

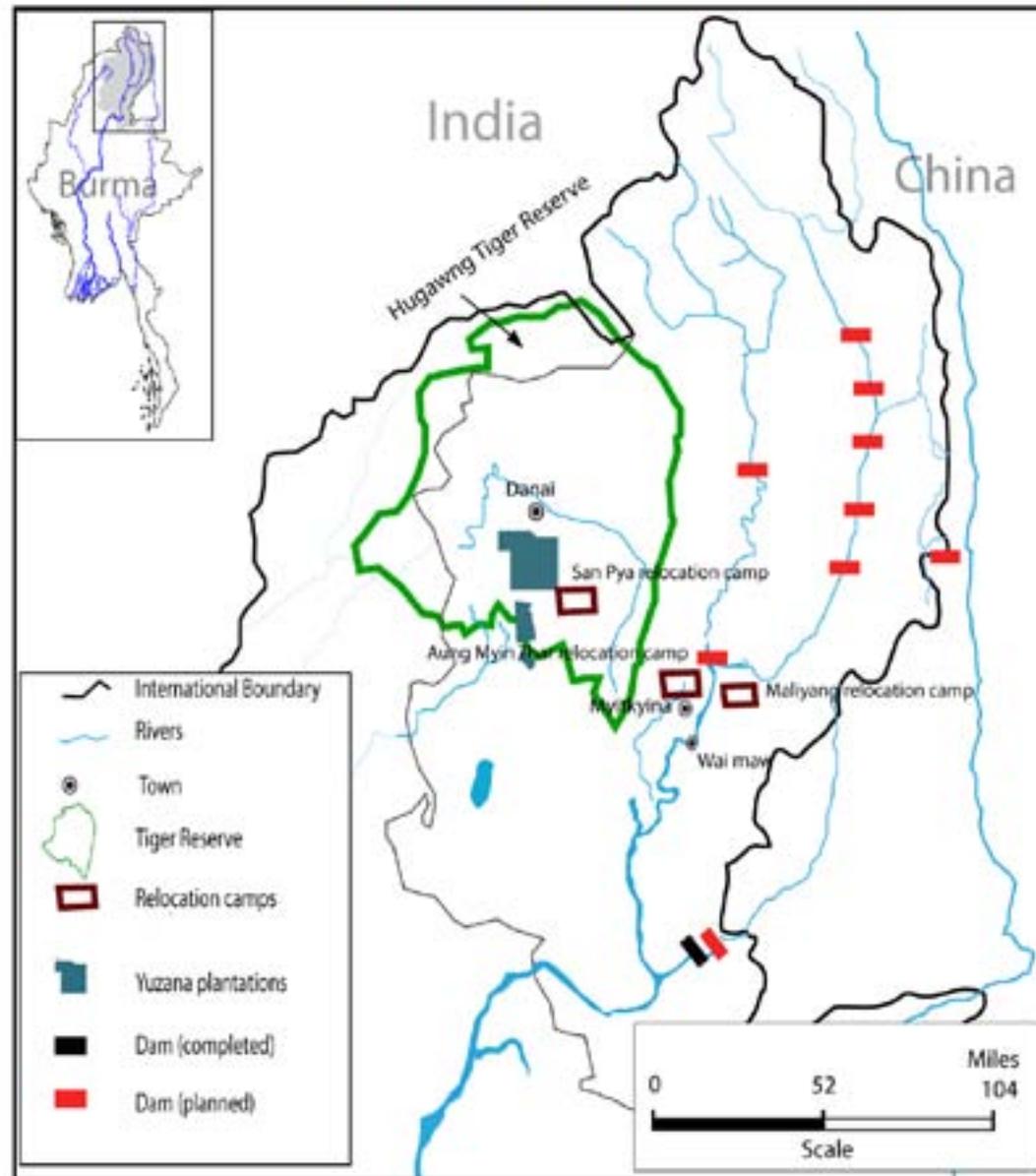
Model villages are not a model



Model villages are not a model

Mungchying Rawt Jat (MRJ)

Kachin State



Summary

This short booklet documents cases of farmers who have been forcibly relocated to make way for “development” projects in Kachin State, and are now staying in Sanpya camp in Hugawng Valley, and Aung Myin Thar and Maliyang camps near the Irrawaddy Myitsonne.

Mungchying Rawt Jat (MRJ) was set up in September 2012 by farmers directly affected by government development projects in Kachin State.

The objectives of Mungchying Rawt Jat (MRJ):

- Development of grassroots communities
- Sustainable development.
- Protection of natural resources
- Ensuring local people’s participation in decision-making around development projects
- Letting local people lead peaceful and secure lives

Development projects and relocation camps

As crony companies and foreign investment companies join with the government in large-scale projects, a new model of “development” is unfolding across Burma. To make way for hydropower dams and mono-crop plantations, villagers have been forced into relocation camps, or so-called “model villages.” The government and the companies state proudly in the media that the living standard of these relocated people has improved, but the reality is completely opposite.

The housing in the relocation camps is sub-standard. There is no clean water for household use, insufficient drinking water, and inadequate education and health care. Having lost their lands and livelihoods, the relocated people are forced to find insecure and low-paid daily wage jobs to try and feed themselves. They are constantly worrying about their future, and how to provide for their children’s education. Women face increased risk of sexual harassment and

assault by migrant laborers. In this situation, people do not feel like they are living in “model villages.” They feel like they are living in refugee camps, full of wretchedness and difficulty.

This short booklet presents the cases of three relocation camps in Kachin State: Sanpyar camp in Hugawng Valley, and Aung Myin Thar and Maliyang camps near the Irrawaddy Myitsone. It gives an insight into people’s lives before and after relocation.

The population of Aung Myin Thar and Mali Yang relocation camps

There are 317 households, comprising over 2075 people, in Aung Myin Thar relocation camp. They were forced to relocate from three villages -- Mazup, Tang Hpre and Padang (Lahpe) -- to make way for the Myitsone dam project. There are 120 households, comprising over 500 people, living in Maliyang camp. They come from three villages: Dawng Pan, Aung Ja Yang and Ding Ga Zup (Maliyang).

The population of Yuzana relocation camp

There are 300 households, comprising over 1,000 people, in Sanpya village. They were forced to relocate because of the Yuzana cassava plantation project. They come from six villages: Bangkok, Aung Ra Yang, Nam Seng, Lawt Ja Pa, Wara Zup and Jahtu Zup.

Ruined livelihoods

When the villagers were forcibly evicted from their villages, they lost their livelihoods and income-earning opportunities. Previously, they had been able to afford to support their family for the whole year, but in the relocation sites this has become impossible. This is shown clearly in the following testimonies from farmers from the Hugawng Valley and Myitsone in Kachin State.

Voices of relocated people

Case: 1

Name – Daw Lu Awn

Current place of residence – Aung Myin Thar relocation camp

Age - 56 years



Before relocation: I had two acres of hillside fields and farms. I could harvest 45 baskets of rice from one acre so my family was able to harvest 90 baskets from the two acres. I also owned eight acres of bamboo plantations, with about 1,000 bamboo plants. I got an average annual income of around 1,500,000 kyats from selling bamboo. I had 12.68 acres of orange orchards, with about 1,500 trees and earned an average of 2,000,000 kyats a year. The income from all this was enough to support my whole family and I could even save money. We could plant seasonal crops and sell them the whole year round. When I was farming, I was always taking exercise, so I could live happily and my health was also very good.

After relocation: The government announced the order that all of the villagers and family property had to move to the relocation camp by March 28, 2011. I didn’t want to move there but they forced us to move. Now I am farming on two acres of land given by the government. Here I can harvest only 10 baskets in one acre, which makes 20 baskets from two acres. The land is stony so it’s hard to plant anything. The small of amount of compensation provided was not enough for our family, so we had to sell all of our cows and buffaloes. The company gave us 20 sacks of rice in 2011 and 11 sacks of rice in 2012. It is not sure if we will get any more support. I don’t expect that the company will support us for our whole life. My family is having to struggle since the company stopped supporting us. My husband is also getting seriously ill and thin. The children also often get colds and coughs and can’t keep up with their lessons. There is a joint high school with Man Hkring in the camp. It is not well run, and and very few students pass grade 11, so I would like to send my children to another good school.

Case: 2**Name - Daw Kaw Bu****Current place of residence - Aung Myin Thar relocation camp****Age - 30 years**

Before relocation: We had a store and three acres of farmland. We were able to harvest 80 baskets from the three acres and grow vegetables in our garden. The income was enough for the family. The people quite often get malaria in the camp now. I sold things in our store and looked after our children.

After relocation: We were threatened: “If you don’t move to the relocation camp by March 2012, you will be arrested.” So we could not live in Tang Hpre anymore. We felt insecure and my family was forced to move on March 26, 2012. While we were moving, we had to carry a lot of things from the store. We didn’t want to move, but we were afraid of the threats. Here I am still running a store at my house, but I can’t sell things like before. Here we cannot plant anything. When we moved here, we just received a house in a compound and some rice. We are not sure we will get any more support. If we could afford it, we would like to send our children to school in another town like other children. Here the teachers don’t have good teaching skills and they don’t teach systematically.

There is a hospital and clinic but no one can afford to go there. We have a garden with the house but we can’t plant anything there. We just know how much we are suffering and feel like we are refugees and living under house arrest. The income is not enough for the family, so my husband has to go to the gold mining area. Sometime he has work but sometimes he doesn’t. I would to run a store like we did before at Tang Hpre. When we have a water shortage in the camp, we have to collect water from the Chying Hkrang stream. It is very far from the camp. We have to use water very sparingly. In the camp, we women are stay at home. Most of our husbands are travelling to try and earn an income.

Case:3**Name: N-Hkum Jung Du****Current place of residence - Aung Myin Thar relocation camp****Age - 96 years**

Before relocation: My family has always done farming as their livelihood. We were able to harvest 100 baskets from three acres. We also got 5 million kyats income every year from two acres of orange orchards, where we had 40 orange trees. We earned enough to support our family from all that. We could live happily and healthily from our daily work.

After relocation: We moved here in March 2012. My children moved here first, so I had to find a house by myself. I don’t want to live here. I have to live here because of the order of the government. I have to stay at home and look after my grandchildren. Here I have no work to do, and I have to sit the whole day. I cannot do farming. Even though we want to plant, the land is full of rocks and the soil is bad. The company provided us with 24 tins of rice, but it is not enough for all our family members. The young people have no job, and the death rate is increasing due to drug use. There is a clinic, but no one goes there, because of financial problems. Here there is not enough space like in our old village of Tang Hpre. There are no trees and no shade. I feel so lonely. We have to worry for the future of our family and grandchildren, because here there is no secure work.

Case: 4**Name - U Sut Ma Sin Wa Naw****Current place of residence - Mali Yang
relocation camp****Age - 47 Years**

Before relocation: I had been living in my old village since I was young. I owned and did farming in three acres of farmland. I was able to harvest 60 baskets of rice from one acre and 180 baskets from the whole three acres. Also I had a bamboo plantation with 1,000 bamboo plants, and also a jenkol bean (Ngapi Nut) farm with 600 plants, from which I earned 4 millions kyats (a year?). And I had planted 10 teak trees and also 600 other kind of trees. Our family earned enough from all this income. My wife also did hillside farming and looked after our children. At that time no one forced us to move so we were safe.

After relocation: The project started in June 2011 in this village. We are still doing hillside farming. There I plant some different kinds of trees, likes ironwood, teak and bamboo. We can harvest over 30 baskets of rice from one acre and 70 baskets from 2 acres. We don't grow vegetables. Sometimes I work as a daily worker, when someone calls people for wage labour. We didn't get any support from the company, even though my ironwood tree farm was confiscated. Now I have a pain in my foot. I think it is cancer. My wife also has menstrual disorders and hypertension. The children also often get sick. Here there is one primary school and one pre-school. There are only 6 teachers, one for each class. The villagers have to pay for three teachers' salary as the government only pays for three. Teachers are also not paid well. There are 60 students in the school. There is no hospital, but one clinic. In the clinic there is a nurse and midwife.

Case: 5**Name – N hkum Rau Mai****Current place of residence – Mali Yang
(relocated from Dau Pan)****Age – 42 years**

Before relocation: When we planted two or three baskets of rice seed, we could harvest 100 baskets of rice. We had 200 rambutan trees, 300 orange trees and 60 grapefruit trees. We could earn around 1,000,000 kyats a year from our fruit orchard. It was enough to support our family. We didn't have to worry and it was peaceful in our original village.

After relocation: We have been here for 2 years. We were forced to move here in 2010. It was not our desire to move here. It was only because of the government order. We are now doing hillside farming. There are some ironwood

trees in our hillside farm. We don't have any land for planting vegetables. We cannot plant any vegetables here because the land is too stony. It is not good soil like in our old village. During the harvest time, we have to work as daily laborers and get 4,000 to 5,000 kyats per day. At the moment it is very difficult for us to earn a living. In our family the number of dependants is higher than those who earn an income. Just one or two family members have an income. When we moved here, we got a house and some rice. Each person got only 54 cans of rice for a week. It was not enough and we were not full. Asia World gave us support one time and China Power Investment gave us rice one time for six months. We have received rice only two times. If they stop supporting us, we don't know how we will survive. We have been getting malaria. This camp has only a primary school so the older children have to go to the other side of river. One child has to pay 4,000 kyats for the ferry boat, and they can't keep up with the school lessons. We cannot afford to keep sending our children to school until they graduate. And we don't have money to send our children to study in town.

We worry about our long term survival in this village. If we could afford it, we would move to another place. We do gold panning and get one "ywe" of gold in the whole day. We can get 5,000 kyats for one "ywe" but this kind of work is irregular. Mostly we do hillside farming and work at home. We have to collect water from the river with buckets. Sometimes we face water shortages, and there is no water in the toilet and for washing the baby. It is also very difficult to find and collect firewood. There is no forest, so there is no place to find traditional medicine. Before, we used to get vegetables from our garden and 1,000 kyats worth of cooking oil was enough for one week. But here we have to buy everything we eat and it costs a lot even though we don't have money. We cannot think that this place is secure in these circumstances, because there are so many problems.

Case: 6

Name – Daw Bawk Nan

Current place of residence – Model relocation camp in Hugawng

Age – 45 years



Before relocation: We used to plant vegetables in our garden. We were also able to harvest rice paddy. We got around 80 to 90 baskets from one acre, and 300 to 400 baskets from 5 acres. We planted other different kinds of fruit such as bananas, mustard, long beans, ginger, yams, roselle, pineapple, sugar-cane, chilly, egg-plant, corn and mangoes. But Yuzana company tractors destroyed all of our farmlands. Now we don't have any land to farm, so we have to do daily wage labor to survive. When we were at Nam San Pa village, we had farmland, gardens and hillside farms. There we could earn money from selling vegetables. But since moving we have been struggling to survive from only hillside farming.

After relocation: In February 2008 Yuzana company confiscated and used tractors to destroy our farmland, hillside farm, orange plants, banana plants, jenkol bean (Ngapi Nut) plants, pineapple plants, mango trees, rambutan trees in our gardens and orchards, tents and buildings. They forced us to sign that we would move according to the order from the government. After relocating, there is no land for farming, so we have to struggle doing daily wage labor.

We do wage labor in other places. We get 2,500 kyats per day, but if the employer gives us lunch, we just get 2,000 kyats per day. This kind of work is not regular every day, and is just available sometimes. In the beginning, when we moved here, the Yuzana company showed us land that we would be given as substitute land along the Shahtoozup and Mogaung streams and forced us to sign that we would accept that land. They took photos while we were receiving money -- 100,000 kyats -- as compensation from them. They didn't support us anymore after that. There is no hospital or clinic, so we have to go to a private clinic. There is one primary school. It only goes up to grade 4. It was set up by Yuzana company. There are just four teachers. Two school teachers are getting support from the company and the villagers have to pay 9,000 kyats for the other teachers. Some family can afford this, and some cannot. The village headman U Ah His Yaw handed over responsibility to U Hpu Yaw Dwe in October 14th, 2012. In the past, some staff from Yuzana company and village administrative members, U Mung Sam, Ah Si Yaw, U Zaw Nan called the farmers like us together and said: "You will come and work for Yuzana when you start starving. Prepare to be slaves of Yuzana." They

confiscated over 5,000 acres of our land. Since we moved here, there has been no improvement. We are unhappy, depressed and struggling to survive. It is hard even to carry out domestic work. There is not enough water and we have to collect water from very far away. Yuzana company made some villagers dig wells, and said they would build walls around the wells, but they haven't been built until now. Without protective walls, the cows, buffaloes and other livestock fall in the wells. They burned and cleared all the forest so there is no more place to collect firewood. Family members have been staying separately and struggling to earn a living.

Case: 7

Name – U La Mung Tang Gun

Current place of residence – San Pya village (model village from Hugawng)

Age - 53 years



Before relocation: In our old village, we had farmlands, gardens and livestock. I used to have 33 acres of land and 18 acres of farmland. I was able to harvest 80 baskets of rice from one acre and 2,000 baskets from 33 acres in a year. We produced oranges, jenkol bean, bamboo, banana and potatoes on our farmland. I could earn around 20 million kyats from 18 acres in a year. Since Yuzana confiscated our land, we have become jobless. Women used to sell vegetables and fruit from their gardens, and took care of their children, did the cooking, and looked after farm animals. We had enough food and lived happily.

After relocation: We have been staying in the model village for almost 3 years since Yuzana company tractors destroyed our land, fruit plants, tents and buildings in February 2008. There is no more land for farming because they confiscated all of our lands. And the Yuzana company said to villagers: “No one can take any land from Hugawng, in the east, west, south and north, as far as the Danai stream. We own all of the land.” Villagers cannot even collect firewood

or let their cows or buffaloes graze on grasslands. When they find villagers who are doing this, they threaten and beat them.

There is no clinic in the model village. We have to go to other places for treatment. We have no jobs and are struggling to survive, so how can we send our children to school? Family members are no longer staying together. We have to find work doing daily wage labor. We cannot earn enough for our food doing this kind of daily work. Things are getting worse and worse. We didn't receive any support from Yuzana company when we moved here. We just got 100,000 kyats (\$100), some timber planks (bad quality) and 50 sheets of zinc. This was not enough to build a house. We had to pay extra money to get a house. After relocation, the Yuzana company didn't support us with anything. Before we moved, they used to say: “You will be living like in the city. You will get full utilities, a clinic, hospital and we will build a school in each village along the Ledo road. And we will build a market place like the Mandalay market, a police station, and concrete roads. But there has been nothing until today.

We could live happily and stay safely in our thatched house in our old village. Now they have built a house for us, but its poles are already rotting. They said the model village would be an improvement, and if we did what they said we would not face difficulty. They said: We are coming here to improve your lives and we'll rebuild the Hugawng Ledo road. But now here we are getting poorer. In the model village there is a Basic Education primary school. It has classes only till grade 4. Our children have to go on foot to Shahtoozup village, around three miles from this model village. There are not enough teachers, so this is slowing down the children's education. Only Yuzana company is getting developed. We can't migrate and work in other places so we have to work as daily workers at the rubber plantation and dig toilet pits. We have to struggle doing this kind of daily work to survive. This is not sustainable work to support our family. In the summer time nearly all of the wells are dry, so it is difficult to collect water. It is difficult to find firewood in the forest. There have been rape cases. Yuzana workers have raped local women. Women have to worry for their security because the men from the family are not in the house.

The situation of Yuzana company workers

Case: 8

Name - U Tin Aung Shwe

Age - 35 years

We are from Nga Thait Chyaung district, Ye Kyi township, Irrawaddy division. We arrived here in 2008. We had to transit Yangon to Mandalay and then travel to Myitkyina. We travelled for three days to arrive here. There were over fifty people in our group. U Htay Myint was the responsible person in the agriculture department. He asked and paid Rakhine Thein Shwe to bring us. He told us we could change our life if we followed him to go and work at the Yuzana company factory. There would be good jobs and the markets were crowded. When we asked him how he would arrange for our return, he said: you should try to work there for about two months. If it is not good for you there, you can ask for money for your return travel after you have worked for two months. So we followed him.

In the beginning, after we arrived, we cleared the forest. Clearing forest did not work out for me so we changed to planting cassava instead of clearing forest. We were paid 50 kyats for one cassava bundle, 5 kyats for lifting the cassava and 10 kyats for carrying it onto the truck so we were paid a total amount of 65 kyats for each cassava bundle. All of us were paid the same amount. We could earn 3,000 kyats (around 25\$) per day, but sometimes only 2,800 kyats or 2,500 kyats. There were around 400 to 500 workers when we arrived. Now thousands of workers are here. What they pay us for cassava bundling and food costs is not fair. It is not only my problem, but all of the workers are facing this.

At the beginning they paid us once a week. Later they paid us once every 10 days. They said they would pay us the cost of returning home after two months, but they just paid us for one month and the rest of the pay also was given us until the next month. Before, they fully supported us with food, including 1 packet of iodized salt, and seven cans of rice for one person, but later they didn't give us this. Maybe someone higher up is giving us this, and there is corruption. So later we never received the full amount. Even though we should have received

salary for four months, they just paid us one month's salary. They also paid food costs for those who worked for them. They lent 4,500 kyats per person for 15 days or a week. They gave us a small bottle of cooking oil for the whole week or sometimes for 15 days. Sometimes we don't get anything. They don't pay for the older people and children. They just pay those who work for them and people on their list.

There is not enough housing for the workers. Most of the workers are Rakhine



Photo: Yuzana factory in Hugawng Valley Kachin State.

(Arakan) people. Some are staying in tents. All of the families are staying together, crowded in small rooms. There is no stable place, because it depends where we are planting. There is a hospital in the Yuzana company compound, but they don't provide good medical treatment.

We can't stay for a long time in one place, so we just send our children to school for a short period at a time. We have to move quite often, so this hinders the children's education. We are poor so we have to move where they want us to move. Even though the children can attend the school for about 2 or 3 months at a time, we can't afford it. The company gives us 54 cans of rice every week or 15 days, for those whose are on their list. They do not support

the older people and children. So if we have children who can work, they can be put on the list. But then they can't go to school.

The children also get sick quite often, with coughs, colds, flu and malaria.

The company doesn't pay our salary so we don't have enough money to return home. Also, the company took our national registration card (NRC), so it is difficult for us to return home. We are not able to speak out about the human rights abuses and exploitation because they are the abusers. If we speak out, we will be in trouble.

From the start, they didn't pay us for one month, not even after 3 months. They paid only 3,000 kyats to 5,000 kyats. We just asked for our salary and rations, not for extra costs. We asked only for our pay. They just paid one month out of 3 months' salary. We had to go to several people for that. We have to get a lot of signatures from different levels of people at the company. The higher people from the company don't know about it. Only the people we are dealing with know the problem. We know how much we should be paid, but we can't tell them. If we tell them, we will suffer more than now. We don't have the right to speak out. When a person speaks out to them, they ask back: "What do you want to happen?" In this situation we don't have the power to talk back, so we are afraid. We don't have any right to do anything and to speak out. All of us just want to have enough food so we keep quiet.

The workers want to request our salary in a transparent way. One time, we asked the company clerk Daw Ti Ti Naing. She gave us a lot of reasons, and instructed us, you have to go there, go to another place but there is no other clerk yet. When the clerk arrives you can get it. Finally she said the list was closed, and you need to get your leader to sign. After we got our leader to sign, they weren't free. They used all kinds of ways to keep delaying.

We want to tell (Yuzana Chairman) U Htay Myint about our current situation. We want our salary paid each month or each week. If they have a plan to provide rations for a person who has their name in their lists, we want to get our pay every month or every week. This is so we and older people can pay back our loans, survive and send our children to school. And the wage rate should be more reasonable.

Substandard housing which is built by the government and company in San Pya village.



Photo: Housing in San Pya relocation camp, Hugawng.

"Yuzana came and destroyed our house with a big machine. We were forced to move to Sanpya village but we didn't have any house. At that time, there were big winds and heavy rains and we faced very difficult times, so we had to build a house quickly just for shelter. Although we didn't own a very nice house in the old village, it was strong and safe and we only needed to change the roof once in four years. The house here is almost destroyed now."



Photo: Housing in San Pya relocation camp, Hugawng.

“This house is very low quality. The house poles are supporting it not to fall down. There are no windows. None of the houses have been properly completed.”



Photo: Aung Myin Thar model village (relocation camp), moved for Myitsone dam project.

“The houses in Aung Myin Thar village were built by China Power Investment and Asia World Company. They said that they built stronger houses than before, but these houses are damaged. They tilt and leak, because the roofs have not lasted two years. And then when there was strong wind, the roofs were blown away. The houses’ floors were also flooded.

Health and Education in the model camps



Photo: Hugawng primary school.

“There is a school but we don’t have money. We can’t afford to send our children to school because it is not free.” (Aung Myin Thar villager)



Photo: Hugawng primary school.

“Yuzana only set up a primary school (until Grade 3) at Sanpyar village. *The company supported the salary of the teachers at the beginning but not anymore. We can’t afford to send our children to school because we don’t have any proper livelihoods.*” Hugawng villager

Health situation in the camp

There is one hospital but we have to pay 5,000 kyats each time. In the hospital there are five nurses and one doctor. But the doctor lives in Myitkyina city, so there is no doctor in the hospital most days. (Aung Myin Thar)

There is one nurse but no medicine in the Maliyang camp. (Maliyang)

There is one hospital in the camp. The authorities said there is no need to pay for medical treatment but it is not true. We have to pay at least 5,000 kyats per time. (Aung Myin Thar)

“There is no clinic or hospital in Sanpyar village. If we get sick, we have to go to Danai hospital. We get sick very often, because the water in Sanpyar village is not good. The common sicknesses are diarrhea, malaria, and dengue fever.” (Yuzana San Pya camp)

The road conditions in the model camp



Photo: Hugawng.

“During the rainy season the road is terrible. We can’t even walk because there is too much mud. Transportation is nearly impossible but the company doesn’t do anything for us.”



Photo: The road from Mali Yang camp, built by CPI.

Drinking water in the camp



Photo: wells from Hugawng.

“The company dug wells in the village but most of them weren’t completed properly and are dangerous for the local people.”

“Only 32 wells are working for drinking water (for 1,000 people). But even these go dry in the hot season. Often villagers’ cows and buffaloes fall into the wells and die.”



Photo: Mali Yang reservoir.

“We are not happy to live here. In the rainy season, the wells are full of mud so it is very difficult to get drinking water. The government and company don’t support us at all.” (resident of Sanpya)



Photo: Water supply pipe washed away by stream flood in Maliyang relocation camp on September 19, 2012.

The broken water supply pipes have not yet been repaired by CPI and other responsible persons. The villagers face problems with drinking water and water for household use. Some buy bottles of drinking water from Myitkyina, and the price is 900 kyats, even though the normal price is 500 kyats. Some just collected water from mountain streams. They boil it to use. But it is difficult to find and collect firewood. (Local person)

Environmental Pollution



“After the company crushes the tapioca with a machine, they keep the waste behind a dam. When the dam is getting full, the company releases the waste into Namsang stream. The stream color darkens and many fish die at that time. The villagers get itchy rashes after taking showers in the stream and the smell is seriously bad. No one knows what the health impact will be in the long term.” (Sanpya resident)

“Yuzana`s workers planted sugar cane from 31.12.2011 to 17.1.2012. When the plants were growing up, the company sprayed chemicals. The livestock of villagers such as buffaloes ate the sugar plants and were poisoned. 71 buffaloes have already died. The villagers took this issue to the court in Naypyidaw. But the court said there wasn`t enough evidence and no action has been taken until now.” (Sanpya resident)

Update of San Pya (model) camp situation

Aung Myin Thar model camp



The housing was destroyed by wind at the relocation camp at 5:30 am on March 18th 2013. The houses of U Khin Ji Yaw Shu, U In Jung Sin Wa, U Wa Jaw Naw and U Kin Ji Naw were destroyed. The housing at Aung Myin Thar was built by CPI and Asia World Company. Although they told the villagers they would build them better houses than before, the new houses are poor quality. The roofs have blown off and leak during rain; houses are tilting, and the floors have been flooded during the past two years. There is no land for local people to sustain a livelihood. People are suffering from diarrhea, malaria, influenza, paralysis, and mental problems in the camp and their health condition is getting worse. If there are even heavier storms, the relocated people will suffer even more. They want to go back to their old village (at the Myitsone), but they don't have legal permission to go back, so they are facing difficulties.

As a result, local villagers doubt that President Thein Sein has in fact suspended the Myitsone dam. At the same time, Asia World Company and CPI have confiscated land from local villagers, and fields have been grabbed by Sea Sun Star Company, owned by Pyi Thu Hlut Daw (lower house) MP for the constituency of Sumprabum, U Hka Mai Tang. Therefore all of the hillsides have been cleared. We are in trouble but we are stuck here. So the local people are facing more difficulties.

Yuzana model camp

There are water shortages in the summer time at the Hugawng model camp set up by Yuzana company. Some wells do not have surrounding walls. The whole village does not enough wells and in the summer time the wells are dry. In the future, there could be even greater water shortages. People worry about the coming summer.

The farmers have taken Yuzana company to court in Nay Pyi Daw over the confiscation of their lands. At the moment Yuzana company is plowing to replant cassava in the Hugawng valley.

Demands of local residents (farmers)

- ◇ **To return to their old villages and enjoy the right to own their land and live freely.**
- ◇ **To no longer have restricted areas.**
- ◇ **To get back all confiscated land.**
- ◇ **To get full compensation for the period from the beginning of relocation until the present, including all costs of rehabilitation.**
- ◇ **To stop all seven dams on the Myitsone and Irrawaddy headwaters.**
- ◇ **To stop Yuzana company from confiscating and trespassing in Hugawng Valley, and immediately stop all environmental destruction.**
- ◇ **For ILO to investigate the complaints of the Yuzana workers (Karen and Rakhins), who have been lied to and exploited by Yuzana company.**

We would like to thank all those who supported us in different ways to produce this report.

Mungchying Rawt Jat (MRJ)

I don't want to live here. I have to live here because of the order of the government. I have to stay at home and look after my grandchildren. Here I have no work to do, and I have to sit the whole day. I cannot do farming. Even though we want to plant, the land is full of rocks and the soil is bad. The company provided us with 24 tins of rice, but it is not enough for all our family members. The young people have no job, and the death rate is increasing due to drug use. There is a clinic, but no one goes there, because of financial problems. Here there is not enough space like in our old village of Tang Hpre.

