Burma’s Union Election Commission (EC) has finalized a list of the 37 political parties that will be allowed to contest the election set to be held on Nov. 7, according to its Notification No. 97/2010 issued on Sept. 14. On the same day, the EC posted a list of approved candidates at EC offices across the country.

Initially, 47 parties applied to register with the EC, of which 42 were approved. According to the Political Party Registration Law, however, each party must field at least three candidates in the election to retain its status as a legally registered party. Five parties that failed to meet this minimum number of candidates were therefore disbanded: the Union Karen League, the Myanmar New Society Democratic Party, the Myanmar Democracy Congress, the Mro National Party and the Regional Development Party (Pyay).

The following is the final list of the 37 political parties that will contest the election. Profiles of some of the key political parties are provided below. The Irrawaddy will continue to update this section with more party profiles as information becomes available.
National Democratic Force (NDF)

**Party Leader:** Khin Maung Swe and Dr. Than Nyein  
**Party's Constituencies:** Nationwide  
**Political Ideology/ Party Platform:** The NDF will practice “Social Liberalism” in accord with the socio-cultural life of the Burmese society. Its goal is to promote the values of democracy and human rights in the society through the formation of civil society organizations.  
**Address:** No. 103, Building 3, Dagon Lwin Street, Tamwe Township, Rangoon  
**Phone:** 951-551-654
Democratic Party (Myanmar)

Party Leader: Thu Wai (Ex-political prisoner and former leader of the Democracy Party in the 1990 election, which was later abolished.)

Party’s Constituencies: Nationwide

Political Ideology/Party Platform: To restore democracy which was lost from 1962 to 2009. The Democratic Party (Myanmar) will strive to regain basic human rights and freedoms, including freedom of speech, association and assembly. The party will also work to promote economic development, justice as well as freedom of thought, speech and assembly. Democracy rests in the power of the people.

Address: No. 6, Kwat Thit Street, Yegyaw, Pazundaung Township, Rangoon

Phone: 951-297-617
Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP)

Party Leader: Thein Sein (the incumbent prime minister and a former general in the ruling junta. Thein Sein resigned from his military position a few days before founding the party)

Party’s Constituencies: Nationwide

Political Ideology/Party Platform: The party believes in the Constitution's legal binding that no part of the country must ever secede from the Union. The party platform promises to improve the current situation, but denies farmers “the right to own their farmland.”

Address: -

Phone: -
National Unity Party (NUP)

Party Leader: Tun Yi (the former deputy chief of staff in the military). The NUP which was transformed from the former ruling Burma Socialist Program Party (BSPP) led by the late dictator Gen. Ne Win, which won 10 seats in the 1990 election.

Party's Constituencies: Nationwide

Political Ideology/Party Platforms: The party's political ideology is “the Burmese way to the benefit of the people,” which is designed to conform with the history and culture of the country. The party promises to maintain the history, culture and tradition of the country while bringing benefits to the well-being of the people.

Address: No. 24, Aungzeya Road, Bahan Township, Rangoon

Phone: 951-557-456, 459, 480
Kayin Peoples Party (KPP)

Party Leader: Saw Htun Myint Aung and Dr. Saw Simon Tha (a physician who acted as a negotiator during peace talks between the Karen National Union group and the military government). He is also the current chairman of the Rangoon-based Karen Development Committee.

Party’s Constituencies: Nationwide

Political Ideology/ Party Platform: To reform political, economic and governance systems, to work for the people to achieve all the rights prescribed by the 2008 Constitution and to bring fairness to social and economic systems.

Address: No. 15/51, Tawwin Road, Shwepyitha Township, Rangoon

Phone: 95-950-063-41
Shan Nationalities Democratic Party

Party Leader: Sai Eik Paung (a former leader of Shan National League for Democracy (SNLD), which won 23 seats in Shan State in the 1990 elections) and SNLD leader Khun Htun Oo is currently detained in prison and serving a prison sentence of nearly one hundred years.

Party's Constituencies: Nationwide (but targeted on Shan-populated areas)

Political Ideology/ Party Platform: To work to maintain the literature, culture and tradition of the ethnic nationalities. The party will avoid confrontation and opposition in politics and instead, seek opportunities for productive and positive results in the viable framework.

Address: No. 9, Thitsar Road, South Okkalapa Township, Rangoon

Phone: 951-573-092
POLITICAL PARTIES

(7) Chin National Party
Party Leader: Zo Zem (aka) Zin Kyne Paw
Party's Constituencies: Chin State and other chin-populated areas
Political Ideology/Party Platform: Views the 2010 election as a political exit from the current deadlock. To prioritize the development of the ethnic nationalities to achieve peace and development in the country. The party will work with all stakeholders. The basic political agenda of the party is to fulfill the welfare of the people through democracy.
Address: No. 277, BPI Road, West Joatkone, Insein Township, Rangoon
Phone: 95-950-308-70

Party Flag
Peace and Diversity Party (PDP)
Party Leader: Nyo Min Lwin and Nay Myo Wai
Party's Constituencies: Nationwide
Political Ideology/Party Platform: Democratic Nationalism (to avoid practicing a political ideology based on a particular class or nationalism based on race, religion), will support democracy and a government elected by the people.
Address: No. 2/2/232, Mahawgani Road, Htau Kyant Mingalardon Township, Rangoon
Phone: 95-986-107-19
New Era People's Party

Party Leader: Htun Aung Kyaw (secretary of the Unity and Development Party, which contested in the 1990 election, although it did not win any seats.

Htun Aung Kyaw was the personal secretary of Thakhin Soe, the former leader of the Burmese Communist Party (Red Flag).

Party's Constituencies: Nationwide

Political Ideology/Party Platform: Party principles are based on scientific reasoning, knowledge and theory, rather than blind faiths and unsystematic analysis.

Address: No. 225, Bogoyoke Aung San Road, Kauktada Township, Rangoon

Phone: 951-504-882
(10)  Wonthanu NLD (The Union of Myanmar)
Party Leader: Htay Aung and Nan Shwe Kyar
Party’s Constituencies: Regional party (Mandalay)
Political Ideology/ Party Platform: To achieve the party's goal of “the unity of all the nationalities,” it will practice democratic principles to build a federal union of the country. Priority will be given to the health care of mothers and children for the betterment of the new generation.
Address: Nan Oo Lwin Village, Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Division
Phone: 95-968-065-72
88 Generation Student Youths (Union of Myanmar)

Party Leader: Ye Tun (formerly a student involved in the 1988 democratic uprising and an ex-political prisoner, Ye Tun is the younger brother of Aye Lwin, the leader of the Union of Myanmar Federation of National Politics.)

Party's Constituencies: Rangoon, Mandalay, Irrawaddy, Sagaing, Tenasserim divisions and Arakan State.

Political Ideology/Party Platform: To modernize the systems of the nation in areas such as politics, economy, defense, legislature, governance, justice, ... literature and culture of the ethnic nationalities and to encourage the formation of civil society organizations.

Address: Building (F), Room 301, Pearl Condominium, Kabaraye Road, Bahan Township, Rangoon

Phone: 951-556-554

Union of Myanmar Federation of National Politics

Party Leader: Aye Lwin (formerly a student involved in the 1988 democratic uprising and an ex-political prisoner.)

Party’s Constituencies: Nationwide

Political Ideology/Party Platform: To promote freedom, democracy and the human rights of the people; to enhance the role of civilians in politics; and to encourage market economy, free competition and foreign investments.

Address: Building (F), Room 301, Pearl Condominium, Kabaraye Road, Bahan Township, Rangoon

Phone: 951-556-554
Democracy and Peace Party

Party Leader: Aung Than (a high court attorney who was the joint-secretary of the League for Democracy and Peace central think tank committee. In the 1990 election, he contested as an LDP candidate representing Pabedan Township.)

Party's Constituencies: Mainly in Rangoon Division

Political Ideology / Party Platform: The party will implement an open market system with free trade competition to help move away from state capitalism. It will provide assistance to the underprivileged sections of society by forming an Association for the Promotion of the People's Social and Economic Life at the village level.

Address: No. 647, Merchant Street, Pabedan Township, Rangoon

Phone: 951-391-332
National Political Alliance

Tin Tun Maung (an elected-member of parliament from the National League for Democracy in the 1990 election. When the NLD opposed the NLD’s decision and continued to attend the convention. Consequently, he was expelled as a member of the NLD.)

Party’s Constituencies: Nationwide

Political Ideology/ Party Platform: set three primary goals to contest the election: To gain peace, democracy and the higher living standard of the people. The party, in the newly-written laws and regulations, will effectively exercise the checks and balances system provided by the Constitution.

Address: No. 49, 16th Road, Lanmadaw Township, Rangoon

Phone: 951-730-942-13

Other political parties that have applied to contest the election:
(15) Pa-O National Organization (PNO)
(16) Union Democratic Party
(17) Taaung (Palaung) National Party
(18) Wa Democratic Party
(19) Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization (MKNSO)
(20) Lahu National Development Party
(21) Phalon Sawaw Democratic Party
(22) Chin Progressive Party
(23) Kayan National Party
(24) National Democratic Party for Development
(25) The Rakhine State National Force of Myanmar
(26) The “Wa” National Unity Party
(27) The Inn National Development Party
(28) Kokang Democracy and Unity Party
(29) All Mon Region Democracy Party
(30) United Democratic Party
(31) Rakhine Nationals Development Party (RNDP)
(32) Ethnic National Development Party (ENDP)
(33) Khami National Development Party
(34) Kaman National Progressive Party
(35) Unity and Democracy Party of Kachin State (UDPKS)
(36) National Development and Peace Party
(37) Kayin State Democracy and Development Party