

LAWS PENALIZING ASSEMBLIES	DEFINITION OF OFFENSE	MAXIMUM PENALTY
PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND PEACEFUL PROCESSIONS ACT 2012 (as amended in 2014)	Article 18: conducting a peaceful assembly or peaceful procession without government consent	6 months in prison and fine
	Article 19: deviating from the permitted location or route, or violating any of the broad restrictions on the conduct of an assembly contained in article 12 of the law	3 months in prison and fine
PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND PEACEFUL PROCESSIONS ACT 2016	Article 17: conducting a peaceful assembly or peaceful procession without giving notice	3 months in prison and fine for first offense, increased penalties for repeat offense
	Article 18: deviating from the location or route specified in the notice, or violating any of the broad restrictions on the conduct of an assembly contained in article 9 of the law	3 months in prison and fine
UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLY Sections 141, 143 and 145 of the BPC	Section 141 defines “unlawful assembly” to include any group of five or more people as any group who have as their common object “to overawe by criminal force, or show of criminal force, the Union Parliament or the Government, or any public servant in the exercise of the lawful power of such public servant,” “to resist the execution of any law, or of any legal process,” or “to commit any mischief or criminal trespass, or other offence”	
	Section 143 makes it unlawful to participate in an unlawful assembly	6 months in prison and fine (section 143)
	Section 145 makes is unlawful to join or continue in an unlawful assembly that has been ordered to disperse	2 years in prison and fine (section 145)
RIOTING Sections 146 and 147 of the BPC	Section 147 makes it unlawful to participate in a riot	2 years in prison and fine
	Section 146 deems <i>every</i> participant in an assembly guilty of rioting if <i>any</i> participant in the assembly uses force or violence	

FREQUENTLY USED LAWS PENALIZING SPEECH	DEFINITION OF OFFENSE	MAXIMUM PENALTY
PUBLIC TRANQUILITY Section 505(b) of the Burmese Penal Code	Anyone who “makes, publishes or circulates any statement, rumour or report ... with intent to cause, or which is likely to cause, fear or alarm to the public, or to any section of the public whereby any person may be induced to commit an offence against the State or against the public tranquility”	2 years in prison and fine
CRIMINAL DEFAMATION Sections 499 and 500 of the BPC	Defines defamation as any words, spoken or written, or any signs or visible representation, making or publishing any imputation concerning a person “intending to harm, or knowing or having reason to believe that such imputation will harm, the reputation of such person”	2 years in prison and fine
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT Section 66(d)	Criminalizes “extortion of any person, coercion, unlawful restriction, defamation, interfering, undue influence, or intimidation using a telecommunications network”	1 year in prison and fine
ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS ACT Sections 33 and 34	Section 33 criminalizes any of the following acts using “electronic transactions technology”: (a) doing any act detrimental to the security of the State or prevalence of law and order or community peace and tranquility or national solidarity or national economy or national culture; and (b) receiving or sending and distributing any information relating to secrets of the security of the State or prevalence of law and order or community peace and tranquility or national solidarity or national economy or national culture	7 years in prison
	Section 34 criminalizes “creating, modifying or altering of information created, modified or altered by electronic technology to be detrimental to the interest of or to lower the dignity of any organization or any person”	Fine or, if fine not paid, 3 years in prison
OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT	Section 5(1) and 5(2): Penalizes receiving or disseminating a broad range of documents and information, particularly government documents	2 years in prison and fine
	Section 3: Defines the offense of “spying” extremely broadly to include making, receiving, or communicating any document that is “calculated to be,” “might be,” or is intended to be” “directly or indirectly useful to a foreign country”	14 years in prison
SEDITION Section 124A of the BPC	Prohibits any words, spoken or written, or any signs or visible representation that can cause “hatred or contempt, or excites or attempts to excite disaffection,” toward the government	Life in prison
NEWS MEDIA LAW Section 9 and 25	Contains broadly worded code of conduct that prohibits, among other things, writing that “deliberately affects the reputation of a person or organization or that disrespects their human rights, unless the writing is in the public interest”	Fine
HURTING RELIGIOUS SENTIMENTS Section 295A of the BPC	Criminalizes language that “with deliberate and malicious intention of outraging the religious feelings of any class of persons resident in the Union ... insults or attempts to insult the religion or the religious beliefs of that class”	2 years in prison and fine

<p>HURTING RELIGIOUS SENTIMENTS Section 298 of the BPC</p>	<p>Criminalizes expression of any kind made “with the deliberate intention of wounding the religious feelings of any person”</p>	<p>1 year in prison and fine</p>
<p>CONTEMPT OF COURTS ACT</p>	<p>Defines as contempt of court speech or writing that “disgraces or is likely to disgrace the court,” “by any means diminishes the public trust in an honest and independent judicial inquiry,” or “criticizes, writes, prints or distributes any matter that falls within the jurisdiction of the court prior to the verdict”</p>	<p>6 months in prison and fine</p>
<p>PRINTING AND PUBLISHING ENTERPRISE LAW</p>	<p>Contains broadly worded content restrictions that forbid publication of “matters that can tarnish the ethnicity, religion or culture of an ethnic group or a citizen” and “matters that can undermine national security, the rule of law, community peace and tranquility or the equality, freedom, justice and rights of every citizen”</p>	<p>Fine</p>

LESS USED OR SUPERSEDED LAWS	DEFINITION OF OFFENSE	MAXIMUM PENALTY
“INSULTING” SPEECH Section 504 of the Burmese Penal Code	Intentionally insulting, and thereby giving provocation to any person, intending or knowing it to be likely that such provocation will cause him to break the public peace, or to commit any other offence	2 years in prison and fine
HATE SPEECH Section 153A of the BPC	Attempting to promote feelings of enmity or hatred between different classes of [persons resident in the Union] through words, either spoken or written, or signs, or visible representations or otherwise	2 years in prison and fine
HATE SPEECH Section 505(c) of the BPC	Making, publishing or circulating any statement, rumour or report with intent to incite or which is likely to incite any class or community of persons to commit any offence against any other class or community of persons	2 years in prison and fine
CRIMINAL INTIMIDATION Section 503 of the BPC	“Whoever threatens another with injury to his person, reputation or property, or to the person or reputation of anyone in whom the person is interested, with intent to cause alarm to that person, or to cause that person to do any act which he is not legally bound to do, or to omit to do any act which that person is legally entitled to do, as the means of avoiding the execution of such threat, commits criminal intimidation”	2 years in prison and fine; 7 years in prison and fine if “impute unchastity to a woman”
INSULTS TO MODESTY Section 509 of the BPC	Statement or gesture “intended to insult the modesty of any woman”	1 year in prison and fine
COMPUTER SCIENCE DEVELOPMENT LAW Section 35	Carrying out any act using a computer network which undermines State Security, prevalence of law and order and community peace and tranquility, national unity, State economy or national culture; or obtaining or sending and distributing any information of State secret relevant to State security, prevalence of law and order and community peace using a computer network	15 years in prison and fine
MOTION PICTURE LAW Section 33	Showing a motion picture film that has not been approved by the censorship board	1 year in prison and fine
TELEVISION AND VIDEO LAW Section 32	Showing a television program or video that has not been approved by the censorship board	3 years in prison and fine