

The constituencies with more than 10 political parties competed and with only two parties competed

Background

Ninety political parties and independent candidates competed in 2015 Election. Regarding the election constituencies, there are a total of 1121 constituencies; comprised of 323 constituencies for Pyithu Hluttaw, 168 constituencies for Amyotha Hluttaw, 630 constituencies for Region and State Hluttaw. The political parties representatives and independent candidates respectively contested in the 2015 election for their interests to win respective Hluttaw seats and respective constituencies and under situations of being able to win.

This paper unveils the study from respective Hluttaws [parliaments] of about one constituency that over 10 political parties competed for and the constituencies that only two parties competed for.

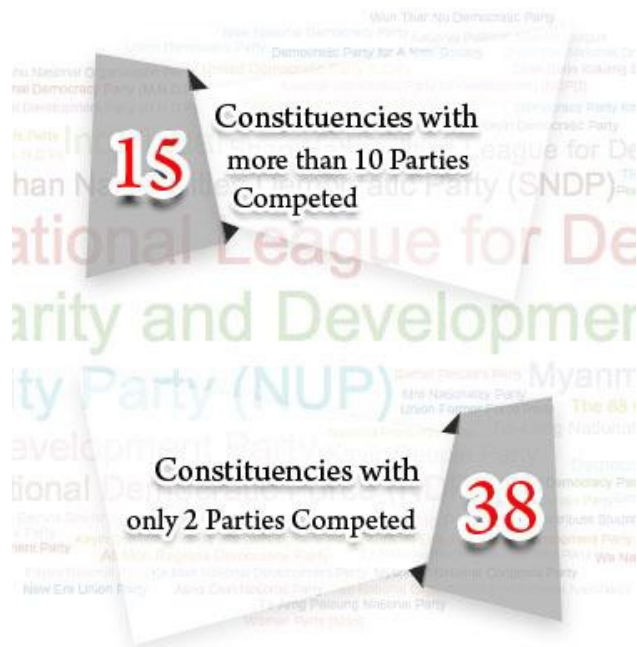
The study is based on the data compiled from the Union Election Commission's released statements/announcements and the general election results.

Findings

It shows that in terms of competition in 2015 elections, on average 5 parties competed for one constituency for respective Pyithu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw, and Regional/State Hluttaw. For the 29 posts of ethnic affair seats, 6 parties on average competed for one [individual] constituency. It's up to 14 parties, in term of maximum, competed for one single constituency and only 2 parties, in term of minimum, competed for one single constituency. This paper states the study of the constituencies that more than 10 parties competed in and that only 2 parties competed in.

The following figure shows the number of the constituencies that more than 10 parties competed and only 2 parties competed, in brief.

Figure 1: Constituencies with more than 10 parties and with only 2 parties competed



Constituencies with more than 10 parties competed

There were two constituencies that more than 10 parties competed for the **Amyotha Hluttaw**. Of 168 constituencies of Amyotha Hluttaw, 14 parties competed for Constituency (11) of Yangon Region and 12 parties competed for Constituency (3) of Kachin State.

It shows that for the **Pyithu Hluttaw**, there were five constituencies [regional/state] that more than 10 parties competed in regional and state constituencies. The constituency that the most parties competed for was Hlaingtharyar Constituency of Yangon Region, and up to 13 parties competed for one [seat of] Pyithu Hluttaw representative. Twelve parties competed for Myitkyina Constituency in Kachin State and Kengtong Constituency in Shan State, respectively. Eleven parties competed for Waingmaw Constituency in Kachin State and Pathein Constituency in Ayeyarwaddy Region.

There were 8 constituencies that more than 10 parties competed for the **State and Region Hluttaw**. Yangon Region's Hlaingtharyar Constituency (1) was the one the most or 14 parties competed while 13 parties competed for Myitkyina Constituency (2) and Waingmaw Constituency (2) in Kachin State respectively. Twelve parties competed for Myitkyina Constituency (1) and Waingmaw Constituency (1) in Kachin State. Eleven parties competed for Yangon Region's Hlaingtharyar Constituency (2), Kayah State's Demoso Constituency (1) and Kayin State's Hpa-An Constituency (1).

To summarize, in all 3 Hluttaws, there were 15 constituencies with more than 10 parties competed.

The following is the table that shows the constituencies with more than 10 parties competed in accordance with the respective number of parties and Hluttaws.

Table 1: Constituencies where more than 10 political parties competed

Hluttaw	Constituency	Number of competing parties
Amyotha Hluttaw	Yangon Constituency (11)	14
	Kachin Constituency (3)	12
Pyithu Hluttaw	Hlaingtharyar Constituency	13
	Myintkyina Constituency	12
	Kengtong Constituency	12
	Waingmaw Constituency	12
	Patheingyi Constituency	11
Regional/State Hluttaw	Yangon Region-Hlaingtharyar (1)	14
	Kayah State-Demoso (1)	11
	Kachin State – Myitkyina (2)	13
	Kachin State-Waingmaw (2)	13
	Kachin State-Myitkyina (1)	12
	Kachin State – Waingmaw (1)	12
	Kayah State –Hpa-An (1)	11
	Yangon Region – Hlaingtharyar (2)	11

Constituencies that only 2 parties competed

While several parties competed for the constituencies of the respective Hluttaw [seats], there were also some constituencies that only two parties each competed.

The number of the constituencies that only 2 parties [each] competed was 11 for the **Pyithu Hluttaw**. Those constituencies were Budalin, Mingin and Kani constituencies in Sagaing Region, Lay Shi, Lehe and Nanyun constituencies in Naga Self-administered zones of Sagaing Region, Laukkaing and Konkyan constituencies in Kokang Self-administered zones, Manton constituency in Shan State, Thayetchaung Constituency in Tanintharyi Region, and Cocokyun constituency in Yangon Region.

The number of constituencies that only 2 parties competed for the **Amyotha Hluttaw** is 4. These were Mandalay Region’s Constituency (12), Sagaing Region’s Constituency (12), and Shan State’s Constituency (10) and (11).

The number of the constituencies that only 2 parties competed for **Regional and State Hluttaw** is 22.

Only 2 parties competed for the ethnic affair representative of Rawang Nationality in Kachin State.

In Summary, the total number of the constituencies that only 2 parties competed for respective Hluttaw is 38, and the table in the following states the constituencies for respective Hluttaw that only 2 parties competed for.

Table 2: Constituencies for respective Hluttaw that only 2 parties competed

Hluttaw	Constituency	Number of competing parties
Amyotha Hluttaw	Mandalay Region – Constituency (12)	2
	Sagaing Region – Constituency (12)	2
	Shan State – Constituency (10)	2
	Shan State – Constituency (11)	2
Ethnic Affair	Kachin State – Rawang Nationality	2
Pyithu Hluttaw	Sagaing Region – Butalin Constituency	2
	Sagaing Region – Kani Constituency	2
	Sagaing Region – Mingin Constituency	2
	Naga Self-administered Zone – Lay Shi Constituency	2
	Naga Self-administered Zone – Lahe Constituency	2
	Naga Self-administered Zone – Nanyun Constituency	2
	Kokang Self-administered Zone – Laukkaing	2
	Kokang Self-administered Zone – Konkyan	2
	Shan State – Manton Constituency	2
	Tanintharyi Region – Thayetchaung Constituency	2
	Yangon Region – Cocokyun Constituency	2

Regional/State Hluttaw		
	Magway Region – Tilin (1)	2
	Mandalay Region – Mahlaing (1)	2
	Mandalay Region – Mahlaing (2)	2
	Mandalay Region – Nyaung-U (1)	2
	Rakhine State – Maungdaw (2)	2
	Naga Self-administered Zone – Lahe (1)	2
	Naga Self-administered Zone – Lahe (2)	2
	Naga Self-administered Zone – Lay Shi (1)	2
	Naga Self-administered Zone – Lay Shi (2)	2
	Sagaing Region – Mingin (1)	2
	Sagaing Region – Myinmu (1)	2
	Naga Self-administered Zone – Nanyun (1)	2
	Naga Self-administered Zone – Nanyun (2)	2
	Kokang Self-administered Zone – Konkyan (1)	2
	Kokang Self-administered Zone – Konkyan (2)	2
	Kokang Self-administered Zone – Laukkaing (1)	2
	Kokang Self-administered Zone – Laukkaing (2)	2
	Shan State – Manton (2)	2
	Yangon Region – Cocokyun (2)	2
	Yangon Region – Dala (1)	2
	Yangon Region – Dala (2)	2
	Yangon Region – Seikkan (2)	2

The reasons why even up to 14 political parties competed for one single constituency and why only two parties competed for one constituency can depend on the interest of the political parties in that particular constituency (for example, ethnic political parties competed in the

constituency where their ethnic people live), the parties' capacity of competing, the potential of winning and being-able to organize for campaigns in that particular constituency and whether the area is peaceful or not. In the election, a total of 90 political parties and 310 independent candidates contested, and this shows how high of the interests that the political parties have in a democratic election.

The Union Election Commission's 2017 By-election statement shows that there are a total of 31 vacant constituencies comprised of 14 constituencies for Pyithu Hluttaw, 3 constituencies for Amyotha Hluttaw, and 14 constituencies for States and Regions Hluttaw.

Hence, it is interesting to find out, in this 2017 by-election, how many parties will compete, how many parties are preparing to compete for the respective vacant constituencies, and which parties and which candidates will receive votes from the public in the vacant constituencies. In addition, by observing whether a lot of or a few parties will compete for a vacant constituency, we can study about the geographical and political background of the constituencies, the interest of local people in the democratic transitions and their interest in elections and political parties.

References;

- 1) Results of 2015 General Election, Union Election Commission
- 2) www.uecmyanmar.org