

# Pa-O National Organization (PNO) presents its policy, stance and work programmes

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—CEC member of the Pa-O National Organization (PNO) U Khun Min Kyaw presented party's policy, stance and work programmes through radio and TV on 26 September.

The translation of his presentation is as follows:



## Esteemed people,

I am U Khun Min Kyaw, CEC member of Pa-O National Organization (PNO). Now, I will present political, economic, social, literary and cultural matters of PNO.

First, I would like to explain facts about Pa-O nationals. Pa-O is one of more than 100 national races of the Union of Myanmar. Its population was 113371 in 1897; 124900 in 1908; and 223000 in 1930. In 2010, it has reached one million according to the record. Pa-O nationals live in Shan State, Kayah State, Mon State, Kayin State and Bago Region.

Pa-O nationals actively took part in anti-colonialist, anti-fascist and independent struggles. Pa-O national leader U Phyu signed in the Panglong Agreement, a milestone of Myanmar's independence. In the aftermath of WWII, peoples of global nations became politically awakened. Pa-O Organizing Group was formed in 1947. As for Union Pa-O National Organization, its MPs were elected — three in 1952, three in 1956 and three in 1960. Its candidates were elected in three townships in Pyithu Hluttaw election in 1990.

PNO reached ceasefire agreement and made peace with the State in 1991. Side by side with the State, it has been working for economic, social, literary

and cultural development by adopting short-, median- and long-term projects. After drawing a constitution, the State approved it by holding the national referendum in 2008. The State formed the Union Election Commission for holding a disciplined multi-party democracy general election in accord with the constitution. It also issued permission for registration political parties after passing laws and rules.

The fifth Pa-O national conference was successfully held on 24 and 25 March, 2010 at Taunggyi Headquarters to UNPNO as PNO. The aims of the organization are to ensure perpetuity of the Union of Myanmar and unity among the national brethren, to develop political, economic, social and cultural sectors of Pa-O nationals and to cooperate with other nationals.

Our work programmes are to have cultural exchange between the national brethren, to organize the people to improve agricultural techniques, to export crops locally and internationally and to turn out Pa-O intellectuals and intelligentsia. Our national cause is not oriented to hegemonic and narrow racism. Pa-O nationals lagged behind development in the areas of politics, economic and social affairs due to the wounds of war and feudalism. For our national development, we had to form PNO.

Our organization will be formed at various levels such as central committee, CEC, Township EC, ward and village ECs, village leaders and village heads. Our organization will strive for ensuring the unity of the entire Pa-O national people and cooperating with other national people with common belief. If the economy, the foundation of a nation, is not strong enough, political and economic affairs, the upper structure of that nation, will not be strong.

Our region has been working with ambitious plans by placing emphasis on education. A public campaign has been launched since 1991 to open a

primary school in every village, a middle school in every village-tract and a high school in every township and to open a boarder school at every high school for students from other regions. As a result, progress has been achieved to a certain degree and the number of graduates has increased.

A people cannot develop and neither can a nation without the educated. Without education, one's own literature and culture cannot be maintained and even alien culture can penetrate. National Leader Bogyoke Aung San once said education must not only improve people's knowledge but also develop their attitudes and ideas. Modern nations are built with the strength of the educated. So, PNO will try its best to improve education without fail.

Lord Buddha pointed out that good health is of great blessing. Pa-O nationals can still be found suffering from diseases. Their lifespan is still short. Morbidity rate is still high. So we will try to reduce such rates with the help of the department of health.

In the elections for Amyotha Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw and State and Region Hluttaws to be held by the Union Election Commission, PNO will compete in Pinlaung, Hsisheng and Hopon townships. The aim is to maintain the Pa-O history. Another aim is to play a part in building a democratic nation, in ensuring the perpetuity of the nation and in striving for Pa-O nationals to escape from poverty and backwardness.

In a nut shell, we would like to request that the entire people are to cast 'yes' vote for our PNO candidates of respective Hluttaws with correct vision and generosity.

