, 27 November 2015

A range of political parties in Burma have welcomed remarks by Aung San Suu Kyi, whose National League for Democracy (NLD) party won a resounding victory in the Nov. 8 general election, that her administration would include ethnic minorities and members of other political parties among its cabinet and promote national reconciliation.

Sai Leik, a spokesperson for the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy (SNLD), said the party was optimistic about greater minority representation in the future government.

Link: <http://www.irrawaddy.org/election/news/ethnic-politicians-welcome-diversity-in-new-govt>



UN: Myanmar releases 53 child soldiers

Aljazeera America, 30 November 2015

Myanmar's military released 53 children and young people from service on Monday as part of an effort to rid its ranks of underage soldiers, the United Nations said.



UN: Myanmar releases 53 child soldiers

Since the military handed power to a semi-civilian government in 2011, it has taken some steps to professionalize the armed forces, including the release of soldiers recruited while under the age of 18.

The military has released 146 underage recruits this year and 699 since it signed a joint action plan with the U.N. in 2012 to end the use of children in the military.

Link: <http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2015/11/30/un-myanmar-released-53-child-soldiers.html>

CENSUS AND ELECTION

Delayed post-election talks put transition in doubt

Myanmar Times, 18 November 2015

President U Thein Sein appears to have delayed indefinitely a meeting with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to discuss the transfer of power to a new government following her party's landslide election victory. A representative of the president says talks with the National League for Democracy leader will not happen until all complaints about election results have been resolved by the Union election Commission.

The process could take months and run beyond the transition period running up to the convening of the new parliament in late January and its election of the president in February.



The decision to set such a distant and unclear date on the meetings will raise concerns over just how genuine the former and current generals are in their promises to work toward a smooth transition. Western observers said that they were worried over the apparent delay and are seeking clarification.

Link: <http://www.mmtimes.com/index.php/national-news/17678-delayed-post-election-talks-put-transition-in-doubt.html>

For Myanmar migrant workers, election results bring hope of returning to a better country

Channel News Asia, 21 November 2015

Economic conditions at home drove them overseas seeking better job prospects. Post elections, some migrant workers told Channel NewsAsia they would head back home for half their pay, but that the government needs to effect the change they voted for.



After the October elections, which Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy won by a landslide, most Myanmar nationals are hopeful that the new government will be able to effect change substantial enough for them to return home. But faced with the legacy of decades of civil war and strained ties with the West, the new government has big challenges ahead of it.

Link: <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/for-myanmar-migrant/2278070.html>

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