



ညီညွတ်သောတိုင်းရင်းသားလူမျိုးများဖက်ဒရယ်ကောင်စီ  
UNITED NATIONALITIES FEDERAL COUNCIL (UNION OF BURMA)

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To  
The Rt. Honorable Prime Minister  
The Republic of India

Lt. No. -----  
Date: May 21, 2012

Dear Your Excellency,

On behalf of the United Nationalities Federal Council (UNFC), I would like to extend the warmest greetings to You Excellency, members of the government and the people of India.

We have learnt that you will be paying an official visit in the near future to our country, the Republic of the Union of Burma (Myanmar). In addition to being delighted, we, the UNFC, are especially thankful to you for taking interest in our country's affairs and having the intention to pay a personal visit to our country.

India is a neighbor of our Union of Burma with a long shared border. We all know that, naturally, a disturbance in a country causes repercussions in its neighboring countries. Almost all the countries of the world know that there is no peace in the Union of Burma and it has been suffering from slow progress and poverty of the overwhelming majority of the people. We believe that the Indian government, under your leadership, has desired to see a change in Burma from a deplorable situation to better conditions. We believe also that on your visit to our country, you have good advice and suggestions to give to the government of Burma.

Despite the fact that our Union of Burma has various kinds of valuable natural resources, fertile land, good supply of water and a favorable climate for agriculture, the overwhelming majority of the people are in a dreadful state of poverty because of the wrong policies and system of administration practiced by the people in power. Basically, it has been due to the practice of racial chauvinism and military dictatorship. Like India, the Union of Burma is composed of various ethnic nationalities, including the Burman. Though states have been designated for the non-Burman nationalities, the states and the peoples in the states have not been given any rights to autonomy. When the dissatisfied nationalities held peaceful demonstrations and demanded peacefully their rights within the legal fold, the use of military force by the regimes in power to resolve the problem, had led to the emergence of

ethnic resistances all over the country. To crush the resistances, the regimes in power had greatly expanded the military establishment and given excessive power to it, resulting in the military getting out of control, and later the seizure of state power by the military and the emergence of military dictatorship. Due to the long-term practice of military dictatorship, the people have come to lose democratic and human rights, and the majority of the people have come to oppose the governments. The lengthy conflicts between successive governments and the people have led to intractable general crisis like it is now.

Among the various problems we have to face, the problem of national disunity, or in other words, the problem of civil war is fundamental, and if this problem is not resolved correctly, the rest of the problems will not be resolved either. Our coalition of the ethnic armed organizations, the UNFC, would like to resolve the political problems politically through dialogue and negotiation. It is our view that the correct way should be used by taking lessons from the failure of the attempt to resolve for more than 60 years the problems by military means, previously. Though U Thein Sein government is saying that it is entering into ceasefire agreements with the ethnic nationalities and building peace, it has been launching military offensives, with overly excessive force, against one of our UNFC member organizations, the Kachin Independence Organization (KIO), for nearly a year now. In this war, as many innocent Kachin people have been wantonly oppressed and killed, thousands of Kachin people have to flee for their life and become refugees. Accordingly, we would like to request you to urge President U Thein Sein government to stop its war against the Kachin people.

Our UNFC is composed of eleven armed organizations of Kachin, Karen, Karenni, Chin, Mon, Shan, Arakanese, Pa-oh, Palaung, Lahu and Wa peoples. After nationwide ceasefire, we would like to have representatives of all the armed organizations and representatives of the Union government resolved the political problems, through dialogue and negotiation, in the presence of representatives of the international community.

I would like to request you, as leader of the Indian government, to urge U Thein Sein government to establish nationwide ceasefire and to act for the emergence of negotiation between all the organizations and the government of the Union of Burma.

In closing, I would like to express my best wishes and regards to you, your colleagues in the government and the people of India. May you have success in all your endeavors!

Cordially yours,

(Lt. Gen. N-Ban La)  
Chairman United Nationalities Federal Council