



Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma)
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Summary of the current Situation

By the end of August, 84 political prisoners were incarcerated in Burma, while approximately 122 individuals have been charged for politically motivated actions and await trial.

The number of political prisoners has continued to rise since the beginning of this year, with the use of Section 18 of the Peaceful Assembly and Peaceful Procession Act accounting for many of the newly incarcerated individuals. Barring any significant political turnaround or change of policy, the number of political prisoners is likely to continue to increase throughout the remainder of 2014.

March, 2014

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"There can be no national reconciliation in Burma, as long as there are political prisoners"

MONTH IN REVIEW

In August, AAPP recorded the sentencing of twenty-eight individuals for politically related activities, as well as the release of one political prisoner and the torture of five people.

AAPP also co-hosted a two day workshop with Former Political Prisoners Society (FPPS) this month aimed at defining the term 'political prisoner'. The forum brought together civil society groups, political party representatives and former political prisoners, domestic civil society actors, as well as international NGO experts.. The outcome of the workshop is a broad definition of political prisoners that has been agreed upon by all parties present.

Following the rise of media censorship and the arrest of numerous journalists in the first half of 2014, the month of August also witnessed an increase in dialogue between the government and different media groups within Burma. On August 1, President Sein Thein met with the Interim Press Council (IPC), at which time the president agreed to recognize the Press Council as a mediation body in future disputes involving media freedom. Newly appointed Information Minister U Ye Htut met with the IPC on August 16, and the Chairman of the Myanmar Journalist Association (MJA), U Ko Ko, on August 17, to discuss similar issues surrounding media freedom and the best ways to solve such problems in the future. In addition, the parliament is considering amendments to the Penal Code to remove Article 499 and 500, both of which are remnants from the colonial era that have been used recently to jail journalists. Despite these more amicable relations, President Sein Thein still warned that media should exercise its freedom responsibly and "harmoniously".

Land confiscation also continued to be an issue in the month of August: Fourteen farmers were incarcerated for staging plough protests and

nineteen more farmers were charged in relation to land rights claims. Meanwhile, police and villagers clashed violently in a land related dispute that resulted in three locals being shot. The continued incarceration and arrest of farmers and land activists alike is of continued concern to AAPP.

[\(14 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(17 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(18 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(4 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#) [\(17 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(18 August 2014 - DVB\)](#) [\(21 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#) [\(18 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#) [\(15 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#) [\(5 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(20 August 2014 - DVB\)](#)

DETENTIONS

Lawyer Imprisoned

A lawyer from Pyin Oo Lwin District, Mandalay Division, has been charged under Section 18 of the Peaceful Assembly and Procession Act, as well as Section 109, 147 and 505 of the Penal Code, and sent to Obo Prison in Mandalay on August 25. U Zaw Win, who works as a pro-bono lawyer for farmers, had staged a solo protest on May 28, 2014 against the inadequacy of the judiciary system in Pyin Oo Lwin; he had been interrogated at one point since then, and was finally charged and arrested this month. On August 29, a prayer ceremony was held at Shwe-Myin-Tin pagoda in Nyantaw quarter for the safe release of U Zaw Win.

(1 September 2014 - AAPP inside source)

Penal Code, the Article the journalists are being charged under.

[\(4 August 2014 - DVB\)](#)[\(4 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#) [\(4 Aug 2014 - VOA\)](#) [\(5 August 2014 - Mizzima\)](#) [\(15 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#)

Court Accepts Lighter Charges, Denies Bail, for Bi Mon Tae Nay Journalists

On August 4, Pabedan Township Court in Yangon accepted lighter criminal charges against five Bi Mon Tae Nay employees. Originally, the employees were charged under Articles 5(d) and 5(j) of the 1950 Emergency Provisions Act, which held maximum sentences of seven years each. The five employees will now be charged under Section 505(b) of the Penal Code, which holds a maximum sentence of two years and could also be settled with a fine. Of the original seven employees facing charges, Ye Min Aung and Dr. Ei Ei San have been released for lack of evidence against them.

On August 14, the Pabedon Township Court rejected the bail application by the Bi Mon Tae Nay journalists on the basis that relevant witnesses had not yet been questioned, a necessary precondition for granting bail in sedition cases. It has also been stated that bail cannot be granted to individuals charged with sedition under Article 505 of the Burmese

INCARCERATIONS

Protester Sentenced

On August 28, Ko Win Hlaing, an activist from Prome Township, was sentenced to three months imprisonment Under Section 18 of the Peaceful Assembly and Procession Act. Win Hlaing protested three months ago against what he felt were unfair motorbike helmet laws requiring an individual caught not wearing his or her helmet to pay two fines instead of one.

(29 August 2014 - AAPP inside source)

Activists Wailu and Win Cho Sentenced to Three Months

On August 25, activists Ko Wailu and U Win Cho were sentenced to three months imprisonment by Rangoon's Kyauktada Township Court for violating Section 18 of the Peaceful Assembly and Procession Act. The two had held a demonstration without prior permission against a sudden electricity price hike on March 26, 2014. Ko Wailu received an additional month for protesting against the eviction of the Moehti Moemi gold miners in January of 2014. U Win Cho was recently released from Insein Prison on June 25, 2014, after serving a three month sentence for his involvement in an unrelated protest in January.

[\(25 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(25 August 2014 - DVB/Burmese\)](#)
[\(26 August 2014 - DVB\)](#)

Protest Leader Sentenced to Eight Months Hard Labor

At his first court hearing on August 12, Sein Than's bail was set at 60 million kyat by Bahan Township Court. The Michaungkan protest leader was then indicted under Section 18 of the Peaceful Assembly and Procession Law by

four more Townships, leading Kyauktada Township to set an additional bail at 30 million kyat. Sein Than was originally indicted for protesting at the Michaungkan Protest Camp and participating in a procession to the residence of Aung San Suu Kyi. Unable to meet the high bail cost, Sein Then remained in jail until his sentencing.

On August 19, Sein Than was sentenced to four months imprisonment with hard labor under Section 18 by the Latha Township Court. On August 20, Sein Than was sentenced to an additional four months imprisonment under Section 18 by Bahan Township Court. Lawyer Robert San Aung has argued that allowing multiple trials in multiple townships for the same charge is against the law according to Article 234 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. This article states that "a person must undergo only one trial for three different counts of the same kind of offence if they are committed within one year." Sein Than has also been indicted by Kyauktada and Pabedan Township Courts on the same charges.

[\(12 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(14 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(20 August 2014 - Mizzima\)](#) [\(19 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(20 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(21 August 2014 - DVB\)](#) [\(21 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#)

Farmers in Mandalay Division Sentenced

On August 19, fourteen farmers from Singaing Township, Mandalay Division, received prison sentences of four or eight months for staging a ploughing protest in May of 2014. They were charged for trespassing and destroying property, which stemmed from disputes over 1,200 acres of land that had been confiscated by the military in 1989. Originally, 15 farmers were charged; the Sintgai Township Court

INCARCERATIONS

dismissed one farmer due to lack of evidence, sentenced nine or ten farmers to eight months imprisonment, and sentenced the remaining farmers to four months imprisonment.

[\(19 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(20 August 2014 - DVB\)](#)

Htin Kyaw Receives Multiple One Year Sentences

Htin Kyaw, the leader of the Movement for Democracy Current Force (MDCF), was indicted under Section 505(b) of the Penal Code an additional five times in August, with each indictment carrying a sentence of one year imprisonment with hard labor: On August 1, he was sentenced by the Southern Dagon Myothit Township; on August 5, he was sentenced by a Thingangyun Township Court; on August 11, he was sentenced by Mayangone Township Court; on August 15, Hlaingthaya Township Court; and on August 19, he was sentenced by Dagon-Myo-Thit-Seik-Kan Township Court. Htin Kyaw was originally charged by eleven township courts for the distribution of anti-government pamphlets in April, and has been sentenced by ten of those courts. This includes five sentences received in June and July. His current convictions amount to eight years imprisonment in Insein Prison.

[\(2 August 2014 - Eleven\)](#) [\(7 August 2014 - DVB\)](#) [\(11 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(19 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(15 August 2014 - AAPP inside source\)](#)

Eight Protesters Sentenced to One Month Imprisonment

U Tin Win, U Mya Swe, U Win Myint, U Nyunt Aung, Ko Zaw Myo Khine, Ko Zin Ko Win, Ko

Phoe Toat, and U Tun Hlaing were sentenced to one month imprisonment under Section 18 of the Peaceful Assembly and Procession Law by Pakokku Township Court on August 12. They had originally protested in February, 2014, over having to pay for units of electricity that they had not used.

[\(12 August 2014 - DVB/Burmese\[video\]\)](#)

Aung Soe Incarcerated

On August 6, Aung Soe, a member of the Rangoon People's Support Network, was sentenced to one year and six months under Section 505(b), one year and six months under Section 145, and six months under Section 143 of the Burmese Penal Code at the Pyin-Oo-Lwin Township Court. The sentences total three years and six months.

[\(9 August 2014 - AAPP inside source\)](#)

RELEASES

Bi Mon Te Nay Employee Released

As mentioned above, Ye Min Aung, one of the defendants in the Bi Mon Te Nay trial, has had the charges against him dropped due to a lack of evidence.

[\(5 August 2014 - Mizzima\)](#)

CONDITIONS OF DETENTIONS

Five People Tortured in Shan State

Five individuals of the Naugmata Village in Shan State were tortured during an interrogation over the deaths of two Burmese soldiers in the area. On July 29, 2014, the bodies of two soldiers of the 88th Light Infantry Division's 16th Battalion were found dead near the village. The village chairman, secretary, and three community leaders were then summoned and brutally tortured for 48 hours. Sai Hseng Wan, chairman of the community group Namkham Development and Assistance Committee, assured frightened villagers that the Commander and Deputy Commander who oversaw the torture were demoted and transferred out of the region. The five victims are currently being treated in a hospital in Ruili, China.

[\(5 August 2014 - DVB\)](#)

Kantbalu Farmer Forced to Make Incense Sticks

U Kaung Tun, one of the imprisoned farmers from Kantbalu Township, has been forced to make 700 sandalwood incense sticks per day in Pakokku Prison. Kaung Tun is a coordinator of FNI (Facilitator Network with ILO) and is approximately seventy years old. Of the convicted farmers from Kantbalu Township, he is the only one known to be forced to make incense.

[\(2 August 2014 - BBC/Burmese\)](#)

DEMONSTRATIONS AND RELATED RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

Unity Journalists File Appeal

On August 28, Robert San Aung, the lawyer representing the five Unity employees, submitted an appeal to Judge Myint Thein at Magwe Regional Court. The appeal stated that the five were innocent of any crime, and demanded the release of the four journalists and a reduction of sentence for the journal's executive, Tint San.

[\(29 August 2014 - DVB\)](#)

Charges against Reporters Dropped

On August 21, charges brought against approximately 50 journalists were dropped by Rangoon's Kamayut Township Police. The group was originally charged under Section 18 of the Peaceful Assembly and Peaceful Procession Act for a protest held on July 12, 2014, opposing the sentencing of the Unity journalists. Shwe Hmon, one of the journalists charged, said that the process had not been transparent; they had not been officially notified about the charges, nor had they received notification about the closing of the case. Deputy Station Officer Maung Maung Oo, who originally levied the charges, warned, "As we all have to live under the law, anyone who breaks the law again will be charged." No explanation was offered for the sudden dismissal of the case.

[\(21 August 2014 - BBC/Burmese\)](#) [\(23 August 2014 - DVB\)](#)

Leader of ABFSU Freed on 600,000 Kyat Bail

Min Thway Thit, Joint-Secretary of the All

Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU), was released on 600,000 kyat bail on August 12, the same day he was arrested. He, along with eleven farmers, was indicted on July 3, 2014 for trespassing during a ploughing protest in Thegon Township, Pegu Division. Min Thway Thit was accused of leading the protest. He failed to appear to his first two court hearings, leading to his arrest by the Thegon Township police on August 12.

[\(12 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#)

Five Activists Charged for Protest

On August 5, five individuals were charged under Section 18 of the Peaceful Assembly and Processions Act by No. 2 Police Station in Prome, Pegu Division. Kyaw San, Myo Thu Htut, U Kyaw, and Maung Maung Toe from the NLD, as well as Wunna from the Democratic Party for a New Society, had organized a protest on August 4 in opposition to the proposed parliamentary change to proportional representation. They had requested permission for the protest August 1, which was denied. On August 20, the five had a court hearing and were granted bail with parole. If convicted, they face up to six months in jail or a fine up to 30,000 kyat

[\(6 August 2014 - DVB\)](#) [\(8 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#) [\(20 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#)

Mahasantisukha Monks Countersue Request Rejected Again

Five monks, who were arrested in June and charged with defaming religion, have had a

DEMONSTRATIONS AND RELATED RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

second counter sue request rejected. Last month, the five filed charges at Bahan Township Court against twenty leading members of the Mahana (official Buddhist monastic committee) for their arbitrary detention there. Bahan Court rejected the charges, citing the fact that the main trial is being prosecuted in Tamwe Township Court. The monks then submitted charges at Tamwe Court, and were again rejected. The monks' lawyers have also stated that their clients are not receiving a fair trial. If the higher courts within Burma will not allow them to submit their countersuit, Ottara, one of the five monks, has threatened to take their case to the UN or UK, where he is a citizen. The five monks were originally arrested on June 10, when police and members of the Mahana raided their monastery, whose ownership is under dispute.

[\(5 August 2014 - DVB\)](#) [\(22 August 2014 - RFA\)](#)

Proposal for New Political Prisoner Committee

Members of the current Committee for Scrutinizing the Remaining Political Prisoners have proposed the formation of a new body at a meeting on July 26, 2014. They argue that the current name of the committee no longer suits the current situation in light of the number of new political prisoners incarcerated this year. At this meeting, members also shared their frustrations over government failing to cooperate with their efforts to examine the cases of prospective political prisoners and

restricting them from visiting the prisons.

[\(1 August 2014 - Myanmar Times\)](#)

RESTRICTIONS ON FORMER POLITICAL PRISONERS

AAPP did not document any restrictions on former political prisoners in the month of August.

LAND ISSUES

Police Open Fire on Farmers in Mandalay Division

On August 14, fifty police opened fire on a group of around 200 farmers attempting to reclaim confiscated land in Nyaung Wun Village, Sint Gu Township, Mandalay Division, injuring three people. Two received minor injuries while one, San Kyin Nu, was transferred to a hospital in Mandalay. Most of the police then took refuge inside a village school, where they were trapped for hours by local villagers before eventually being allowed to leave the school unharmed. The villagers are now preparing a lawsuit against the policemen. The 121 Logistic Battalion of the Burma Army confiscated around 7,000 acres of land from the Nyaung Wun village in 1991. Local villagers have been staging a ploughing protest since June of 2014.

[\(14 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#) [\(14 August 2014 - Asian Human Rights Commission\)](#) [\(15 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#)

Sentencing of 173 Farmers Delayed

The Kantbalu Township Court postponed the sentencing of 173 farmers from Kantbalu Township, Sagaing Division, from August 3, 2014, until August 15, 2014. The judge stated that he was postponing the decision because “he was busy.” The farmers were indicted following the staging of a ploughing protest in April 2014. They were protesting for the return of 13,000 acres of land confiscated by the military in 1999, which they received no compensation for. The land is currently occupied by a sugar plantation.

The hearing was postponed a second time until August 26. On this occasion, the delay can be

attributed to the farmers awaiting trial, who submitted a request to allow farmers who had already been sentenced to be present at the hearing. The judge postponed the hearing to discuss this latest requests with the other lawyers.

[\(4 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#) [\(17 August 2014 - DVB\)](#)

Nineteen Farmers Charged, Appear in Court

Nineteen farmers in Irrawaddy Division, including seventeen from Sin-Toe Village, Einme Township, and two from Kone-Shan Village, Kyaung-Kone Township, have been accused of trespassing, stealing, and holding illegal assemblies. They had their first court appearance on August 5, and are scheduled to appear again on August 15. In the region, over 200 farmers have been charged in relation to land ownership disputes, with more than 60 having already been sentenced. In the nearby township of Pantanaw, ten thousand acres were seized by the regional army battalion, with only 800 acres having been formally returned to the farmers.

[\(5 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#)

AAPP IN THE MEDIA

AAPP and FPPS Jointly Organize Workshop to Define Political Prisoner

AAPP was repeatedly featured in the media this month due to its involvement in a political prisoner workshop held at Dhamma Peya Monastery in Rangoon. AAPP and Former Political Prisoners Society (FPPS) jointly organized a two day workshop from August 17-18, 2014, in Rangoon to consolidate a definition of what constitutes a political prisoner. There were over 50 participants, including representatives from NGOs and political parties, activists, lawmakers, lawyers, and international experts. The workshop released the following definition:

1. Anyone who is arrested, detained, or imprisoned for political reasons under political charges or wrongfully under criminal and civil charges because of his or her perceived or known active role, perceived or known supporting role, or in association with activities promoting freedom, justice, equality, human rights, and civil and political rights, including ethnic rights, is defined as a political prisoner.
2. The above definition relates to anyone who is arrested, detained, or imprisoned because of his or her perceived or known active role, perceived or known supporting role, or in association with political activities (including armed resistance but excluding terrorist activities), in forming organizations, both individually and collectively, making public speeches, expressing beliefs, organizing or initiating movements through writing, publishing, or distributing documents, or participating in peaceful demonstrations to express dissent and denunciation against the stature and activities of both the Union and state level executive, legislative, judicial, or other administrative bodies established under the constitution or under any previously existing law.

AAPP's Aung Myo Kyaw said that the definition has now been submitted to the Parliament. Previously, the government and

political activists have been at odds over the definition. One such issue was the fact that politically motivated individuals were often being charged under criminal law; although the current government has granted a number of general amnesties, they were usually based on the charges for which individuals were indicted, leaving out this crucial demographic. Aung Myo Kyaw argued that since groups have now come to a consensus on a definition, the government should approve it so that any remaining prisoners can be freed. "The results of this workshop will be submitted to the government. If possible, we want a definition that is recognized by the government and Parliament nationwide," said Bo Kyi, Joint Secretary of AAPP.

[\(4 August 2014 - Mizzima\)](#) [\(5 August - BNI\)](#) [\(18 August 2014 - Eleven\)](#) [\(18 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#) [\(20 August 2014 - AAPP inside source\)](#) [\(20 August 2014 - Eleven\)](#) [\(21 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#) [\(21 August 2014 - Irrawaddy\)](#) [\(24 August 2014 - Eleven\)](#)

Government Denies that Political Prisoners Remain in Burma

U Aung Thein, the Deputy Minister for the President's Office and the Secretary for the Committee for Scrutinizing Remaining Political Prisoners, claimed that the 29 individuals in Burma's prisons labeled as political prisoners by human rights organizations violated other laws, justifying their imprisonment. The article quotes the information from AAPP's July Chronology that there were 70 political prisoners behind bars in Burma at the

AAPP IN THE MEDIA

end of July, with another 114 activists awaiting trial.

[\(18 August 2014 - Myanmar Times\)](#)

Eleven Media Group Reports on July Chronology

On August 12, 2014, Eleven Media Group published a story summarizing AAPP's July Chronology. The article drew attention to a number of statistics in the report, and quoted Bo Kyi as saying, "Most of them who are now imprisoned and facing legal actions had protested against land-grabbing."

[\(12 August 2014 - Eleven\)](#)

KEY INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS

US Government to Continue Helping Former Political Prisoners

Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Tom Malinowski stated that the US government will continue its support to improve the livelihoods of Burma's former political prisoners and in the education of their children. At a meeting at the US Embassy in Rangoon, members of FPPS and AAPP met with Mr. Malinowski, where he shared this statement and requested information for over 2000 political prisoners who were released in the last four years, including those suffering from mental trauma. In addition, during his visit to Burma for the 47th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting, US Secretary of State John Kerry met with President Thein Sein and requested the release of all remaining political prisoners in the country.

[\(11 August 2014 - RFA/Burmese\)](#)

Conclusion / Analysis

Eight months have passed since President Thein Sein promised to release all political prisoners in Burma. However, the number of political prisoners has only increased since that deadline. In this period, AAPP has come to recognize a number of serious problems associated with obtaining the release of all political prisoners in Burma.

Primary among them is the ongoing Committee for Scrutinizing the Remaining Political Prisoners process, and their attempts to secure the release of current political prisoners. The Committee has met much less frequently this year than in 2013, and needs to be made more effective. Given the fact political prisoners still remain despite last year's presidential promise and repeated statements to the contrary, serious questions still remain over the government's commitment to the release of all political prisoners in Burma.

In addition, the increasing number of farmers being arrested and incarcerated in relation to land rights claims and ploughing protest has also highlighted the need for an agreed upon definition of what constitutes a political prisoner. Just this month, an additional fourteen farmers were sentenced while nineteen had charges brought against them.

These issues, amongst others, provided the impetus for the two day workshop held this month to define the term 'political prisoner'. The result of the two

day workshop is a definition that is broadly conceived. It focuses on the intent and actions of individuals, rather than the specific section of law an individual is charged under, as the main criteria for what constitutes a political prisoner. AAPP views this as an important first step, and the definition has now been submitted to parliament. Approval by the parliament, and subsequently the government, is the next crucial step towards solving the problems listed above. It will help to remove much of the uncertainty surrounding the Committee for Scrutinizing the Remaining Political Prisoners, and would be an official recognition of the existence of political prisoners currently being held within Burma. It would also be a definitive move away from the current approach to the issue of political prisoners, and would provide a strong foundation for guaranteeing not only their recognition, but their rights and freedom.

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Links / Resources

August 29

[Unity Journalists File Appeal \(DVB\)](#)

August 26

[Win Cho and Wailu Sentenced to Three Months \(DVB\)](#)

August 25

[Protesters Against Electricity Price Hike Sentenced to Three Months \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Win Cho and Wailu Receive Three Months for Illegal Protest \(DVB/Burmese\)](#)

August 24

[Joint Workshop to Define Political Prisoner \(Eleven\)](#)

August 23

[Charges Against Reporters Dropped \(DVB\)](#)

August 22

[Monks Countersue Request Rejected \(RFA\)](#)

August 21

[AAPP and FPPS Organize Workshop to Define Political Prisoner \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

[Protest Leader Receives Eight Months Imprisonment \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

[Protest Leader Receives Eight Months Total Imprisonment \(DVB\)](#)

[Case Against Fifty Protesters Dropped \(BBC/Burmese\)](#)

[Need for Government to Approve Political Prisoner Definition \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

[Parliament Considering Changes to Penal Code \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

August 20

[Farmers from Sintgai Township Sentenced \(DVB\)](#)

[Protest Camp Leader Sentenced to Four Months Hard Labor \(Mizzima\)](#)

[Protest Leaders Against PR Tried and Granted Bail \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Protest Leader Receives Additional Four Months \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[NLD Moves to Approve Political Prisoner Definition \(Eleven\)](#)

August 19

[Ko Htin Kyaw Receives Another One Year Sentence \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Protest camp Leader Sentenced to Four Months Hard Labor \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Farmers from Sintgai Township Sentenced \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

August 18

[Government Denies Political Prisoners Remain in Burma \(Myanmar Times\)](#)

[Criteria for a Political Prisoner Submitted in Parliament \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Workshop on Defining Political Prisoner \(Eleven\)](#)

[Information Ministers Meets with MJA Chairmen \(DVB\)](#)

[Information Minister Meets with IPC \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

August 17

[Information Ministers Meets with MJA Chairmen \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Sentencing of Farmers in Sagaing Division Postponed \(DVB\)](#)

[Workshop Held to Redefine the Term Political Prisoner \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

August 15

[Bail for Bi Mon Te Nay Journalists Denied \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

[Police Fire on Protesting Farmers \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

August 14

[Police Shoot Three Local Village Farmers in Mandalay Division \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

[Additional Bail Set for Sein Then \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Police Fire on Protesting Farmers \(Asian Human Rights Commission\)](#)

[Organizations Collaborate on Defining Political Prisoner \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

August 12

[ABFSU Leader Freed on Bail \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Eleven Media Group Reports on July Chronology \(Eleven\)](#)

[Bail for Michaungkan Protest Leader Set at 60 Million Kyat \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Eight Protesters Sentenced to One Month Imprisonment \(DVB/Burmese\[video\]\)](#)

August 11

[US States its Continued Support for Burmese Political Prisoners \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Htin Kyaw Receives Multiple One Year Sentences \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

August 8

[Five Activists Charged for Protest \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

[Protest Leaders in Chin State Fined \(Mizzima\)](#)

August 7

[Htin Kyaw Sentenced in Rangoon Court \(DVB\)](#)

August 6

[Five Activists Charged for Protest \(DVB\)](#)

August 5

[Upcoming Meeting to Redefine 'Political Prisoner' \(BNI\)](#)

[Lighter Charge in Bi Mon Te Nay Case \(Mizzima\)](#)

[Five Tortured in Shan State Village \(DVB\)](#)

[Nineteen Farmers Charged, Appear in Court \(RFA/Burmese\)](#)

[Monks Countersue Request Rejected \(DVB\)](#)

August 4

[Lighter Charge in Bi Mon Te Nay Trial \(DVB\)](#)

[Court Accepts Lighter Charge in Bi Mon Te Nay Case \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

[Bo Kyi Comments on Upcoming Meeting to Redefine Political Prisoner \(Mizzima\)](#)

[Lighter Charges in Bi Mon Te Nay Trial \(VOA\)](#)

[Sentencing of Farmers in Sagaing Division Postponed \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

[Meeting between President and IPC \(Irrawaddy\)](#)

August 2

[Htin Kyaw Sentenced to One Year Hard Labour \(Eleven\)](#)

[Kantbalu Farmer Forced to Make Incense Sticks in Prison \(BBC/Burmese\)](#)

August 1

[Members Propose New Political Prisoner Committee \(Myanmar Times\)](#)