



**ကမ္ဘာတိုက် မာ်းသြးဒီကီ
ကို
မရေငးမာ်းဒါးသြးညးသူ ငမန်**

MON RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MONTHLY REPORT

DECEMBER

2005

Aim and Objectives of Mon Relief and Development Committee

Aim:

Provide temporary shelters, basic needs and development assistance to refugees and the displaced persons who become homeless and helpless situation due to the oppression of Rangoon military regimes in Mon territory along Thailand-Burma border.

Objectives:

1. To help the welfares of the refugees in border areas and IDPs who are displaced inside the country, with foods, shelter and possible protection.
2. To coordinate with local Mon people in developing the grassroots community in the fields of health, education, literacy, agriculture and other rural development projects.
3. To empower the local community for the participation of decision making processes for their own lives and communities.
4. To struggle for the human rights.

The Organization of Mon Relief and Development Committee

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Nai Wongsala Pala | - Chairman |
| 2. Nai Kasau Mon | - General Secretary |
| 3. Nai Win Tint | - Joint Secretary |
| 4. Nai Dung Htaw | - Member |
| 5. Nai Glae | - Member |
| 6. Nai Chit Nyunt | - Member |
| 7. Nai Tay Jae | - Member |
| 8. Nai Jon Dae | - Member |

THE REFUGEE POPULATION OF THE THREE RESETTLEMENT SITES
(December, 2005)

No.	Camp	Number of Family	Over 12 years		Under 5 years		Total
			M	F	M	F	
1	Bee Ree	699	1582	1629	175	202	3588
2	Tavoy	558	1307	1337	152	159	2955
3	Halockhani	1032	2310	2370	321	331	5332
	TOTAL	2289	5199	5336	648	692	11875

THE MATERIALS RECEIVED
BY THE MON RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(December, 2005)

No	Organization	Rice (Sack/100 kg.)	Fish Paste (kg.)	Salt (kg.)	Bean (Kg.)	Remark
	TBBC	-	-			
	TOTAL	-	-			

Monthly Report of Mon Relief and Development Committee

(December 2005)

Relief and Development Needs for the Displaced Mon Communities in 2006

While the military government, SPDC, in Burma is implementing its 7-points road map in its the first step of holding National Convention with majority hand-picked representatives, the Burmese Army is still operating its military operation in southern Burma. Both SPDC authorities and troops of Burmese Army still involve in violating the rights of the ethnic people, Mon, Tavoyan, Karen and other people in southern Burma.

As long as the SPDC is trying to hold centralized power and Burmese Army is involving in human rights violations, there will be no peace in the country and the population displacement will continue. The sufferings of the displaced communities along eastern border of Burma have been serious.

Thousands of Mon returned refugees who have remained along Thailand-Burma border in the territory of the ceasefire New Mon State Party, do not know when they could return to the homes or resettle somewhere in Mon areas. Additionally, many hundreds of Mon families still could not safely stay at their homes and fled to many areas outside of their home villages. Many Mon families suffer from land confiscation, forced labour and porter service and various mis-treatments.

The Mon returned refugees who have settled in Halockhani, Bee Ree and Tavoy resettlement sites have still remained in these sites with various difficulties - limited access to agriculture lands, restricted in movement, limited trading with outside communities, etc. Due to various restrictions, the returned refugee families could not produce sufficient crops especially rice for their foods and they could not earn sufficient income in order to achieve 'self-reliance'. Insufficient situation for self-reliance have been since they settled in the resettlement sites. Therefore, it is a main need for them to have sufficient foods and incomes.

Displaced persons' communities or Mon IDPs in the NMSP controlled areas have some access to the agriculture lands and many of them involve in 'slash and burnt' agricultural activities in the mountain areas. But most Mon IDPs villages are so close to the conflict zones and they are always under the restriction of movement. Although they are safe in their villages, they can be arrested at their farms or on the way to other villages with suspicion of rebel-supporters.

Trading by the returned refugees and IDPs have been restricted after the armed groups like Burmese Army, Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA), Karen Peace Force (KDF) have deployed their bases close to NMSP's ceasefire zones. Traders have to pay more tax money to these armed groups and they left small profits. Because of over number checks along trading routes and unofficial and undefined amount of tax that, the prices of groceries in the IDPs areas and the resettlement sites have increased.

Because of the above-mentioned situations, the displaced communities in both resettlement sites and IDPs villages will not have sufficient foods for the whole year in 12 months. Even for a farming family who grow large amount of paddy (4 tins seeds), they could produce only approximately 150 tins of paddy that is equal to 11 sacks of rice (in 100 Kilograms). For a non-farming family, they have to buy foods for the whole year except assistance they from the relief organizations.

Rice is main food for all families. Besides rice, they have to buy many things in order to make curries and other foods. Rice is only assistance from relief organizations for the displaced Mon communities. They have at least to buy salt, fish-paste and chili. Many families grow their own vegetables in the available lands or gardens. Some families created their own gardens near river or streams.

There are also many needs especially infra-structures - bridges, schools, clinics, roads, water and sanitation and other necessities - in the Mon IDPs villages. In 2005, MRDC supported a lot of infrastructures in the resettlement sites and the people are feeling quite happy as they could have better schools and new bridges. The families in Mon IDPs villages also informed to MRDC to support them with these infrastructures. Therefore, MRDC needs to consider for infrastructure supports in IDPs villages in 2006.

Map of Tavoy District & Tavoy Resettlement site (Feb, 2004)





