



# Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

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## News Bulletin

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### Forced labour in Nyaunglebin District, February 2013

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*This news bulletin describes forced labour in Nyaunglebin District demanded by Tatmadaw Kyone Kyi Army Camp Commander, Paing Soe Hkaing. Villagers reported that, in February 2013, eight villages were asked to construct fencing on military campgrounds without compensation. Two villages participated by sending one person from each household, while the remaining six villages sent a combined 20 people.<sup>1</sup>*

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In February 2013, Kyone Kyi Camp Commander Paing Soe Hkaing demanded forced labour from villagers in Ler Doh Township, Nyaunglebin District. Kyone Kyi Camp Commander Paing Soe Hkaing is commander of Tatmadaw Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) #349.

The KHRG community member reported that residents of eight villages in Kyauk Kyi Township were requested to build fences in the Kyone Kyi camp area, and each village was given 25 cubits of land for its inhabitants to fence. According to the community member, there are 70 households in T--- village, 150 households in S--- village, 40 households in U--- village, 120 households in V--- village, 70 households in W--- village, 70 households in R--- village and 80 households in X--- village. Each village was allowed to determine how many villagers it would send to meet Paing Soe Hkaing's demands. Villagers in S--- and T--- villages selected a member from each household to participate so that they could finish their work quickly, while only 20 villagers total went from each of the other six villages.

Further background reading on the situation in Nyaunglebin District can be found in the following KHRG reports:

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<sup>1</sup> This news bulletin was written by KHRG based on information from a community member from Nyaunglebin District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions, including one short update received by KHRG in May 2013 and during a phone call with KHRG in October 2013.

- “Landmine injuries in Mone Township, Nyaunglebin District since January 2013,” (July 2013)
- “Nyaunglebin Photo Set: Flood victims access food aid and health care services, August to September 2012,” (June 2013)
- “Nyaunglebin Situation Update: Kyauk Kyi and Shwegyin townships, September to November 2012,” (June 2013)
- “Nyaunglebin Situation Update: Kyauk Kyi Township, November 2012 to January 2013,” (April 2013)
- “Nyaunglebin Situation Update: Kyauk Kyi Township, May to July 2012,” (March 2013)

