

ELECTION MONITOR NO. 52

FIGURES OF MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR RESPECTIVE HLUTTAW ANNOUNCED

In an official announcement, the Union Election Commission (UEC) has issued the official results of the 7 November elections in the state-run media as well as daily newspapers. The following is Notification No.143/2010 issued by the UEC.¹

The Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No. 143/2010
1st Waxing of Nadaw, 1372 ME
7 December 2010

Announcement on figures of multiparty democracy general elections for respective hluttaws

1. The Union Election Commission simultaneously held the multiparty democracy general elections in 325 constituencies out of 330 constituencies of Pyithu Hluttaw, 168 constituencies of Amyotha Hluttaw, and 661 constituencies out of 673 constituencies of Region or State Hluttaws (including 29 constituencies for national races) in the Union on 7 November 2010, and has announced all representatives-elect of respective constituencies for the hluttaws.
2. The Union Election Commission submitted the report on completion of the general elections held in line with the Election Law and Rules to the State Peace and Development Council on 3-12-2010 according to the respective election rules-106 for carrying out ongoing tasks in accord with the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
3. The figures of the multiparty democracy general elections of respective hluttaws that the people should know are announced as follows:

a) Holding elections

(1) Pyithu Hluttaw

(aa) designated constituencies for election	-	330
(bb) constituencies where elections were held	-	325
(cc) percentage of holding elections	-	98.48%

(2) Amyotha Hluttaw

(aa) designated constituencies for election	-	168
(bb) constituencies where elections were held	-	168
(cc) percentage of holding elections	-	100%

(3) Region or State Hluttaw (including national races)

(aa) designated constituencies for election	-	673
(bb) constituencies where elections were held	-	661
(cc) percentage of holding elections	-	98.22%

¹ Figures of multiparty democracy general elections for respective hluttaws announced - <http://www.burmalibrary.org/docs09/NLM2010-12-08.pdf> (New Light of Myanmar) 8 December 2010

b) Casting votes**(1) Pyithu Hluttaw**

(aa) number of eligible voters	-	29,021,608
(bb) number of voters	-	22,421,123
(cc) percentage of casting votes	-	77.26%

(2) Amyotha Hluttaw

(aa) number of eligible voters	-	29,021,608
(bb) number of voters	-	22,283,465
(cc) percentage of casting votes	-	76.78%

(3) Region or State Hluttaws (including national races)

(aa) number of eligible voters	-	28,534,216
(bb) number of voters	-	21,863,123
(cc) percentage of casting votes	-	76.62%

c) Valid votes**(1) Pyithu Hluttaw**

(aa) number of voters	-	22,421,123
(bb) valid votes	-	20,865,161
(cc) percentage of valid votes	-	93.06%

(2) Amyotha Hluttaw

(aa) number of voters	-	22,283,465
(bb) valid votes	-	20,851,078
(cc) percentage of valid votes	-	93.57%

(3) Region or State Hluttaws (including national races)

(aa) number of voters	-	21,863,123
(bb) valid votes	-	20,245,157
(cc) percentage of valid votes	-	92.60%

d) Number of cancelled and lost ballots**(1) Pyithu Hluttaw**

(aa) number of voters	-	22,421,123
(bb) valid votes	-	20,865,161
(cc) number of cancelled and lost ballots	-	1,555,962
(dd) percentage of cancelled and lost ballots	-	6.94%

(2) Amyotha Hluttaw

(aa) number of voters	-	22,283,465
(bb) valid votes	-	20,851,078
(cc) number of cancelled and lost ballots	-	1,432,387
(dd) percentage of cancelled and lost ballots	-	6.43%

(3) Region or State Hluttaws (including national races)

(aa) number of voters	-	21,863,123
(bb) valid votes	-	20,245,157
(cc) number of cancelled and lost ballots	-	1,617,966
(dd) percentage of cancelled and lost ballots	-	7.40%

e) Standing of candidates for elections**(1) Pyithu Hluttaw**

(aa) number of candidates	-	989
(bb) number of candidates representing political parties	-	949
(cc) number of independent candidates	-	40
(dd) percentage of candidates representing political parties	-	95.96%
(ee) percentage of independent candidates	-	4.04%

(2) Amyotha Hluttaw

(aa) number of candidates	-	479
(bb) number of candidates representing political parties	-	472
(cc) number of independent candidates	-	7
(dd) percentage of candidates representing political parties	-	98.54%
(ee) percentage of independent candidates	-	1.46%

(3) Region or State Hluttaws (including national races)

(aa) number of candidates	-	1,601
(bb) number of candidates representing political parties	-	1,566
(cc) number of independent candidates	-	35
(dd) percentage of candidates representing political parties	-	97.81%
(ee) percentage of independent candidates	-	2.19%

f) Election of candidates**(1) Pyithu Hluttaw**

(aa) number of candidates representing political parties	-	949
(bb) number of representatives-elect representing political parties	-	324
(cc) percentage of elected candidates	-	34.14%

(2) Amyotha Hluttaw

(aa) number of candidates representing political parties	-	472
(bb) number of representatives-elect representing political parties	-	167
(cc) percentage of elected candidates	-	35.38%

(3) Region or State Hluttaws (including national races)

(aa) number of candidates representing political parties	-	1,566
(bb) number of representatives-elect representing political parties	-	657
(cc) percentage of elected candidates	-	41.95%

g) Election of independent candidates**(1) Pyithu Hluttaw**

(aa) number of independent candidates	-	40
(bb) number of elected independent candidates	-	1
(cc) percentage of elected candidates	-	2.5%

(2) Amyotha Hluttaw

(aa) number of independent candidates	-	7
(bb) number of elected independent candidates	-	1
(cc) percentage of elected candidates	-	14.29%

(3) Region or State Hluttaws (including national races)

(aa) number of independent candidates	-	35
(bb) number of elected independent candidates	-	4
(cc) percentage of elected candidates	-	11.43%

Sd/Thein Soe

Chairman

Union Election Commission

RNDP TO EXTEND BRANCH OFFICES IN FOUR TOWNSHIPS

The Rakhine Nationalities Development Party (RNDP) which won 35 seats in Rakhine in the 7 November election is preparing to open branch offices in four townships in Rakhine State after being urged to do so by local residents according to RNDP party Chairman Dr. Aye Maung. "We will open a branch office in Maungdaw on 13 December to promote our political activities there. We have plans to open other branch offices in Ann, Taungup, and Gwa Township in the very near future," said Dr. Aye Maung. The RNDP was unable to open branch offices in these townships during the election due to a lack of time and finances. Because of these constraints, the RNDP was unable to have candidates contest these four constituencies and the government-backed USDP easily won all the seats. Party membership in these townships has also been increasing day by day since the election. According to Dr Aye Maung, the reason for opening the branches is to respond to increased interest from local residents who have become interested in the party's political activities. According to a source close the RNDP, while plans are being made to open new offices, the RNDP is still facing financial difficulties due to many restrictions imposed by the election commission on party fundraising. Many RNDP sympathizers are afraid to donate funds to the party because of strict Election Commission rules.²

PARLIAMENT TO HOLD ITS FIRST SESSION NEXT MONTH: NUP

The party that had the second highest number of seats in the national elections last month, the National Unity Party (NUP), has speculated that the first session of the new parliament's Lower House (Pyithu Hluttaw) could convene in late January 2011. According to the 2008 constitution, the Pyithu Hluttaw must be convened within 90 days after the elections, which were held on 7 November. Moreover, after convening the first session of the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House), the Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) must be convened within a week. Then the joint sitting of the two chambers, called the Pyihtaungsu Hluttaw (Union Parliament), has to be held within 15 days of the first session of the Amyotha Hluttaw, as stipulated by the constitution. Political parties and observers have speculated that the main agenda item of the first sessions will be to place "all ethnic armed forces ... under the total control of Tatmadaw [armed forces]". There are currently six ethnic armed groups who have a ceasefire with the ruling military junta and who still refuse to transform their troops into junta-controlled Border Guard Forces (BGFs). "They will likely resolve the issue of transforming ethnic armies into the BGFs within the constitutional framework through deliberations in parliament by using the ethnic MPs in these chambers," said NUP spokesman Han Shwe.³

MON PARTY REJECTS WORKING WITH JUNTA-BACKED USDP

The All Mon Region Democracy Party (AMRDP), an ethnic Mon party that won seats in last month's general election, has said it welcomes collaboration with any political party except the junta-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP). "We will co-operate with others in the assemblies.

² RNDP to Extend Branch Offices in Four Townships - <http://www.narinjara.com/details.asp?id=2823> (Narinjara) 8 December 2010

³ Parliament to hold its first session next month: NUP - <http://mizzima.com/news/election-2010/4655-parliament-to-hold-its-first-session-next-month-nup.html> (Mizzima) 9 December 2010

Ethnic minorities have the same vision, mission and attitude. We want self-determination and genuine democracy. So, we'll co-operate with ethnic political parties," said AMRDP chairman Naing Ngwe Thein. "We will also work together with other pro-democracy parties if they have the same objectives and we will not discriminate on the grounds of race," he added. "Sometimes, Burmese people are narrow-minded towards ethnic minorities and the ethnic people think Burmese people are racists. Nevertheless, if we have political awareness and can learn tolerance, the problem can be solved." Since 16 of their 34 candidates won in the 7 November elections, the AMRDP is planning to provide political training to its elected lawmakers later this month. While the USDP, led by incumbent Prime Minister Thein Sein and other senior officials, has conducted separate meetings with the Rakhine Nationalities Development Party (RNDP) and the Shan Nationalities Democratic Party (SNDP), it has yet to initiate any form of contact with the AMRDP for talks.⁴

US REPRESENTATIVE MEETS ELECTED-REPRESENTATIVES

The US Deputy Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Joseph Yun, the first senior US official to visit Myanmar after the elections and since Aung San Suu Kyi was released from house arrest, met with elected-representatives as well as leaders from 8 opposition parties on 7 December. Those who attended the meeting included Daw Cho Cho Nyein of the Democratic Party (Myanmar), U Khin Maung Gye - Secretary-General of the National Unity Party (NUP), Dr. Than Nyein - Chairman of the National Democratic Force (NDF), Dr. Simon Thar- Vice-Chairman of the Kayin People's Party (KPP) and U Hla Saw - General-Secretary of the Rakhine Nationalities Development Party (RNDP). Also present were leaders of the Chin National Party (CNP), the Chin Progressive Party (CPP) and the All Mon Region Democracy Party (AMRDP). According to Daw Cho Cho Nyein, although an invitation had been extended to the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP), they declined to attend. Although details of the meeting have not been disclosed, many of the political parties urged for the lifting of sanctions since it was hurting the ordinary people more than the regime. The two sides also exchanged views on Aung San Suu Kyi's proposal to convene a second Panglong Conference.⁵

ANALYSIS

The long awaited election results, including voter turnouts and other election-related figures, have now been made official according to the Election Commission's announcement. As expected, the official figures reflect the anticipated outcome of the elections, and the political parties now await the convening of the first session of the hluttaw (parliament), which, under the present constitution, is to be convened within 90 days after the 7 November elections. While the junta-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) has recently initiating meetings with the Rakhine Nationalities Development Party (RNDP) and the Shan Nationalities Democratic Party (SNDP), it has not done so with the All Mon Region Democratic Party (AMRDP) party, which also won seats in the elections. The AMRDP, however, has said it is willing to collaborate with all parties except the USDP in parliament. Different points of view will no doubt exist among all parties involved. With Burma's political roadmap remaining unpredictable as ever and the junta intent on maintaining power, it remains to be seen if sufficient flexibility will be maintained by all sides in order to avoid confrontation.

⁴ Mon party rejects working with junta-backed USDP - <http://www.mizzima.com/news/election-2010/4660-mon-party-rejects-working-with-junta-backed-usdp.html> (Mizzima) 10 December 2010

⁵ US representative meets elected-representatives - <http://mizzimaburmese.com/news/regional/6549-2010-12-07-13-12-44.html> (Mizzima) 7 December 2010 & US envoy meets parties that won seats - <http://www.mizzima.com/news/inside-burma/4647-us-envoy-meets-parties-that-won-seats-in-polls.html> (Mizzima) 8 December 2010