

H.E Dr.Sasa's Address to the International Media



**The Union Minister of the Ministry of International Cooperation and Spokesperson of
the National Unity Government of Myanmar
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**Press conference with International Media
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Under the watch of Min Aung Hlaing's failed coup and his military junta regime in Myanmar, Covid 19 cases are rising hugely hourly and is out of control- the country is quickly becoming a failed state; the economy is collapsing along with the healthcare system, education system, and all basic services in the country are failing quickly. Food insecurity is rising sharply, violence and killing continues day and night, and humanitarian catastrophe is becoming widespread. Normalization of crimes against humanity and war crimes are being attempted by the oppressive and brutal military junta that the 54 million people of Myanmar are facing. This is the darkest moment in the history of Myanmar. The people of Myanmar are facing the real darkness of crimes against humanity, death and destruction which are both systematic and widespread.

Since the failed coup started on the 1st of February 2021, in Myanmar, the military junta forces have murdered over 915 people, including 72 children (52 cases have been verified). The brave people of Myanmar will never allow the normalization of the murder of innocent civilians, and it is a matter of justice and accountability. The illegal military junta forces have unlawfully arrested and detained more than 6,200 innocent Myanmar people without cause, including our elected leaders, our State Counsellor, Daw San Suu Kyi, Mr. President U Win Myint and dozens of brave journalists. The military junta has been hunting down more than 2,000 innocent civilians and forcing them to flee from illegal arrest warrants, for the mere 'CRIME' of expressing their fundamental and universal human rights.

The illegal military junta committed another crime against humanity on the 16th of June, 2021 by burning down the entire village of Kinma (over 250 homes), in Sagaing Region of Myanmar, and burning elderly people to death who were trapped inside their homes. This is not a first, however, as this military junta is guilty of war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity, and ethnic cleansing against the people of Karen, Kachin, Kayah, Shan, Mon, Rakhine, Chin States, our Rohingya brothers and sisters who account for over 40% of the population of Myanmar.

This violence we are seeing instigated by the military junta in Myanmar is both systematic and widespread. The brutal junta forces are attacking civilians' homes, properties, villages, towns and cities across Myanmar with heavy battlefield weapons. They have occupied churches, schools, community halls and hospitals to use as barracks and supply depots. These junta forces are replacing textbooks and pencils with the terror of fear, violence, guns and bullets; replacing Bibles and hymnals with intimidations, oppressions, mortars and

bombs; and replacing life-saving hospital equipment with weapons of tortures, destruction and death.

It is not normal that classrooms are being occupied by junta soldiers, and that the school children are being forced to flee for their lives; nor is it normal that places of worship and community centers are being occupied by the junta forces, and that the communities, pastors, monks, and leaders are being forced to flee for their lives. It is not normal that our hospitals, colleges, universities, banks, and economy is crashing due to this military reign of terror. It is not normal that our teachers, tutors, professors, doctors, nurses, midwives, engineers, scholars and civil servants are being forced to flee for their lives because of their peaceful movement of CDM which is more powerful than all the military junta's acts of terrorism against the people of Myanmar.

According to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), 1.2 million civilians are currently displaced by the violence caused by the military junta's reign of terror. There is nothing normal about 1.2 million innocent civilians in Myanmar being forced to flee their homes due to this oppressive military junta. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) is predicting that over half of the population of Myanmar (approximately 27 million people) will be living in poverty within a year. There is nothing normal about 27 million innocent civilians in Myanmar facing harsh poverty. The United Nations World Food Program (WFP) is predicting that more than 6.4 million people in Myanmar are going to face starvation by the end of October 2021. There is nothing normal about 6.4 million innocent civilians dying from starvation and thirst. It will be heart breaking to count the number of deaths caused by not only the deepening crisis of violence, but also by the tragedy of poverty and hunger that has begun directly because of the terroristic actions of this brutal military junta in Myanmar.

We cannot allow the normalization of 1.2 million Myanmar people being violently forced to flee from their homes because of a military dictator's thirst for power. We cannot allow the normalization of 6.4 million Myanmar people being forced into starvation, nor can we allow the normalization of 27 million people in Myanmar being forced into extreme poverty because of the greed of a few old generals.

The military junta's brutality and cruelties against the doctors, nurses, health workers, teachers and civil servants who are simply expressing their fundamental rights by joining the peaceful movement of civil disobedience - CDM - have been increasing. We, the NUG again denounce and condemn this illegal and illegitimate military junta and their acts of terrorism against this most peaceful CDM movement. This unacceptable reign of terror, harassment, tortures, intimidations and violence against the peaceful movement of CDM must be stopped at once. The legal and legitimate government of Myanmar, the National Unity Government (NUG) has now successfully established 16 Ministries with responsible Ministers, and out of these 16 Ministries of NUG, 11 Ministries have built websites and pages in order to serve the best interest of our people for whom and by whom the NUG was elected and formed.

The NUG is looking out for the best interest of the people of Myanmar, and in doing so we have waived all land fees and charges for all rented lands in the areas of Myanmar's natural

resources. These attempts are to cut off all revenue belonging to the people of Myanmar from going into the hands of this illegitimate military regime 'SAC'. At the same time, I want to take this opportunity to appeal to the International Communities that the people of Myanmar have put strong sanctions against the military junta on the ground. They are putting themselves in harsh conditions, for they know that these harsh conditions are temporary, and that freedom and federal democracy means everlasting peace, prosperity, and stability. Therefore, it's time for the International Communities to sanction all state-owned enterprises such as Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprises (MOGE) and other revenue streams which are the main income sources for the military junta to buy more weapons in order to kill more innocent people in Myanmar.

We have produced very important leaflets on how to prepare emergency kits for families and individuals, and these are made available to all the public. We have done this because of the increase of internally displaced persons (IDPs) as a direct result of the military junta forces acts of terrorism against the peaceful and innocent people of Myanmar. We are doing everything we can to relief our people who have suffered so much for far too long.

The acts of terrorism against Mandalay City, the second largest and most populated city in Myanmar, and the crimes against humanity and war crimes we have seen in Kinma, village of Pauk Township, Pakokhu District, Sagaing Division, Demoso and other places in Kayah State, and Mindat and other parts of Chin State have shown strong evidence that the military junta in Myanmar is openly committing crimes against humanity and war crimes against the civilian population in Myanmar. The acts of terrorism by the military junta in Myanmar are leading the whole Nation into a civil bloodbath, a great civil war and another genocide. Day after day, these nationwide peaceful protests, boycotts and strikes which are completely non-violent have been cracked down on by the oppressive military junta with bloodstained heavy battlefield weapons that have been secured from China, Russia and other countries with the money that has been stolen from the same gas and oil enterprise and our natural resources.

The people of Myanmar considered Min Aung Hlaing and the SAC forces as terrorists. We are left with no way out due to the junta's actions and failed coup, and so the people of Myanmar are left with no choice but to do everything they can to defend themselves from these murderers who are roaming at large with their battlefield weapons into innocent civilian homes, villages, towns and cities across the country. These civilians have formed PDFs, CDFs and other EAOs. All these members of EAOs, PDFs, CDFs are simply responding to the discharges of heavy battlefield weapons against them and defending their homes, their villages and cities from being destroyed by the military junta SAC forces, who are guilty of crimes against humanity and war crimes against our brothers and sisters from Kachin, Karen, Kayah, Mon, Shan, Rakhine, and Chin states. These brave people composing the PDFs, CDFs and EAOs are simply defending their innocent villagers and family from being killed by this genocidal military junta that the people of Myanmar have been facing for many decades. The people of Myanmar know these killers who bring only death and destruction to our people, our homes, villages, towns, and cities across the Nation, therefore it is a legal obligation and right to defend and protect themselves as humans from being murdered in cold blood.

Therefore, these PDFs, CDFs and EAOs are the true defenders of the people of Myanmar, and they are the frontline defense of the freedom for ALL - these brave heroes of our Nation and people of Myanmar must be respected and supported by all means, both internally and externally. They deserve this respect and cooperation because they are the defenders of the people, human rights and democracy. We have also warned everyone to take extra care when it comes to this genocidal military junta SAC forces and their daily engagement with crimes against humanity against all the people of Myanmar. We have once again appeal to all the people of Myanmar to keep evidence of crimes against humanity committed by these military junta forces, and to send us this evidence to my email account (sasa@cphmyanmar.org).

On the 18th of June 2021, the 76th United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution to which 119 countries from around the world spoke loud and clear, and sent a strong message to the brutal military junta in Myanmar by adopting this resolution. The following are the five key points to take away from the UN Resolution on Myanmar:

1. Calling for the halt of arms flow into the hands of the military junta;
2. Calling for an end to the violence and killing of innocent civilians;
3. Calling to respect the democratic will of the people of Myanmar by respecting the results of the free and fair general election that was held on the 8th of November, 2020;
4. Calling for the release of all political prisoners including our leaders State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Mr. President U Win Myint;
5. Calling for swift implementation of ASEAN's five-point consensus on the Myanmar crisis.

In this 76th United Nations General Assembly, we saw 6 countries from ASEAN voting in favor of the resolution, and 4 ASEAN countries abstaining along with China, Russia, and 30 other countries, with only one country (Belarus) voting against it. This is a strong message to the military junta in Myanmar that the international communities will never accept, normalize or legitimize their acts of terrorism against the people of Myanmar. Moreover, the United Nations rejected the military junta representative at the general conventions :

1. The 74th United Nations-World Health Organization (WHO), World Health Assembly has also rejected the military junta representative from attending the WHO assembly.
2. The 42nd United Nations-Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Conference has also rejected the Myanmar military Junta representative from attending FAO.
3. The 109th International Labor Organization (ILO) Conference has also rejected the Myanmar military Junta representative from attending the ILO assembly.
4. The 47th session of the United Nations-Human Rights Council (HRC) Conference has also rejected the Myanmar military Junta representative from attending the HRC session.
5. The United Nations Law of the Sea Convention has also rejected the Myanmar military Junta representative from attending its convention.

The World Bank and International Monitoring Fund (IMF), Asia Development Bank (ADB) all have stopped their activities in Myanmar and refuse to work under this military junta. These are yet another strong messages to the military junta.

We call upon the global community to urgently and immediately come with stronger, tougher coordinated and targeted sanctions against the military junta's finance, weapons and cease all sales of Jet Fuel to the Military regime and all businesses they control or contract with. These finance, weapons and fuel are used by the military to commit atrocities and crimes against humanity in the bombing of innocent civilians and marked IDP camps. Any business continuing to give finances, weapons and Jet Fuel to Myanmar are complicit in these atrocities and crimes. We call upon all governments around the world to immediately prohibit all companies operating in their jurisdictions from giving more money, more weapons and Jet Fuel to any business that will or might pass that into Myanmar or onto another business that will deliver it to Myanmar. We call upon all of these companies to insist on an immediate cessation of support for crimes against humanity in Myanmar. This is a vital step necessary to end the atrocities, crimes against humanity and war crimes being perpetrated by the military junta in Myanmar.

We are building an exhaustive database with documents and media detailing the devastating tools and methods that the military junta is using to crack down on peaceful protestors against the military reign of terror. Since the 22 of February 2021, we have received over 400,000 emails, with over 151,000 emails containing the evidence of crimes against humanity, and a total of 310,000 videos and photos documenting the atrocities of the military junta in Myanmar. 427 strong cases are being opened by human rights lawyers documenting crimes against humanity with 28,005 victims with a banner containing victim name to be honored. Each case is being thoroughly researched and verified through both private and public resources, with efforts to provide evidence-based cases to international accountability mechanisms such as the ICJ and ICC. Each case includes a case ID, date and location, case type, abuse type, detail of case notes and sources. We will build an online museum to show the world about the crimes against humanity being committed by this brutal military junta. When the time comes, a physical museum will be built inside the country as a remembrance of these heroes' victims and also to prevent more crimes against humanity, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and genocides from happening again in Myanmar. Once again, we appeal to the international communities to take strong, coordinated, targeted actions with sanctions to cut off the cash, the fuel and weapons flow to these brutal military dictators currently occupying Myanmar. The world leaders and international communities who believe in the values of human beings, human rights, freedom, justice, and democracy must do everything in their power to help us eradicate this brutal military junta from the blood-stained soil of Myanmar, and to help us build an inclusive Federal Democracy in Myanmar where the rights of all are respected and protected by a Federal Democratic Constitution. In order for this to happen, we need recognition, engagement, endorsement, and support from the international communities of our National Unity Government of Myanmar, which is the sole democratically elected Government and legitimate representative of the people of Myanmar.

Sincerely,

H.E. Dr. Sasa

Union Minister of the Ministry of International Cooperation
Spokesperson of the National Unity Government