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San Suu Kyi in July, reflected the military regime's confidence in its ability to control and marginalize her and the National League for Democracy (NLD) which won the 1990 elections. The National Convention, charged with developing a new constitution, was packed with government supporters, prompting a boycott of the Convention by the NLD. The opposition's ability to organize was also hampered by continued government harassment.

The constitutional crisis in Bangladesh continued in 1995 with the opposition parties boycotting Parliament and calling for a neutral caretaker government before national elections. The Government, under heavy pressure, was moving in this direction by the end of the year but was determined to hold elections. The government of Sri Lanka announced a political devolution package calling for a highly devolved federal structure. This was aimed at addressing the concerns of the Tamil minority and at finding a solution to the twenty year old ethnic conflict. State elections were held in India and preparations for national elections in 1996 were begun; the Elections Commission was determined to remove irregularities and control campaign funding.

In Nepal, the ruling UML lost a vote of confidence in Parliament in June and sought a dissolution. The Supreme Court upheld an opposition challenge to dissolution in August 1995 and the opposition was asked to try and form a government. While the UML objected to the ruling, the decision of the Court was respected and power was turned over to an opposition coalition in September.

A major turning point was reached in Thailand during the year with the first transfer of power from one democratically elected government to another, marking a sharp break with the tradition of military involvement in Thai political life.

In Malaysia, elections in 1995 were generally regarded as free and fair, though opposition members still faced some restrictions on media access and freedom of association. There were complaints of intimidation when an opposition MP was arrested for sedition in the run up to the vote. Media coverage of the opposition during the campaign was much improved.

In Singapore, criminal contempt and civil libel charges were laid against the International Herald Tribune for being overly critical of Singapore's judicial and political systems. The IHT was found guilty in both civil and criminal actions and faced heavy financial penalties.

The first fully direct elections to the Hong Kong Urban and Regional Councils