**TIMELINE: Post-Coup Situation Updates on Political Developments in Myanmar’s Chin State**

*(Updates compiled by Chin Human Rights Organization)*

**7 March 2021** –

The military troops occupied the Hakha University campus in Hakha and hospital compounds in Falam and Tedim towns. In Hakha, students and activists locked the entrance gate to the university at night in protest against the military encampment.

In Congthia and Hriphi villages, Thantlang Township, peaceful public protests against the military coup were organized with hundreds of people, chanting slogans and holding placards reading “We reject dictatorship”, “We want federal democracy”, “R2P”, “Get off our way”, “Help Myanmar”, “Stop killing my sisters”, “Destroy 2008 constitution”, “We support CDM”, “Defend the people”.

In Hakha, a sit-in protest was organized inside Carson Hall, which was followed by a peaceful march up to town center. At night, a candlelight prayer service was held at Carson Hall.

In Hakha, six Ward Administrators, 81 civil servants from Mindat Township GAD, and 23 policemen in Lailenpi, Matupi Township joined the CDM.

**6 March 2021** –

Peaceful protests against the military coup continued across Chin State.

The body of Mang Suan Khai, 27, who was hit in his thigh by a bullet on 3 March 2021 during the peaceful protests in North Okkalapa Township, Yangon was found at the North Okkalapa Hospital on 6 March. When the family arrived at the hospital, Khai had other injuries in his body including the head. The family went to the hospital when they heard that there was a dead body unattended and unclaimed.

40 policemen and civil servants joined the CDM.

**5 March 2021** –

All shops and businesses in Hakha are closed like Sunday as prayer services for Myanmar are organized at different churches from 10am to 12noon.

There was power cut in the afternoon for nearly three hours – believed to be across the whole country.

**4 March 2021** –

In Hakha, Tedim, Mindat and Thantlang towns, thousands of people continued peaceful protests, marching along the main roads.

A truck full of soldiers (estimated to be about 30) is seen on the Hakha-Gangaw road and is believed to be arriving in Hakha today. An internal source confirmed that they would be deployed to “restore law and order”.

Soldiers reportedly arrived in Paletwa Township and told IDPs to leave their camps and go back to their villages. Some IDPs have already left their camps while others still remain confused and worried.

The Chin National League for Democracy (CNLD) issued a news release yesterday, re-affirming that U Kyaw Nyein, CNLD vice-chairperson-4, was granted his request (dated 16 February 2021) to leave the party. U Kyaw Nyein is said to have accepted an offer by the State Administration Council.

In Matupi, photos of Min Aung Hlaing stuck on sanitary pads were scattered on roads.

One policeman in Tedim and five civil servants from the Fire Department in Hnahring, Thantlang Township joined the CDM today.

CHRO briefed Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and Head, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in New Yor and Bangkok on the situations in western parts of Myanmar.

**3 March 2021** –

As of today, CHRO learned that 32 out of 70 Chin detainees have been released and that there are currently 38 being detained in Chin State and Rakhine State.

Four protesters (two males and two females) who are still detained after being arrested on 1 March together with other 19 protesters in Hakha were charged with Section 505A of penal code and will appear in court on 12 March.

In Hakha, an A4-size poster reading ‘We will not sell any items to police, soldiers and non-CDMers’ has been distributed and stuck on shops.

In Tedim and Hakha, peaceful public marches continued but was organized in a way to avoid violent confrontation with riot police and armed soldiers. In Hakha, protesters divided themselves up into three groups taking three separate routes.

In Tonzang, hundreds of people staged a peaceful rally against the military coup and a sit-in protest as leaders of the protests negotiated with riot police to avoid confrontation at about 10:30am.

In Mindat, people in traditional dresses continued the daily peaceful rally.

A peaceful demonstration took place in Tamu, an Indian-Myanmar border town in Sagaing Region where the majority of the residents are Chin.

A civil servant of Myanmar Economic Bank in Tedim, one policeman in Mindat, five policemen in Matupi, and two of Falam District GAD office joined the CDM. 73% (39 out of 50) of GTI (Hakha) civil servants joined the CDM, according to the GTI principal.

At about 9pm last night, police and armed soldiers in four trucks raided the Hakha Fire Department. U Kyaw Kyaw, deputy head of the department, was accused of facilitating the night raid. Internal sources said that there were 8 firefighters at the time but they managed to run away.

Internal sources confirmed that new arrivals of soldiers in Chin State wear police uniforms and are deployed in the frontline to disperse, confront and crack down on protesters.

**2 March 2021** –

U Soe Htet, State minister for electricity and municipal affairs, left for Naypyitaw where he lives. No confirmed information about the reason for his return is known but he indicated that he was not allowed to stay here any longer. The chief minister and all State ministers, apart from the minister for border affairs, as well as speaker of the Chin State parliament were told to leave the Ministers’ residence.

CHRO briefed member and observer states of the United Nations Human Rights Council ahead of the human rights council session on Myanmar.

The Hakha Police Forces said that 19 out of 23 detained protesters, who were arrested yesterday, will be released at about 1:15pm today and requested parents to meet them in front of government’s One Stop Service office in Hakha.

At about 3:15pm, 19 out of 23 detainees were released, and four (2 males and 2 females) are still kept in police custody for no obvious reasons given (see their names below) although one source suggested that they had participated in protests more than one time:

1. **Tial Tin Par**(female; age: 25; father’s name: Sai Hmung; Dawrhlun Block resident)
2. **Van Ni Sui** (female; age: 22; father’s name: Bawi Hei; Hakhathar Block resident)
3. **Bawi Cung** (male; age: 43; father’s name: Ral Tun; civil servant at Fire Department)
4. **Sai Thawn** (male; age: 53; father’s name: Van Kio; civil servant at Land Record Department)

Following the meeting between the authorities, and community and relgious leaders today, the Hakha Police Forces said that all the motorbikes confiscated yesterday could be reclaimed.

In Kalaymyo, Sagaing Region, riot police and armed soldiers opened fire on protesters, injuring five individuals including a Chin university student identified as Joseph Thang, originally from Lulpilung village, Thantlang Township, whose left leg was hit by a bullet. All are being treated at Royal City Hospital, Kalaymyo.

In Falam, all shops were closed in the afternoon in protest against pressing charges against three youth protesters arrested during the peaceful rally and against the military coup.

In Mindat, protesters gathered at Myoma Shopping Centre and put up posters reading ‘We will not sell any items to police and soldiers’. 12 civil servants from Mindat District Education Department, two policemen and one female clerk in Mindat Township joined the CDM. One policeman in Hakha also joined the CDM.

In Hakha, a multi-denominational prayer service for peace in Myanmar is organized at Carson Hall. In Lailenpi town, Matupi Township, a prayer service was also held.

In Kanpetlet, riot police and armed soldiers put barricades to block protesters from proceeding but the peaceful demonstration went without any violence.

In Tonzang, riot police and armed soldiers blocked roads and broke up peaceful protesters but no violence was reported. In Tedim, there was no rally today.

The list of peaceful protestors (14 males and 9 females) arrested in Hakha yesterday is updated today as follows *(Note: Comments are welcome to correct spellings of names if there are errors)*:

1. Salai Bawi Kip Sum (male; age: 23; father’s name: San Htoo Luai; biblical student; originally from Falam)
2. Robert Ngun Ling Mang (male; age: 25; father’s name: Siang Uk Lian; biblical student; originally from Falam)
3. Malsawmtluang (female; age: 19; father’s name: Van Sang Ngun; Pyidawtha Block resident)
4. David Van Hmuh Thang (male; age: 24; father’s name: Hrang Lal; journalist)
5. Zing Tha Tawk (female; age: 19; father’s name: Thla Kio Lian; Pyidawtha Block resident)
6. Tial Tin Par (female; age: 25; father’s name: Sai Hmung; Dawrhlun Block resident)
7. Biak Tha Par (female; age: 19; father’s name: Tial Kio; Dawrhlun Block resident)
8. Van Ni Sui (female; age: 22; father’s name: Bawi Hei; Hakhathar Block resident)
9. Biak Hnem Sung (female; age: 24; father’s name: Tawk Tling; Dawrhlun Block resident)
10. Khin Hnin Yu (female; age: 24; father’s name: U Sein Yu; Dawrthar Block resident)
11. Mary Zai Hnem Sung (female; age: 21; father’s name: Biak Hnin; Dawrthar Block resident)
12. Kap Cung (male; age: 52; father’s name: Hrang Kam; farmer residing in Pyidawtha Block)
13. Thawng Hlei Thang (male; age: 22; father’s name: Thang Nuai; Dawrthar Block resident)
14. Bawi Tha Thawng (male; age: 25; father’s name: Ceu Vung; Dawrthar Block resident)
15. Tuan Tin Peng (male; age: 18; father’s name: Hrang Khuai; Ruadeu villager)
16. Joseph (male; age: 18; father’s name: Thla Hmung; High School student)
17. Sang Bik Lian (male; age: 16; father’s name: Tuan Thang; High School student)
18. Bawi Cung (male; age: 43; father’s name: Ral Tun; civil servant at Fire Department)
19. Sai Thawn (male; age: 53; father’s name: Van Kio; civil servant at Land Record Department)
20. Sui Hnin Hmung (male; age: 35; father’s name: Lei Uk; worker at motorbike repair shop)
21. Chan Uk (male; age: 30; father’s name: Ning Uk; worker at motorbike repair shop)
22. Van Cer Luai (female; age: 19; father’s name: Sang Luai; Sales Assistant at C&C mini-market)
23. Peng Lian Thawng (male; age: 31; father’s name: Uk Peng; welding worker)

28 civil servants working for State, District and Township Election Commission offices in Chin State issued a statement today, saying that they joined the CDM campaign.

As of last night, 2,535 civil servants from 57 government departments joined the CDM in Hakha (source: Hakha Campaign for Justice). In Tedim, there are 1,132 civil servants including school teachers who have already joined the CDM campaign.

In Thantlang, communities blocked one of the roads to protect themselves from possible attacks by riot police and armed soldiers as they blocked the main road to Lal Luai Football Ground where protestors normally gathered.

In Matupi, protesters used photos of Min Aung Hlaing to block riot police and armed soldiers from advancing to break up protests.

At about 9:30pm, the military in a truck continued going around towns in Chin State making an announcement using a megaphone saying that they patrolled to ensure peace and stability and that they didn’t impose Article 144 (curfew) in Chin State, unlike other States and Regions, and urging parents not to allow their children to go out and join the protests and saying that necessary action would otherwise be taken according to the existing laws.

**1 March 2021** –

At about 2:30pm in Hakha, riot police and armed soldiers used water canons, and shot tear gas and smoke bombs about five times near town center to disperse the peaceful protesters who were marching on the main road. All shops were closed immediately as people started banging pots and pans. “I was approaching the place to take some photos. Suddenly, I started choking as tears ran down my face. It was a very difficult feeling to describe but I felt like I was running out of breath. I was seen taking photos and chased so I ran quickly away from them,” said a photojournalist in Hakha. Some protesters said that they vomitted. At least 23 protesters, including two from Falam, have been reported arrested. Some including local journalists and women who were hiding inside the Hakha Town Restaurant were arrested. Two construction workers who didn’t participate in the protest were also snatched. Another one construction worker who tried to escape when his co-workers were being arrested at the construction site was beaten but not taken away.

At about 4pm in Hakha, the military increased forces in an effort to crack down on protesters and make several arrests.

At 4:35pm in Hakha, riot police and armed soldiers confiscated all motorbikes parked on the roadside between town center and Universal Store and, loaded them onto trucks and took them away.

At about 5pm in Hakha, main junctions were barricaded blocking all main roads. Riot police and armed soldiers were seen raiding houses on Cherry Road in an attempt to make more arrests.

At night, some religious leaders met the head of the Hakha Police Station and had a chance to pray for 23 (14 males and 9 females) peaceful protesters being detained. The police said that the detainees might be released the following day. The police didn’t want to give the list of detainees. Therefore, the number mentioned here needed to be confirmed.

In Hakha, photos of Min Aung Hlaing were scattered on the main road in an effort to stop riot police and armed soldiers from advancing to confront the protesters.

People in Surkhua village, Hakha Township, and Rezua town, Matupi Township staged peaceful public protests.

Two policemen in Mindat, 27 civil servants at State and Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Departments, 31 from Falam District Forestry Department, 6 from Falam MPT office, 80 from the Hakha Township Municipality Department, and two from Falam Election Commission joined the CDM.

Over 400 people staged a peaceful march in Aibur village, Hakha Township in protest against the military coup.

21 civil servants of Chin State Posts and Communications (MPT) department in Hakha joined the CDM. Ms Naomi Lian, a GAD staff in Hakha, who was reportedly accused of sharing information with the authorities, also joined the CDM today.

In Falam, community and religious leaders together with youth group went to the police station to meet with the responsible authorities regarding the arrest of three youth members yesterday during the peaceful protest. The three arrestees were charged with ‘conducive to public mischief’ and will appear in court on 4 March.

In Mindat, riot police barricades the main roads blocking the protests and the protestors also put empty water metal tanks in front of them to protect themselves from possible attacks. The march is currently halted on the road as the police are standing with guns and shields blocking the protests to proceed. Protest in Mindat peacefully ended.

Peaceful demonstrations continued in other towns across Chin State, apart from Paletwa.

Hundreds of people, mostly students, staged a sit-in demonstration against the military coup in Myanmar was organized in Saiha, Mizoram State, India. It was jointly organized by the Mizoram’s Apex Students’ Body and Mara Students’ Organization.

Internal sources confirmed that there was one helicopter landing at the military base on Mount Rung above Hakha, reportedly delivering military equipment and devices.

The casserole protest – banging pots and pans – at 8pm and the Internet shutdown between 1am and 9am.continued.

At about 9:30pm, the military in a truck continued going around towns in Chin State making an announcement using a megaphone saying that they patrolled to ensure peace and stability and that they didn’t impose Article 144 (curfew) in Chin State, unlike other States and Regions, and urging parents not to allow their children to go out and join the protests and saying that necessary action would otherwise be taken according to the existing laws.

**28 February 2021** –

Peaceful demonstrations against the military coup continued across Chin State, except conflict-affected Paletwa Township.

In Falam, riot police used tear gases and smoke bombs to disperse the crowd and arrested three youths, namely, Mr. Kyaw Kyaw, Mr. Bawi Lian Cuang and Mr. Pa Za Lian. They are taken to the military base at Falam.

In Tedim, riot police and security forces blocked roads to prevent protestors from proceeding the peaceful march.

In Hakha, riot police used water canons to disperse the crowds twice but the marches were peacefully organized, converging in front of Carson Hall. Riot police and security forces blocked junctions and main roads but leaders of the protests managed in advance to split the groups to take different routes, finally rallying at one place. The protesters blocked some main junctions to prevent riot police and security forces from entering their rallying place.

In Hakha, religious leaders (Hakha Christian Ministers’ Fellowship) and members of State Administration Council together with senior military and police officers met at the Hakha Baptist Association’s office. The two detainees – the Hakha Times’ CEO and a Methodist Church pastor – who were arrested during the peaceful public march yesterday were released.

Dozens of people from nearby villages of Hakha town joined peaceful protests organized in the Chin capital.

Riot police opened fire in the protesting crowd in Matupi but there was no injury reported.

The Chin Media Network issued a statement, condemning the military coup and the arrests of journalists and reporters, and urging the current authorities to ensure freedom of expression and media.

Suntui village in Mindat Township started a peaceful public protest, rejecting the illegal military coup, demanding the immediate release of those political leaders being detained, and demanding federal democracy.

In Thantlang, a ‘Prayer for Myanmar’ service was organized by all denominations at the football ground from 7am to 8am.

12 Chin youths arrested yesterday were released at night. They are:

1. Biak Cin Thang, male
2. Van Tha Bik, male
3. Thawng Tha Lian, male
4. Cung Uk Thang, male
5. Van Par Hnem, female
6. Van Tha Chin Iang, female
7. Aung Law, male
8. Biak Tha Lian, male
9. Mang Hrim Lian, male
10. Sui Hniang Tial, female
11. Siang Cung Ceu, male
12. Tum Par, female

The military in a truck went around towns in Chin State making an announcement using a megaphone urging parents not to allow their children to go out and join the protests and saying that necessary action would otherwise be taken according to the existing laws.

The riot police and fully armed soldiers in trucks followed by one fire engine and Black Maria made regular patrols in towns at night.

The casserole protest – banging pots and pans – at 8pm and the Internet shutdown between 1am and 9am.continued.

**27 February 2021** –

Peaceful public protests against the military coup across Chin State continued.

In Hakha, riot police and security forces used the water canon to disperse the crowd gathering in front of a hall named after the American missionary, Authur Carson. Later, Mr. Lalawmpuia, CEO of the Hakha Times, a local printed newsletter in Hakha language, and Rev. Mang Tum Lian, pastor of the Methodist Church, were arrested. They were taken to the Hakha Police Station where over 100 youths gathered outside of the police compound. Subsequently, security forces blocked the main road to the police station. In the meantime, Christian pastors intervened to make the situation calm and had a discussion with the authorities regarding the emerging issues.

In Thantlang, a big sign reading ‘We want federal democracy’ was painted at a junction on the entrance to the town.

Today, at least the following Chin protestors were arrested in different places in the country as recorded (this included Salai Dokhar – currently in Mandalay -, who contested as an independent candidate in Chin State in the 2020 election):

* Yangon: 12
* Mandalay: 1
* Hakha: 2

In Mindat, protestors wore traditional dresses and facial tattoos as they marched on the main road, and banged pots and pans, showing solidarity and unity in their protest against the military coup.

The casserole protest – banging pots and pans – at 8pm and the Internet shutdown between 1am and 9am.continued.

The military in a truck went around towns in Chin State making an announcement using a megaphone urging parents not to allow their children to go out and join the protests and saying that necessary action would otherwise be taken according to the existing laws.

The riot police and fully armed soldiers in trucks followed by one fire engine and Black Maria made regular patrols in towns at night.

**26 February 2021** –

The tactical commander based in Hakha has been transferred to Kalaymyo, Sagaing Region as he was reportedly promoted.

In Hakha, trucks of security forces with guns and one fire engine arrived near the sit-in protests in front of the Myanmar Economic Bank, and police with shields blocked the road. There was tension between the protestors and the security forces around 11am but no violence broke out. The protests peacefully continued as the security forces retreated.

At 12 noon, leaders of protestors distributed plastic bags to keep phones and personal belongings as the security forces reportedly plan to use a water canon to disperse the crowd.

At about 12:30, the security forces started using the water canon but it was not successful. Some people said that they decided to use the water canon to disperse the protesting crowd because they wanted to ensure that salary payment be withdrawn from the bank.

The chief minister of Chin State government, the speaker of the Chin State parliament, vice speaker and two State ministers were released from their weeks-long detention this morning (see previous updates on more stories below). Other detainees are still kept in military custody.

Churches in Hakha organized ‘Prayer for Myanmar’ services in the morning while a sit-in protest by youth groups in support of CDM (today marks the 20th day of CDM campaign in Hakha) and against the military coup took place in front of Myanmar Economic Bank and other few government offices.

Thousands of people joined a peaceful rally in Tedim in support of CDM and protest against the military coup.

A newly formed community-based group called ‘We stand with Falam CDM heroes’ wrote a letter today, requesting Pu Ca Awi, the GAD head, to join and support CDM.

All businesses including shops and restaurants are closed in Hakha in support of CDM campaign and protest against the military coup.

The Chin Youth Organization of Kalay Kabaw in Kalaymyo, Sagaing Region formed local groups to take responsibility of security measures at local levels in an effort to protect communities.

In Tedim, over 5,000 people joined the peaceful protest chanting slogans including:

* We fight for our generation
* We fight for our country
* We fight for our future

Four (three engineers and one computer technician) in Falam issued a statement, in response to repeated requests to go back to work, addressed to the District head of the District Rural Department today, saying that they joined the CDM campaign of their own accord and would not go to work.

Thousands of people including civil servants and Paletwa communities including IDPs currently based in Hakha marched peacefully, chanting some slogans such as:

* We want federal democracy
* People’s police (chanting when security police are around)
* Are we, the public, together? (Together, together)
* To topple the military authorities (civil servants are the main)
* What are you doing in the office while the public are out on the streets together giving their lives?

The casserole protest – banging pots and pans – at 8pm and the Internet shutdown between 1am and 9am.continued.

**25 February 2021** –

The Chin National League for Democracy (CNLD) issued a statement today saying that it received an invitation on 22 February by the military to attend the meeting between political parties and the UEC (set up by the military) and that it would not attend the event.

Chin Civil Society urged the Chin National League for Democracy and Asho Chin National Party not to attend the meeting organized by Tatmadaw between political parties and election commission.

A ‘Prayer for Myanmar’ service was organized in Falam between 6pm and 7pm.

The casserole protest – banging pots and pans – at 8pm and the Internet shutdown between 1am and 9am.continued.

**23 February 2021** –

Communities in Mindat Township formed their own administrative body (Pyithu Ohchok Yee Aphwayh) to take the responsibility for safety and security, rule of law, communications, healthcare services and ensuring peaceful protests.

Youth groups in Falam organized a sit-in protest in front of the Myanmar Economic Bank, requesting on their knees bank staff to join CDM.

The clanking of pots and pans at 8pm continued across Chin State, save Paletwa. The Internet shutdown between 1am and 9am.continued.

**22 February 2021** –

Over 15,000 people, including civil servants and religious leaders, held a peaceful rally in support of CDM and in protest against the military coup in Hakha.

Communities in Mindat issued a statement, condemning and seriously criticizing U Maung Ha for joining the Union Administration Council.

The Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH) appointed Dr. Sasa as Special Envoy to the UN.

The clanking of pots and pans at 8pm continued across Chin State, save Paletwa.

**21 February 2021** –

The head of the Mindat District Immigration Department started joining the CDM campaign, saying that he didn’t want to continue his work under the military authorities.

**20 February 2021** –

The State Administration Council organized a Chin National Day celebration event at Town Hall while communities met in a separate location in front of Carson Hall and commemorated the event after the peaceful public march.

The Chin National Front organized the Chin National Day commemoration event at Camp Victoria, where over 1,000 people, especially youths, attended with dozens of traditional dances and performances.

**19 February 2021** –

Peaceful marches across Chin State continued. In Hakha, a sit-in protest was organized in front of government offices and Myanmar Economic Bank.

In Tlanglo village, Thantlang Township, hundreds of peope staged a peaceful rally against the military coup.

***General updates***

* There are some limitations on travelling but restrictive measures are different from one township to another (eg. Travels to villages in Tedim, Tonzang and Thantlang are limited/restricted).
* New positive cases of COVID-19 recently confirmed in Mindat, Tedim, and Tonzang.
* Fear, intimidation, confusion and uncertainty (eg. Some people got panicked and started stockpiling while others worried their immediate livelihoods.)
* Public marches, office closures and CDM movements (An increasing number of civil servants joined the CDM campaign and public rallies)
* Arrests and detention (Hluttaw speaker and vice speaker, two State ministers still be detained; chief minister of Chin State govt taken away this morning; Township/State UEC members being taken away last night; newly appointed chairperson of State Administration Council died from heart attack this morning)
* New arrival of more troops in Hakha recently
* Paletwa and Sami (IDPs and civilians bang pots and pans but soldiers opened fire in the sky to stop the clanking and soldiers were seen patrolling the town).
* Internet access is restored in Paletwa but not working
* Banks are closed (Myanmar Economic Bank sometimes opens).
* No major work on COVID-19 prevention activities. Worries over the spread of infection.

**18 February 2021**–

51 staff of district and township fire departments in Hakha joined the CDM and participated in the peaceful protest today.

U Nay Lin, the head of Chin State Immigration Department in Hakha, forced CDM staff to go back to office and to wear uniform. In Thantlang, at least four staff returned to work after the GAD head repeatedly forced them using informal and formal channels.

One male staff of Innwa Bank in Hakha was sacked from his work yesterday because he joined the CDM.

Peaceful public marches continued across Chin State, including in Rezua town, Matupi Township where the activity has happened for 7 days.

The Chin Peace and Tranquility Committee requested a meeting with the Chin State Administration Council last week but it was denied with no clear reasons given. What was replied was the Northwestern Command based in Monywa didn’t allow the meeting.

Sources confirmed that the newly set-up Chin State Administration Council will organize the 73rd Chin National Day celebration at Town Hall in Hakha after the local community committee rejected the official invitation. Instead, the local community committee plans to organize a separate event – likely to be via an online platform.

In Matupi, local communities yesterday formed ‘Matupi Township Security Group’ to take overall responsibility for security issues at local levels until power is transferred back to the legal government by Tatmadaw.

Protest leaders said that they identified at least six non-uniformed individuals, especially in Hakha, who were believed to be secretly taking photos and filming people and activities in protests against the military coup.

**17 February 2021** –

CHRO released a list of Chin individuals who have been detained by Tatmadaw since the coup on 1 February. The list contains at least 38, including Chin State parliament speaker, deputy speaker and State ministers as well as UEC leading members in all townships in Chin State, and another six Chin individuals in Rakhine State. Only four – who were detained because of their involvement in the casserole protests – out of the said 38 arrested in Chin State had been released.

Peaceful public marches continued in all towns across Chin State, save Thantlang and Falam where ‘Prayer for Myanmar’ was instead organized, and Paletwa where planned activities have been disrupted by security forces.

In Hakha, a sit-in protest was organized in front of government offices in support of CDM in the morning and about 5,000 people continued to peacefully march along the main road in the afternoon.

Chin Student Union – Pakokku issued a statement condemning the military coup and the appointment of the new minister for education.

Thantlang GAD put pressure on its staff to go back to office, using both formal and informal ways. The letter issued on 15 February 2021 by the investigative bureau for government departments forced GAD staff to report to the office at 10am on 16 Feb without out. *[Note: It is believed that a new committee/body or group is formed by the authorities to investigate government departments regarding the CDM campaign.]*

Sixty-six staff members of GAD in Hakha issued a statement saying that they got involved in the CDM campaign of their own accord and without any external influences and that they didn’t want to continue their tenure under the military authorities. Another statement issued by the same group yesterday said that 41 out of 67 staff joined the CDM campaign.

Fifteen staff of Falam Township Education Department joined the CDM campaign.

The Chin Baptist Churches in USA (CBA USA) and its youth department contributed 120,000US dollars for the CDM-ers in Chin State.

The investigative bureau for government department submitted their complaint against Ms Far Tial, lower division clerk at Hakha GAD, yesterday, accusing that she was involved in the CDM campaign, in political activities, in joining peaceful assembly and marches without proper permission, and not coming to office despite communication with responsible staff.

The Chin State Administration Council met Hakha Christian Ministers’ Fellowship yesterday, saying that they didn’t want any violence and that the pastors were requested to share this message with the public. The pastors said that they didn’t want any violence either, however they stood with the public, and that they were in support of CMDers and prayed for them.

**16 February 2021** –

The Union Administration Council announced that U Ngun San Aung, former Chin State Minister for Transport, was confirmed as chairman of the Chin State Administration Council, and U Hang Cin Kham as a SAC member. [Note: U Ngun San Aung was approached after Terence San Mawi Nikhuai died from a heart attack. See updates on 11 February 2021 below.]

Peaceful public marches continued in all townships, apart from Paletwa, Thantlang and Tedim. In Paletwa, it could not be organized because of security issues. In Thantlang, prayer for Myanmar was organized in a football pitch. In Tedim, protesters gathered in front of 10 different government department offices in support of CDM, instead.

Mr. Go Suan Khai, former GAD head in Tedim Township, refused to accept the offer of a high-ranking position by the State Administration Council.

Six youth leaders in Tedim and three youth leaders in Falam were summoned to GADs and briefed that they [authorities] didn’t want any violence.

The clanking of pots and pans at 8pm in protest against the military coup continued in all towns, except in Paletwa. A Paletwa resident told Chinland Guardian: “We have been affected by Tatmadaw-AA conflicts since 2015, and people in general are worried, intimidated, traumatized and in fear. So, we don’t have the courage to do anything at the moment although we see and hear what is going around in other parts of the State and the country. Phone connection is working but internet access is still limited.”

In Falam, GAD civil servants went back to the office without wearing their uniform after each one was reportedly called the previous days to sign the attendance sheet. This happened in other towns but local groups of protesters gathered in front of the GAD offices in support of CDM, which helped them [civil servants] to decide not to go to offices. Sources confirmed that some civil servants became confused and were intimidated. In Kanpetlet township, some civil servants went to villages for hiding.

New updates that some doctors, especially in Falam, from outside of Chin State went back to their home towns, leaving their current positions as part of CDM.

Meanwhile, fundraising groups were formed in association with local churches, and Chin communities and churches in foreign countries for providing necessary support for CDM-civil servants.

Soldiers or soldiers wearing police uniform and security police were seen patrolling in towns across Chin State at night. Since this morning, trucks of police/soldiers announced using a megaphone saying that they were patrolling to ensure safety and security of the public and that people could stay calm and relax properly.

In Kanpetlet, trucks of soldiers arrived in the morning and security police were seen guarding the banks today.

Sources confirmed that Mr. Thla Hre, an independent candidate in Hakha Township contesting in the 2020 election, denied an offer by the State Administration Council.

As of now, there are at least three clinics set up by local volunteers in collaboration with health workers, community and church leaders in Hakha, Thantlang and Falam to provide free healthcare services following the ‘civil disobedience movement’.

**15 February 2021** –

Internet access was shut down at 1am and re-opened at 9am.

Youth groups and protestors gathered in front of offices at about 8am to stop ‘forced office attendance’ and in support of ‘Civil Disobedience Movement’.

Support from Chin diasporas and churches, especially from foreign countries, continued and has been on the increase.

Pu Siang Mang, an elected MP of the Chin National League for Democracy in the 2020 general election, refused to accept a repeated offer of a high-ranking position in the Chin State Administration Council.

Peaceful public marches continued across Chin State. In Hakha, government staff and Christian leaders in their uniform led the marching. Chanting slogans included:

* *Don’t go to office, civil servants – stay at home in peace*
* *Don’t go to work, civil servants – we, the public, will feed you*
* *To topple the dictator – civil servants are the most important*

New members of the Chin State Administration Council reportedly organized an internal meeting in Hakha (to be confirmed).

**14 February 2021** –

Barbed-wire barricades were set up in front of the Chin State government building blocking the road around 8pm.

Multi-denominational churches based in Hakha held ‘prayer for Myanmar’ at Carson Hall where hundreds of people joined.

The arrival of more troops in trucks, reportedly from Kalaymyo, was seen around 8am in Hakha. Trucks and pick-ups including a white fire engine were seen driven along the Hakha main road at night – two or three times.

Staff of GADs, banks including Myanmar Economic Bank, and health departments were pressured to go to office on Monday. Some staff avoided sleeping at their usual houses in fear of being arrested.

Youth groups were formed in each ward/block for taking necessary action regarding security measures to protect civilians and for better communications in the event of night raids, detention and arrests.

Security police were seen guarding banks across Chin State at night.

As of today’s updates, CDM has been joined by the majority of government departments and employees in Chin State including:

1. GAD staff
2. Bank staff
3. University tutors/professors and students
4. School teachers
5. Health workers
6. Immigration staff
7. Livestock breeding and veterinary deparment
8. GTI (Government Technical Institute)
9. Engineers
10. Construction department
11. Department of rural development
12. Road transportation administration department
13. (to be updated more)

**13 February 2021** –

Checkpoints and security measures were increased between Hakha and Thantlang towns.

Peaceful public demonstration by car and motorbike was organized in Hakha while marches continued in other towns across Chin State.

CBOs/CSOs based in Matupi issued a statement condemning his acceptance of the appointment as a Chin State Administration Council (SAC) member by the military’s Union Administration Council.

Sources confirmed that some local leaders were approached by the State Administration Council’s leading members including Colonel Han Win Aung and the previous secretary of the Chin State government, in an attempt to persuade them to join SAC.

**12 February 2021** –

Peaceful public marches continued in towns across Chin State, apart from Paletwa where planned demonstration was disrupted by security forces. Pamphlets rejecting the military coup were found on the streets.

The Kalay Council of Churches took to the streets, peacefully marching in Kalaymyo, Sagaing Region.

Police visited Ngun San Aung’s house in Pyidawtha Ward, Hakha, asking if he had returned home. (See updates on 11 February 2021 below).

The Union Administration Council announced that Colonel Han Win Aung, former Chin State Minister of Security and Border Affairs, as a State Administration Council member for Chin State (Navy 25995).

Banging pots and pans in protest against the military coup at 8pm continued.

**11 February 2021** –

Terence San Mawi Nikhuai, the newly military-appointed chairperson of Chin State Administrative Council passed away from a heart attack around 7am this morning.

Pu Lian Luai, the chief minister of Chin State government was taken away to Rung Mount – the base of Light Infantry Battalion 266 – for the second time by soldiers around midnight last night.

Members of the Election Commission in Chin State arrested in their houses at night, mostly around midnight, included:

1. Uk Nawl, Chin State Election Commission chairperson, Hakha
2. Ronnie Thla Kio Lian, Hakha Township Election Commission chairperson, Hakha
3. Salai Thawngpi, Hakha Township Election Commission officer, Hakha
4. Thla Mang, Thantlang Township Election Commission chairperson, Thantlang
5. Salai Khin Aung Ling, aka Sangsang, Thantlang Township Election Commission officer, Thantlang
6. San Thang, Falam Township Election Commission, Falam
7. Kee Om, Mindat Township Election Commission chairperson, Mindat
8. Mya Maung, Kanpetlet Township Election Commission chairperson, Kanpetlet
9. Kee Law, Kanpetlet Township Election Commission secretary, Kanpetlet
10. Lian Hei, chairperson of the Hakha District Election Commission (to be confirmed)
11. Aung Sheng (Matupi, to be updated more)
12. Naing Awm, Matupi Township Election Commission officer, Matupi
13. Cang Toi, chairperson of the Matupi District Election Commission, Matupi
14. Myint Aung Shein (Head of Election Commission, Matupi, to be updated more)
15. Aung Myo Win, Paletwa Township Election Commission officer, Paletwa
16. U San Thar Kyaw, Paletwa Township Election Commission chairperson, Paletwa

“My father, Pu Lian Hei, chairperson of the Hakha District Election Commission, was taken away around midnight by the military,” posted on his Facebook page by Lian Hei’s son.

When asked about the reasons why they were taken away, the soldiers said that they had some questions to ask them. All of them were taken to Rung Mount, the base of Light Infantry Battalion 266.

In Hakha, all the shops are closed, putting the red flag up from 2pm to 5pm in support of civil disobedience movement and protest against the military coup on 1 February 2021.

An arrest warrant was reportedly issued (although confirmation of who signed the document was yet to be confirmed) to arrest Salai Ngun San Aung and Salai Elisma, who submitted the request letter for organizing peaceful marches in protest against the military coup in Hakha. Later today, security police were seen sitting and gathering near Salai Ngun San Aung’s house in Hakha.

No public marches in Hakha although other towns in Chin State continued. Instead, the groups organized a sit-in protest in front of government offices including GAD office in support of ‘Civil Disobedience Movement’. ‘Prayer for Myanmar’ was organized at different locations by different denominations and churches in Hakha.

In the appointment letter of State/Region Administration Council members issued by the Union Administration Council were U Ngun San Aung and U Go Suan Khai as Chin State SAC members.

Ci Ling, Levi Thian Ceu Thawng, Thomas Van Thiang Bik, and Van Bawi Bik were released after being kept in Hakha police lock-up since 4 February (*see more details on 4 February 2021 below*).

Banging pots and pans in protest against the military coup at 8pm continued.

**10 February 2021** –

Thousands of people joined the peaceful public marches across Chin State, including Rezua town. Government employees including GAD staff, health workers, school teachers and university tutors/professors as well as religious leaders participated in the demonstrations.

Banging pots and pans in protest against the military coup at 8pm continued.

Over 100 government employees of District and Township General Administration Departments in Hakha joined ‘Civil Disobedience Movement’ this morning.

Trucks of soldiers are stationed at main junctions in Kalaymyo, blocking access to major places. Peaceful marches take place.

Ci Ling (see updates on 4 February below) is likely to be sent to Kalaymyo for signing necessary documents after the completion of his eight-day sentence which started on 4 February.

**9 February 2021** –

Two Chin student leaders (one male and one female) were arrested in Ann, Rakhine State and charged with Article 25 of Natural Disaster Management Law.

In Sami town, Paletwa Township, soldiers opened fire in an attempt to stop the casserole protest as people including IDPs banged pots and pans at 8pm. Soldiers were seen patrolling the town.

In Kalaymyo, Sagaing Region, troops reportedly arrived by flight and trucks of troops were seen being stationed at main junctions. At night, soldiers patrolled the town by truck announcing the imposition of security and movement restrictions (under *Section 144* of Criminal Procedure).

Peaceful public marches continued in Tedim, Falam, Hakha, Thantlang, Mindat, and Matupi, and started in Kanpetlet, Tonzang and Paletwa

In Hakha, an estimated population of about 70,000 peacefully walked along the main road from Ral Hmung football ground to Carson Hall, carrying placards and chanting slogans. Slogans chanted included:

* Immediate release of those still being detained including Chin State parliament speaker and vice speaker, and two State Ministers as well as political prisoners
* No to the military coup and those associating with Tatmadaw
* Encouragement and support of government employees joining ‘Civil Disobedience Movement’
* Demand for federal democracy
* Shouting ‘People’s Police’ in front of police forces and police station in Hakha

Doctors, nurses and health staff, mostly those who join ‘Civil Disobedience Movement’ and go on strike, in cooperation with church and community leaders started providing free healthcare services at a newly rented place in Hakha today.

Ci Ling who was arrested (see updates on 4 February below) by the police in Hakha is still detained and is reportedly likely to be sent to Kalaymyo.

Local sources confirmed that some State Ministers were not allowed to leave the Minister’s residence despite the order to leave by 5th February and that they are still kept at the Minister’s residence.

Zo Bawi, the Speaker of Chin State parliament; Soe Htet, State Minister for Electricity and Municipal Affairs; Phyay Ar, State Minister for Immigration and Human Resources; and Taik Thang, Vice Speaker of Chin State parliament are still detained. No family members and outsiders are allowed to see them. Some pastors in Hakha said that they were not allowed to visit them for prayer either.

**8 February 2021** –

Peaceful public marches happen in Mindat, Thantlang and Matupi this morning. Later in the afternoon, thousands of people marched peacefully in Hakha, Falam, and Tedim.

An estimated 10,000 people including government employees, Christian leaders, women and elderly in Hakha carried placards and chanted slogans including the demand for the immediate release of State parliament speaker, vice speaker and two State ministers still being detained.

In Hakha, all the shops were closed from 2pm to 5pm in protest against the military coup.

**7 February 2021** –

Internet shutdown continued but was restored at about 2:30pm. Thousands organized peaceful and silent public marches in Hakha (estimated to be over 3,000 people) and Falam.

Pu Ngai Sak, a leading member of the Chin National League for Democracy, denied an offer of a high-ranking position by the military authorities.

**6 February 2021** –

All Internet access (MPT, Telenor, Ooredoo etc) was shut down. Phone communication was not cut off.

The casserole protest by banging pots and pans at 8pm continued in Chin State.

**5 February 2021** –

At least three Chin individuals denied offers of high-ranking positions by the military authorities.

The casserole protest by banging pots and pans at 8pm continued in Chin State.

Chin communities across the world banged pots and pans online in protest against the military coup in Myanmar.

**4 February 2021** –

A man, identified as Ci Ling, 66, living in Keisih area of Hakha was taken into police custody last night while he was watching people banging pots and pans in front of his house. He was accused of ‘disturbing the neighborhood’ by the police. Other three, namely Levi Thian Ceu Thawng (Male),

Thomas Van Thiang Bik (Male), and Van Bawi Bik (Male) were also arrested.

A group of over 20 youths went to the Hakha Police Station and demanded his immediate release. The police said that he would be fined 50 Kyats and would be released in the morning the following day.

When asked why they arrested only him while the whole city was joining the night clanking, the police said that he was the only one they could catch as other residents ran away and that they were not allowed to arrest people inside their houses.

In Thantlang, a local youth was confronted and asked to stop banging pots and pans at night by police and security forces patrolling the town, which is about 20 miles away from Hakha.

Facebook is down for some users while others can still get access to it until the morning.

Zo Bawi, the Speaker of Chin State parliament; Soe Htet, State Minister for Electricity and Municipal Affairs; Phyay Ar, State Minister for Immigration and Human Resources; and Taik Thang, Vice Speaker of Chin State parliament are still detained while other State Ministers including the chief minister were released.

Doctors and nurses in Tonzang and Thantlang General Hospitals join the ‘civil disobedience’ movement later today.

**3 February 2021** –

Doctors in Hakha General Hospital, Tedim General Hospital and Falam General Hospital walk out and go on strike.

Meanwhile, the *Khumi Media Group* said that the months-long internet shutdown following the conflict between Tatmadaw and Arakan Army has been lifted since this morning.

As of this morning, the Chin State parliament speaker and two other State ministers have not been released, according to local sources.

In joining the ‘civil disobedience’ movement, the clanking of pots and pans in protest against the military takeover of Myanmar’s government started in Keisih Ward, Hakha at night.

**2 February 2021** –

The military met with religious leaders including Bishop Lucius Hre Kung, Roman Catholic leader of Hakha Diocese; and Rev. Dr. Stephen Lian Hup Ling, president of the Hakha Christian Ministers’ Fellowship and the senior pastor of Hakha Baptist Church around 3pm.

In the list of 11 selected chairpersons of the State/Region Administrative Council announced yesterday by the Tatmadaw is Terence San Mawi Nikhuai for Chin State. Originally from Lumte village, Falam Township, he was serving as Judge of the High Court of Chin State.

**1 February 2021** –

As part of Tatmadaw’s staging a coup, Chin State also faced phone lines and internet connections cut off on Monday while the chief minister and other State ministers were taken away around 4am and kept in military custody.

One of the State ministers said that they were taken to the military base on Mount Rung and were freed in the evening with an instruction given to all of them not to travel anywhere within the next few days.

Sources confirmed that all the current State ministers were briefed to return all government facilities including vehicles, submit all documents to relevant authorities and evacuate their current residences by 4 February.

Hakha residents said that they were worried because they saw a line of trucks with uniformed soldiers near the State government building, near the ministers’ residential areas and at road junctions at night.

The unexpected activities of Tatmadaw have left civilians panicked and worried for the future as they stockpile food items while others were queueing up for hours for the banks to withdraw cash for emergency purposes.