



Fact Sheet

National Voter List Display **24 August – 06 September 2015** *(Tentatively)*

What is the National Voter List Display?

A key element of holding credible, inclusive and transparent elections is ensuring that all eligible voters have the right to a single vote in each election. In order to fulfil this requirement it is essential that a comprehensive and accurate voter list is developed. Since December 2014, the Union Electoral Commission (UEC) has been committed to implementing this major initiative, by:

<i>December 2014 – 30 July 2015</i>	Entering eligible voter data from General Administrative Department (GAD) household lists and logbooks into a database at township sub-commission
<i>January 2015 – mid July 2015</i>	<p>Printing and displaying preliminary voter lists at ward/village tract level</p> <p>Encouraging voters to check the accuracy of voter list data displayed. As the preliminary voter list is still ongoing (status 17 July), only preliminary data is available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total of ca. 17,5 Mio voter names have been displayed in 182 townships, with remaining 14,2 Mio still on display in until 10 July 2015• Some of 3,800,000 voters checked their names (12%)• Approximately 680,000 forms submitted <p>Correcting the data on the basis of the forms received</p>
<i>May 2015 – July 2015</i>	Importing voter list data from 330 townships to a central database at the UEC in Naypyitaw to cross check for duplications and anomalies
<i>24 August – 06 September 2015</i> <i>(Tentively)</i>	<p>Conducting a Final National Voter List Display</p> <p>Submit Request Form for Additions/Corrections/Objections</p>
<i>06 September – 01 November 2015</i>	Updating Voter List data in preparation for General Elections 2015

Everyone plays a role in ensuring the voter list is improved and even if a voter has checked their name in past elections, it is best to make sure it is still correct by checking it again.

Why is there a preliminary and a final voter list display period?

This voter list update process represents the first time in Myanmar's history that such a large computerized and centralized database of names (over 31.7 million) in Myanmar script has been created and can be accessed online and through mobile phones. The UEC was aware that the data that formed the voter list was outdated and contained many errors, and for that reason the UEC held a double verification period of the voter list. The first verification occurred during the preliminary display phases and the second will be during the national voter list display, which is legally required to occur before a general election. The UEC also extended the national voter list display period to 14 days from the previous seven days to allow voters sufficient time to check their names thoroughly and request changes.

Why is the press saying that there are mistakes on the Voter List?

The preliminary voter list displays have targeted approximately 31.7 million individuals across all states/regions in Myanmar. During the preliminary displays the media and political parties reported on many of the inconsistencies found in the voter list displays. These included the inclusion of individuals that do not hold identification cards, listing June 30th as the birthdates for numerous individuals, UEC staff not properly trained and poor accessibility of the voter lists displays.

The data on the preliminary list is based on often outdated households lists and logbooks received from the Ministry of Immigration and Population (MoIP) and GAD respectively. The specific purpose of the preliminary and final display periods is to identify and correct these inaccuracies, which is why it is important for all voters to check their name on the list. All addition/correction/objection forms received will be used to update the voter records in the central database. Integrating lessons learned from the preliminary voter list display, the UEC is ensuring that for the National Voter List Display from 24 August – 06 September 2015:

- Enough forms are available for voters to add/correct/object names in the voter list
- The font used on the voter list is larger, so it is easier to read
- The voter list is easily accessible for all voters
- Ward/village-tract sub-commission staff will be available to assist voters if help is requested
- Voters' names are ordered by street in each ward/village-tract so that it is easier to find names

How will I be informed about when the National Voter List Display will occur?

The UEC will also expand voter education efforts to inform and motivate individuals to check the voter list during the national display. During the preliminary displays the UEC distributed over 3,800,000 election pamphlets and some 335,000 motivational posters as well as 80,000 technical posters throughout Myanmar. These materials were also translated into 16 different ethnic languages. The UEC also held regular stakeholder meetings with over 400 representatives from more than 300 civil society organizations in all states/regions to coordinate the dissemination of voter education materials.

The UEC also created a Facebook campaign to target young urban voters. The Facebook page became an active place for individuals and CSOs to view voter education materials, share news articles and updates about the preliminary displays, and discuss personal experiences viewing the voter list. The page has reached over 300,000 people. The majority of individuals are based in Yangon with the second most being from Singapore, followed by Mandalay, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur and a small number also coming from different states and regions.

Voter education efforts will increase during the national display through a mass media campaign that disseminates messages through radio, TV, newspapers, posters, pamphlets and other methods that will be useful to reach as many voters as possible. The UEC will also hold another round of regional stakeholder meetings that informs local civil society organizations and local political parties about the national display and other electoral events.

Where is the Voter List to be displayed?

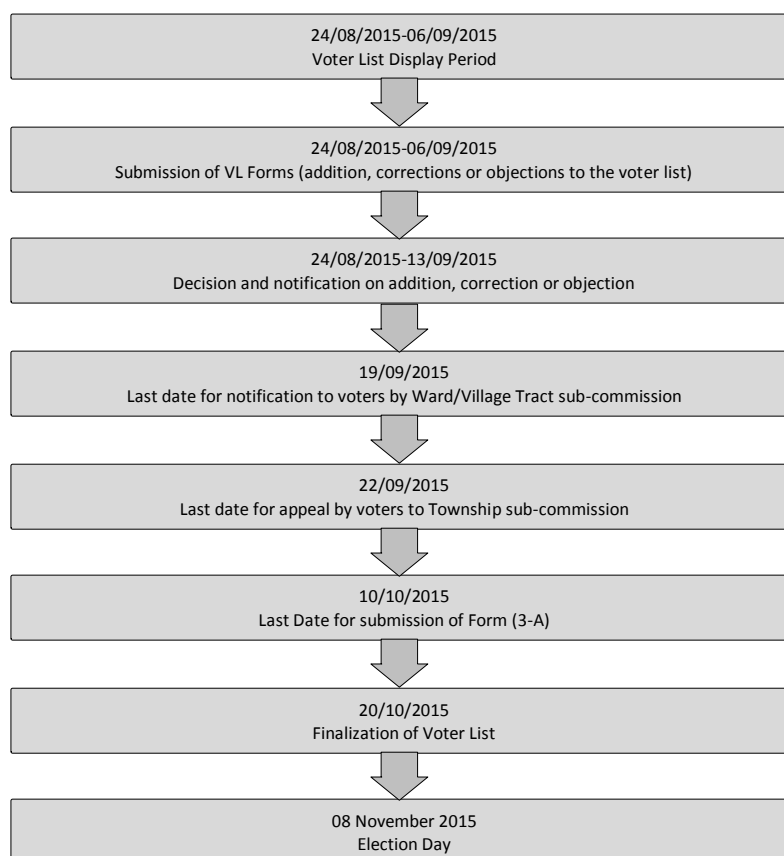
Each ward/village tract sub-commission is responsible for displaying its list of voters at a place that is easily accessible to all voters. Often this will be at the local sub-commission office but it could also be at other public buildings or places accessible to all. Sometimes a list will be shown in more than one place, particularly if this helps voters to attend the display within their own village. If in doubt, ask at the ward/village-tract sub-commission/GAD office.

You can also check your name on the official UEC website: <https://checkvoterlist.uecmyanmar.org>

When is the National Voter List Display?

The National Voter List Display will be held tentatively from 24 August – 06 September 2015. All government authorities, civil society organisations, political parties, local and national media should be helping to make sure everyone knows when this will be and ensure that people check their names on the voter list.

The list will be displayed every day for a period of two weeks. From Monday to Friday the list will be posted during usual working hours from 10am to 4pm. On weekends and on any public holiday the list will be available between 10am and 4pm.



How can people verify voter records?

At each display centre the list of voter names should be posted on a noticeboard or suitable wall such that everyone can look at the full list without needing to identify himself or herself or to request access. Voters should check their own name and also those of their family who they believe should also be on the list. Additionally, voters should check the list for family members who are deceased or who have moved away and may not yet have been removed from the list.

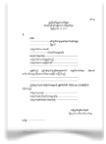
What should voters do if a record needs changing?

Some voters will find records that should be added, corrected or removed from the list. In each case a form should be completed and signed/thumbprinted to request the change. There should be an official present at the display who can provide the forms and who can help voters to complete and submit them if required. The forms available will be:



Adding a name:

If you are a **permanent resident** currently not on the list you should fill out **Form 3**. If you are transferring from somewhere else after your name is in voter list, you may first need to obtain a Form 4-B from your previous sub-commission office as evidence.



If you are a **temporary resident**, have been working away from home for at least 180 days and want to vote at your work location rather than traveling to your home address to vote, you should complete **Form 3-A**. Evidence of employment may be required. This form will transfer your vote for the forthcoming election only, after which you will be registered again at your permanent address.



Correcting a record:

If your name is in the voter list but some details are incorrect, such as date of birth or spelling of names, you should complete **Form 4-C** to correct them.



Removing a name:

If you want to remove **your own name** from the list, in order to register permanently somewhere else, you should fill out **Form 4-A**. You should then be issued a copy of Form 4-B that you can take with you to help you register at your new address.



If you want to remove someone else's name from the voter list, such as a family member who is deceased or permanently moved away, you should fill out **Form 4**.

Note also that if you are temporarily resident away from home at an institution such as a university, hospital or prison, you should make sure you're still on the list at your home address. The head of your institution should be making arrangements for you to be able to vote in advance so that you won't need to go home to your polling center on Election Day.

What happens after the display period?

After the 2-week display has finished all request forms submitted will be considered by the Ward/Village-tract sub-commission. If the form is approved the changes will be made as requested. If the form is rejected, the voter who submitted the form will be notified within seven days of the submission date either by phone/in person from the respective sub-commissions and/or GAD. They will then have three days to appeal the decision by referring the matter to the township sub-commission for adjudication.

If there are still errors in my name on the voter list can I vote on Election Day?

If you find that there are small errors on the voter list, such as to your name, or address, you will still be able to vote on Election Day. A person would be required to guarantee your eligibility, and the errors will be corrected on the voter list for future displays.

The National Voter List Display is your chance to make sure your name is in the voter list correctly.

Do Not Miss It!