

PRESS RELEASE

The US State Department's Report on Human Rights Practices, 2005 issued on 9 March 2006 represents nothing more than a highly intrusive politically motivated document interfering in the domestic affairs of Myanmar.

With the coming into the legal fold of the majority of the various armed groups, peace and stability in Myanmar have been achieved throughout the length and breadth of the country for the first time since its independence. The Government is working hand-in-hand with these groups for the all round development of the remote border regions where they reside uplifting their living standards which have hitherto been neglected due to the insurgency.

The National Convention held two sessions in 2005 achieving substantial progress in defining and adopting the principles to be embodied in the new Constitution. It was attended by over one thousand delegates representing the national races, political parties, armed groups, government personnel, intelligentsia amongst others.

The Government has been exerting all out efforts in order to raise the living standard of the entire people with improvements in the social services sector including health and education.

No foreign states can claim to have greater interest in the well-being of citizens of Myanmar than the Government and people of Myanmar. The report of the US State Department can only be regarded as a politically motivated attempt to maintain pressure on Myanmar and to interfere in the domestic affairs of the country. It has conveniently ignored the positive achievements scored by the Myanmar Government in the political, social and economic spheres of the country.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs categorically and totally rejects the US State Department's annual report on human rights in Myanmar.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Yangon
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